

## **DCLERA Board Meeting**

### **Minutes**

March 10, 2010

BlueCross Blue Shield Association/National Labor Office

12-1 PM

Attending: Ed Hilz, David Jacobs, Jim Kimball, Kaori Nakamura, Mindy Reiser, Bill Scott, Steven Silvia, Fred Stahl, Howard Wial in person  
Julie Martinez Ortega, David Schlein by phone

Fred Stahl, DCLERA President, chaired the meeting.

1. Members noted that the Agenda did not load properly on some computers (perhaps the Iphone).
2. MINUTES: Ed Hilz moved approval of the February minutes. Steven Silvia seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously. Thanks to Fred for a good job.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT: Bonnie Summers was absent but members discussed her report. There were 17 dues submissions (10 renewals and 7 new member applications). The National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems renewed its organizational membership.

There is a \$232.68 deficit for the February luncheon, DCLERA has \$4383.99 cash on hand.

Members discussed the problem of luncheon no-shows (people who reserve luncheons, fail to show up, and do not pay). On-line payment mitigates the problem. DCLERA does request that no-shows pay but few do. El Hilz suggested that DCLERA send a more aggressive reminder stressing the costs to the chapter.

Members discussed the relative costs of the Women's National Democratic Club and the AFL-CIO Gompers Room for luncheons. The AFL-CIO now charges \$500 for use of the room. A head count is required. The WNDC provides a discount and the venue is comfortable and attractive.

Fred reported that about 50% reserve on-line for luncheon. 25% pay at the door.

4. FUTURE PROGRAMS: William Spriggs is speaking March 24 (now a luncheon rather than a breakfast as originally planned). Julie wrote the publicity and will send Spriggs a copy. Members discussed the factors associated with turnout. The prominence of the speaker may be more important than the topic itself.

The National Labor College field trip is scheduled for April 17. Some logistical questions remain. Transportation and publicity are necessary. David offered to help with carpooling from Takoma Metro to NLC. David S. raised a question about the availability of food on a Saturday. Fred and Bonnie will inquire. Bonnie is working on the agenda. The program will begin at 10 and will conclude with lunch. Jim will the contact for reservations and transportation.

The April 28 Program is the Automatic IRA concept as introduced by John and Iwry. Jim Kimball will bring us up to date on the Teamsters on May 26. We are delighted to hear from him.

The June 23 luncheon is open. Howard Wial had invited Audrey Singer at Brookings to speak on immigration but he reports that she will not be available until later this year (perhaps October).

The Board discussed a number of other options for the June meeting. Mindy recommended a panel on the Job Corps with Jeffrey Barton and Lynn Intrepedi. David Schlein suggested Josh Williams, President of the Greater DC Labor Council. Bill Scott proposed a luncheon on transportation labor relations with a focus on Metro. (The federal government depends on Metro for the transportation needs of 47% of its workers and yet it is substantially underfunded and constrained in meeting its labor/human resource priorities.) Jim Kimball suggested Pat Smanski of Change to Win and George Tedesci of the Graphic Communications Unions as speakers.

Fred raised the possibility of a panel on federal labor relations, possibly featuring Ernie DuBester of the FLRA or Catherine Medina of Human Capital Officers Council of OPM. (The Human Capital Officers Council should be informed of DCLERA and the benefits of organizational membership.) Dave S. mentioned Paco Martinez of the Society of Federal Labor and Employment Relations Professionals.

Fred proposed that Josh Williams be invited for the June luncheon and that the Job Corps program be chosen for the September joint session with the Kalmanovitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor. Paco Martinez of SFLERP should be our guest for the October 27 meeting. Members agree. Mindy will contact the Job Corps speakers and Bonnie will call Jocelyn Williams.

5. MEMBERSHIP: Fred recommended that the Board postpone the discussion of membership until the next meeting. Howard noted that the Board has failed to invite the Economic Policy Institute to become an organizational member.

The Board adjourned around 1PM.

David Jacobs, Secretary

March 12, 2010