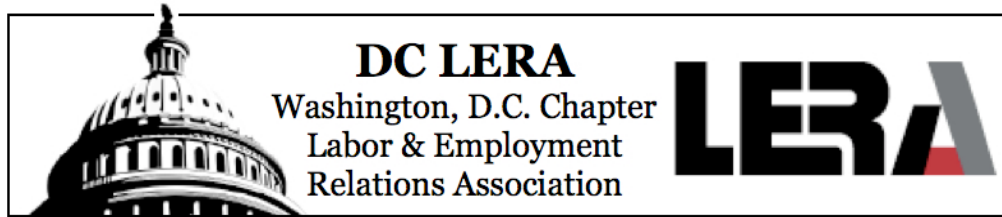


[Download](#) a "Print-n-Post" flyer for our Feb 24 Luncheon with Larry Mishel



Board of Governors Meeting Minutes for February 10, 2010

Meeting location: Telecon – Telephone services courtesy of BlueCross BlueShield Association, National Labor Office, Washington, D.C.

Present: Fred Stahl (President) chaired the meeting. Participating were: Bonnie Summers (Treasurer), Jim Kimball (President-Elect), David Schlein, Mindy Reiser, Bill Scott, Ed Hiltz, Steve Silvia, Howard Wial.

Fred called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

1. Review and Approval of the Minutes of Last Month's Board Meeting

Board approved minutes as amended. See amended version in online archives.

2. Treasurer's Report

Enclosed Treasurer's report showed a Jan 31 cash balance of \$3,987.81. The Board noted that the Chapter underwrote the cost of the January luncheon event by about \$300, which is in line with our previous experience.

3. Programming Monthly Events for 2010

The principal focus of this meeting was programs, speakers, and venues for our monthly meetings. Our strategy is:

Hot topics + appealing speakers = more value = bigger turnouts + more members

By consensus, the Board made decisions and assigned actions as follows.

- **Action: Julie** – Confirm that Mary Beth Maxwell can commit to speak at our **Mar 24** program
- **Decision:** Venue of the **Mar 24** breakfast event will be at the WNDC.
- **Action: Fred** to confirm **Mar 24** with WNDC.
- **Decision:** Plan a field trip to National Labor College for Saturday, **April 18**, based on Bonnie's inputs from the NLC.
- **Action: Bonnie** to follow up with NLC about program content and report back to Board.
- **Decision:** Our poor turnouts for our social/networking events led to a decision to replace the planned June and December events with regular luncheon speaker programs.
- **Action: Jim** to invite James Hoffa to speak at either the May or June luncheon.

- **Action: Howard** to ask his colleague at Brookings, Audrey Singer, to speak at the May/June luncheon. Howard to ask Audrey to suggest a counterpoint speaker.
- **Decision:** Our joint program with Georgetown’s Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor will be a **Sep 22** luncheon program. (<http://lwp.georgetown.edu/>) Venue will be on Georgetown campus. We will arrange car sharing for members who do not usually have a car in the city. Parking for guests will be part the feasibility of this event. Program will be designed to be of value to students at Georgetown.
- **Decision:** The subject of our **October 27** breakfast program will be trade issues. Board members suggested Ed Gresser (Democratic Leadership Conference point man on trade) and Rob Scott (Senior International Economist and Director of International Programs at EPI) as speakers who could bring us both liberal and restrictive policy approaches to the trade issues faced by the U.S.
- **Decision:** Plan for the **Nov 17** speaker as our annual International Program. Steve Silvia is the POC. Tentative topic: Future of International Labor Movements— Europe, Japan, China,...
- **Decision:** Replace **Dec 15** networking/social occasion with a speaker program, for example, an post-election analysis with s title like: “2010 Elections – Implications for labor & employment relations.”
- **Decision:** David S. should go ahead and checkout breakfast meeting facilities at NEA. If our experiment with breakfast meetings is successful then we will want to try more.
- **Planning – Labor-management partnerships.** President Obama's December 2009 executive order re-established formal structures for labor and management to work together on agency issues. But controversy surrounds whether government unions and agency managers can cooperate productivity. Subsequent to our discussions at the Board meeting, Ed suggested a speaker program with Robert Tobias (director of the Institute for the study of Public Policy Implementation at American University) to give us his analyses and insights into what will be a hot issue in government-labor relations: how to make labor-management partnerships successful. Tobias is a key author of a recently released [report](#) on this [issue](#). The program box for **October 27** lists Tobias as one of two options for a speaker. Earlier program opportunities might open up as our planning gels.

The following planning table reflects the decisions and revisions:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event Style</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Program</i>
February 24	Luncheon	WNDC – Reserved	“What the Economy Needs Now.” Larry Mishel (Confirmed–Fred POC)
March 24	Breakfast	WNDC – to be reserved	“The ‘New’ Department of Labor” – new organization, program emphasis, objectives, jobs legislation. Mary Beth Maxwell, DOL

			(invited, TBD confirmed – Julie POC)
April 17 (Saturday)	Field Trip	National Labor College	Briefings on Institutional goals and strategies, program objectives and content, tour physical facilities, lunch on premises (In contact – Bonnie POC)
April 28	Luncheon	WNDC – to be reserved	“Automatic IRAs” – David John & Mark Iwry (confirmed) (Revae POC)
May 26	Luncheon	TBD	“Union Goals and Strategies for the 21st Century” James Hoffa (Jim POC)
June 23	Luncheon	TBD	Immigration Subject Audrey Singer (to be invited) + TBD counterpoint (Howard POC)
July no meeting			–
August no meetings			–
Sep 22	Luncheon	Georgetown U.	Joint program with Georgetown U’s ILWP. TBD subject. Special emphasis on program of value to students
October 27	Breakfast	TBD	<i>Option A:</i> “Federal Trade Policies” Ed Gresser (DLC) and Rob Scott (EPI) <i>Option B:</i> “Do Government Labor-Management Partnerships Work?” Robert Tobias (American U.)
November 17	Luncheon	Embassy	International Program (Steve Silvia POC)
December 15	Luncheon (?)	TBD	2010 Elections - Implications for labor & employment relations

20100215

4. Membership and Recruiting

Our next meeting will focus on recruiting and membership. Our discussion did however touch on some recruiting points:

- David S. pointed out correctly that face-to-face recruiting is much more effective than emailed invitations to join. He believes that labor-oriented law firms are excellent candidates as organizational members. DC LERA should be able offer their staff members good value with our programs. And the firms are potentially good portals into labor and other organizations that have institutional interests aligning with DC LERA. David said that he would approach some firms he knows.

- As a result of our January Board meeting, Ed Hilz investigated the Chief Human Capital Officers Council as a channel to present DC LERA and LERA to federal HR professionals in federal agencies. The Council is made up of the Chief Human Capital Officers (CHCOs) of 24 Executive Departments and agencies. Each CHCO serves as his or her agency's chief policy advisor on all human resources management issues and is charged with selecting, developing, training, and managing a high-quality, productive workforce. Our goal would be to engage agency human resources professionals with DC LERA to our mutual benefit.

Ed spoke to Kathryn Medina of OPM, the chair of the Council, to inquire how DC LERA might be able to brief DC LERA at one of the Council meetings. Medina asked that we provide her with information about DC LERA. After she reviews our material, she will be back in contact with us about next steps. **Action: Fred to email material.** (kathryn.medina@opm.gov)

5. Other Business

Steve reported that Claudia Falk will be Markus's replacement at the German Embassy. She will be leaving her current position as spokesperson for the DGB (*Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund*, or German Federation of Trade Unions). Steve will contact Falk after she arrives to arrange a welcome luncheon with DC LERA officers and our other international board members.

6. Special Note

Fred thanked the Board members for their ongoing goodwill and diligent support of the Chapter.

7. Next Board meeting

Noon, Wednesday, Mar 10, 2010

BlueCross BlueShield Association
1310 G Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

We offer our appreciation to our host Bonnie Summers and to our point of contact Bobbi Williams (202-626-4815) for hosting our meetings.

Fred adjourned the Board at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Stahl, on behalf of David Jacobs, Secretary
Feb 15, 2010

Our Organizational Members:

American Rights at Work • BlueCross BlueShield Association • Georgetown University's Kalmanowitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor • International Brotherhood of Boilermakers • International Brotherhood of Teamsters Ironworkers International • Laborers' Health and Safety Fund of North America • National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems

**LERA – Washington, DC Chapter
Treasurer's Report**

January 2010

Sun Trust Balance

Balance as of, January 13, 2010 **\$4,271.71**

Revenue included above:

Membership

Renewals (10)

New (6)

Organizational Memberships

Georgetown University 200.00

Kalamanowitz Initiative for Labor
and the Working Poor

January 27, luncheon revenue avg \$636.00

(includes paypal and onsite)

Expenses included in Final balance:

Moran check#1390 251.33

Stahl check #1391* 79.67

WNDC - January 27, luncheon 902.72

Check #1392

Mallari check #1393 120.00

Final Balance January 31, 2010 **\$3,987.81**

* checks have not cleared bank account

Submitted by: _____
Bonnie Summers

January 31, 2010

DCLERA BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, Feb 10, 2010

12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM

WE WILL NOT MEET FACE-TO-FACE

Please call in!

Call-in number: (877) 455-8688 passcode: 146183
(host code: 129072)

AGENDA

Review and Approval of the Minutes of Last Month's Board Meeting (enclosed)

Treasurer's Report

Programming Monthly Events for 2010

Please review accompanying discussion papers (enclosed)

“Possible Topics and Speakers 2010.doc”

“DC LERA Program Planning 2010.doc”

And be ready to discuss:

- Mar 24 – Need to confirm Maxwell – Julie
- Mar 24 – Venue for breakfast meeting
- May 26 – Hosted by ILWP at Georgetown – Program
- Jun 23 – Issue: Success of networking social events
- Jun 23 – Alternative – Filed trip to Natl Labor College (Bonnie)
- Sep 22 – James Hoffa via Jim K.?
- Oct 27 – Ed Gresser – Democratic Leadership Conference point man on trade?
- Nov 17 – International Program – Steve organize a panel on future of international labor movements?
- Dec 15 – Replace networking event with speaker program on “2010 Elections - Implications for labor & employment relations”?

Membership and Recruiting

Organizational Members

- Status of organizational memberships (from Bonnie/Babbi)

Personal memberships

- Status of renewal/new memberships (Revae)
- Suggest improvements for success of recruiting efforts? (All)

Reenergizing our efforts to attract new members/attendance

Focus of next Board meeting

Other Business

Fee for no-meal attendance at luncheon event: \$10???

Other _____