

COMMUNIQUE



November 7, 2017

VOTE **NO** ON THE NYS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Sample Ballot on Page 5



**A Constitutional Convention
WILL HURT YOU.....P. 2-5**



**CWA
STRONG**

International Convention.....P. 8-11



DACA The Right to Dream.....P. 17

on
NOVEMBER 7
VOTE
NO
NYS CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION



Proposition 1 on whether New York should hold a Constitutional Convention will be on the November 7 ballot.

VOTER TURNOUT IS EXPECTED TO BE LOW this year, so there isn't a more urgent time to head to the polls. Your future, and the future of all New Yorkers, is at stake.

So much is on the line if a Constitutional Convention takes place, and not just for those involved in the labor movement.

WHAT'S ON THE POTENTIAL CHOPPING BLOCK?

The right to a free public education, the right to form a union, the right to collective bargaining, the right to guaranteed pensions, the right to a protected environment, the right to health care, the right to Workers' Compensation, and so much more.

ARE YOU WILLING TO TAKE THE CHANCE?

By Marci Rosenblum
Communications Director



What exactly is a Constitutional Convention

A Constitutional Convention is an **expensive and wasteful way to amend the Constitution of the State of New York**. It is a gathering of elected delegates — mostly current politicians and high-powered officials — for an undefined period of time who review the entire state Constitution and make suggestions for change. It is a process that gives a small group of elected delegates enormous power to change every single aspect of New York's Constitution.

It is estimated that if a Convention is approved, the costs **could exceed a staggering \$340 million**.

The question of whether to hold a Constitutional Convention appears on the ballot every 20 years and gives voters the right to decide if the Constitution will be opened up for mass revisions.

The Constitution, the state's guiding document, impacts all current and future laws. It forms the structure of the state's government and establishes the basic rights of all citizens.

But a Constitutional Convention is simply a **waste of taxpayer dollars**. History proves this. In fact, at no time in the past half century have voters opted for a Con Con, as it's commonly known. New Yorkers from all socio-economic backgrounds have rejected the call for a Constitutional Convention since 1967.



Who Benefits from a Convention

This "politician's convention" would be a multi-million dollar boondoggle funded by taxpayer dollars — and would give New York **political insiders** and **special interest groups** the opportunity to change our state Constitution to benefit themselves.

Here's who will benefit from a Constitutional Convention:



- Politicians
- The super wealthy
- Developers
- CEOs
- Anti-labor groups
- Privately-run charter schools



CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Will HURT YOU (& ALL New Yorkers)

While a vast number of groups interested in issues like campaign finance reform, redistricting, and term limits have spoken out in favor of a Convention, they are holding by the false assumption that the state Legislature wouldn't touch these issues during their regularly scheduled legislative sessions. However, what they fail to realize is that it's these same legislators who will most likely be elected as double-dipping delegates who wouldn't touch these issues anyway.

Bottom line is that nothing positive can result from a Constitutional Convention. Nothing!

On **November 7, 2017**, voters will decide whether the state should convene a Constitutional Convention to redraft the state's Constitution. The outcome could have **far-reaching and devastating effects** for decades. Opening up the Constitution to haphazard changes is like opening a Pandora's Box.

The seemingly simple question put before voters every 20 years is far from innocuous. And to make matters worse, Proposition 1 on whether to hold a Constitutional Convention is on the **BACK of the ballot, meaning voters must turn over the ballot in order to cast their votes.**

Proposition 1 will read as follows:

“Shall there be a convention to revise the Constitution and amend the same?”

The Process of a Constitutional Convention

The Constitutional Convention is a two-year process in which delegates are elected, rules are set, amendments are proposed, and initiatives that make it to the ballot are voted on by New Yorkers.

Three delegates are elected from each state Senate district as well 15 “at large” delegates from the rest of the state, for a total of 204 members. The 26 Senate Districts that represent New York City would elect **78 of the 204** delegates to the Convention.

Delegates are given the opportunity to discuss and propose amendments to any part of the state Constitution. All amendments proposed at a Constitutional Convention have to be approved by voters on a statewide ballot question.

The political party with the most delegates controls the Convention and makes all of the decisions regarding the Convention. They determine the rules, as well as which amendments make it to the ballot for a public vote.

A Constitutional Convention could result in minor modifications or radical changes. Since Local 1180 members and retirees rely upon the state Constitution to protect our pensions, our right to organize, and the nature of our work, we could all face major setbacks and see our futures jeopardized if a Constitutional Convention passes.

HOW THE TWO-YEAR PROCESS WORKS:



Who

Suffers from a Convention

Here's who will suffer from a Constitutional Convention:

- Taxpayers
- Retirees
- Organized labor
- The environment
- Conservationists
- Social Welfare program recipients
- Public school children
- Fiscal conservatives



10

Reasons to

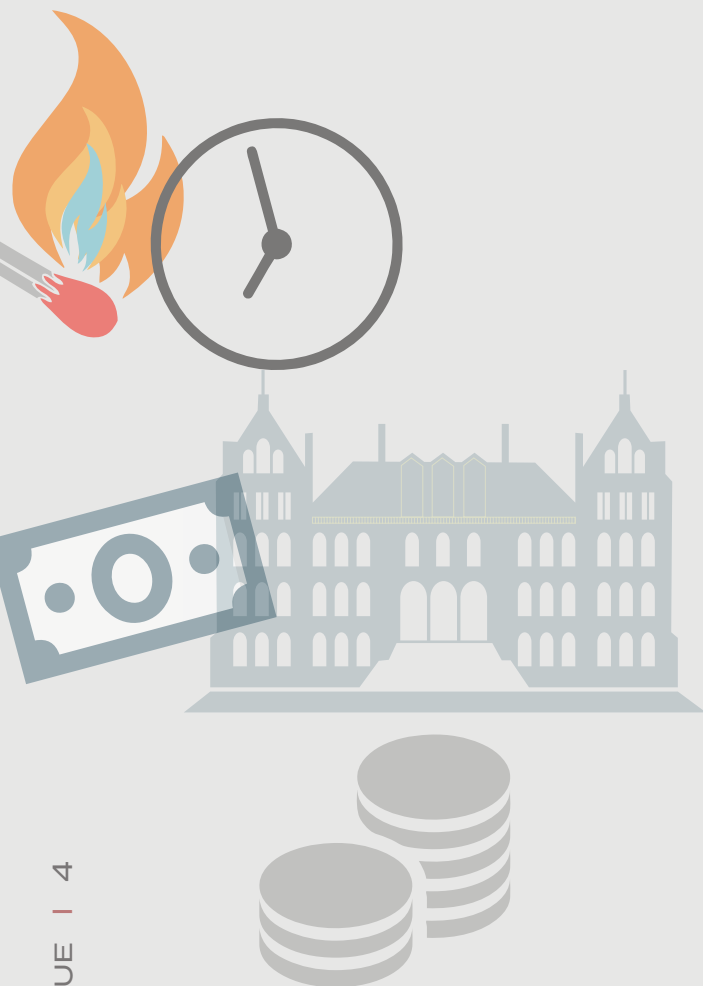
VOTE NO

on the

Constitutional Convention

A Constitutional Convention (Proposition 1) has ramifications not only for those living in New York, but for all those who have moved elsewhere as well.

Political insiders, currently elected politicians and high-powered lobbyists — those who will probably be elected as delegates — are well aware of what a great opportunity they will have to rewrite the current Constitution for their own benefit. And since they will be collecting two salaries while doing so at a Convention with no time limit, it's what one would consider an insider's party.



1. IT IS A WASTE OF MONEY

A Constitutional Convention is projected to **cost \$340 million** in taxpayer money and could **seriously damage current benefits and protections** for at least the next 20 years.

2. IT IS A POLITICIAN'S CONVENTION

During the last Convention, 4 out of 5 delegates were career politicians and Albany insiders who a second taxpayer-funded salary every day during the Convention that had no time limit.

3. THE RIGHT TO UNIONIZE

Workers' rights to organize, form, and join unions at free will would be at risk.

4. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Remember what Scott Walker did in Wisconsin in 2015? Voting against a Constitutional Convention would help safeguard collective bargaining rights in New York.

5. PENSION PROTECTION

Public employee pensions are currently protected by the State Constitution, but a Convention could remove those protections. Also at risk? Workers' Compensation, unemployment, retirement systems, and contributions.

6. CIVIL SERVICE LAWS AND RULES

The current system of competitive lists and job protections as we know them could be undone. Awarding political patronage jobs instead of hiring people based on merit could become the norm.

7. SOUND BASIC EDUCATION

The current Constitution guarantees children the right to a free public school education and limits the use of funding for school maintenance and establishment.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS

New York State's Constitution has the nation's strongest protections for "forever wild" areas in the Adirondacks and Catskills. Greedy developers could push to undo these safeguards for their own profit.

9. SOCIAL SAFETY NET

The State Constitution now ensures that New York provide for its citizens in need with welfare and unemployment benefits, emergency healthcare, and homeless shelters, to name a few. All of this would be on the line with a Constitutional Convention.

10. VOTING RIGHTS

Restrictions and stringencies on voting rights could be implemented with a Constitutional Convention, including diminishing polling sites and requiring government-issued identification. This would ultimately reduce the number of eligible voters.

There are estimates that a 2017 Constitutional Convention could cost taxpayers

We Don't Need a Convention

(there is another option)

\$345,000,000

Luckily, there is ANOTHER WAY



The State Constitution can be amended legislatively.

Rather than holding a big, expensive party for politicians, if there are changes that can improve our lives and livelihoods, the Legislature can amend the Constitution at any time with specific proposals. **In fact, there have been more than 200 amendments to the Constitution since 1894, all achieved through multiple legislative actions.**

The process would involve passage of amendments through two sessions of the Legislature and then approval by voters in a future November election. This process provides more checks and balances to the amendment process, gives regular people a bigger voice in the process, guarantees a more open legislative process, and **costs taxpayers nothing.**

We elect our state legislative leaders to do just that — propose and sponsor bills that would add new laws, delete antiquated laws, and rewrite existing laws to keep up with changing times.

So why do we need to spend HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS on a Constitutional Convention party when we already have another way?

EVERY. SINGLE. VOTE. COUNTS.

Including yours. That's why it's EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, especially during this off election year when voter turnout is VERY LOW, to get out and vote.

PROPOSITION 1 – Constitutional Convention is on the **BACK** of the ballot

PROPOSAL NUMBER ONE, A QUESTION

Constitutional Convention

Shall there be a convention to revise the Constitution and amend the same?"

YES

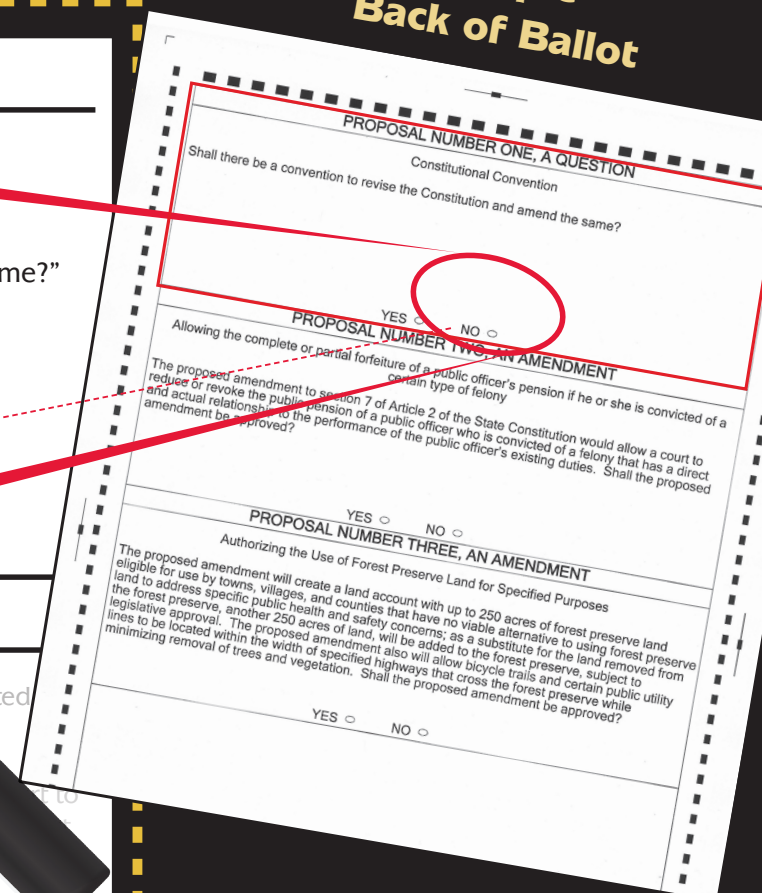
NO

PROPOSAL NUMBER TWO, AN AMENDMENT

Allowing the complete or partial forfeiture of a public officer's pension if he or she is convicted of a certain type of felony

The proposed amendment to section 7 of Article 2 of the State Constitution would allow a court to reduce or revoke the public pension of a public officer who is convicted of a felony that has a direct and actual relationship to the performance of the public officer's existing duties. Shall the proposed amendment be approved?

Sample Back of Ballot





CWA LOCAL 1180

2017 General Election Endorsements

Tuesday, November 7, 2017

CITYWIDE

Mayor	Bill de Blasio	Comptroller	Scott Stringer
Public Advocate	Letitia James		

BOROUGHWISE

District Attorney	Borough President
Darcel Clark (Bronx)	Ruben Diaz, Jr. (Bronx)
Eric Gonzalez (Brooklyn)	Eric Adams (Brooklyn)
Cy Vance (Manhattan)	Gale Brewer (Manhattan)
Richard Brown (Queens)	Melinda Katz (Queens)

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

Manhattan District 1	Margaret S. Chin	Manhattan District 6	Helen Rosenthal
Manhattan District 2	Carlina Rivera	Manhattan District 7	Mark Levine
Manhattan District 3	Corey Johnson	Manhattan District 8	Diana Ayala
Manhattan District 4	Keith Powers	Manhattan District 9	Bill Perkins
Manhattan District 5	Ben Kallos	Manhattan District 10	Ydanis Rodriguez
Bronx District 11	Andrew Cohen	Bronx District 15	Ritchie J. Torres
Bronx District 12	Andy King	Bronx District 16	Vanessa Gibson
Bronx District 13	Mark Gjonaj	Bronx District 17	Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Bronx District 14	Fernando Cabrera		
Queens District 19	Paul Vallone	Queens District 26	James Van Bramer
Queens District 20	Peter Koo	Queens District 27	I. Daneek Miller
Queens District 21	Francisco Moya	Queens District 28	Adrienne Adams
Queens District 22	Costa Constantinides	Queens District 29	Karen Koslowitz
Queens District 23	Barry Grodenchik	Queens District 30	Elizabeth S. Crowley
Queens District 24	Rory L. Lancman	Queens District 31	Donovan J. Richards
Queens District 25	Daniel Dromm		
Brooklyn District 33	Stephen T. Levin	Brooklyn District 41	Alicka Samuel
Brooklyn District 34	Antonio Reynoso	Brooklyn District 42	Inez Barron
Brooklyn District 35	Laurie A. Cumbo	Brooklyn District 43	Justin Brannan
Brooklyn District 36	Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.	Brooklyn District 45	Jumaane D. Williams
Brooklyn District 37	Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.	Brooklyn District 46	Alan N. Maisel
Brooklyn District 38	Carlos Menchaca	Brooklyn District 47	Mark Treyger
Brooklyn District 39	Brad Lander	Brooklyn District 48	Chaim Deutsch
Brooklyn District 40	Matthieu Eugene		
Staten Island District 49	Deborah Rose		



ARTHUR CHELIOTES

President

We Must Build a Movement to Stop This Insane Man

I have been writing this column since 1979 and in all that time, I have never been as fearful for our nation as I am today.

We are more of a divided country than at any time in recent history. The right has moved more to the right, and the left more to the left, leaving very few lingering in the middle.

Racism and hate and terrorism in all forms seem to be at an all-time high. Police vs. African Americans. White nationalists vs. counter protesters. Crazy gunmen going on rampant shooting sprees.

And a president who doesn't inspire much hope for change. In fact, a president who himself has contributed significantly to the problem at hand.

Even numerous respected psychiatrists have put their professional reputations on the line and declared #45 unfit to serve as our nation's leader. The job of a president is to inspire, to lead, to bring about positive change, to make progress — not to point fingers, to tweet, to throw papers towels into

police because of the color of their skin. Far too many Jews feel the rise of anti-Semitism. Far too many Americans panic about crazed lunatics driving cars into innocent crowds of people or psychotic gunmen rampantly shooting into a country music concert and killing almost 60.

And who is stepping up to do something to evoke change? Certainly not #45, the supposed commander in chief, the leader of the free world. And for lack of any real leadership at this moment, it will be up to us, the people, to take charge.

In addition to taking a stance by kneeling during the National Anthem, we must stand up tall and fight back. We must evoke our own change or we can't complain. If we don't become the change we want to see, then we have no one to blame but ourselves.

Let's face it, we cannot count on #45. He has proven that time and again.

After Charlottesville, he held a news conference at which he blamed the violence on both sides of the conflict, equating the white supremacists on one side with the "alt-left" on the other. Try telling the mother of Heather Heyer innocently killed that day that "I think there is blame on both sides," which #45 did at his press conference.

And how could we overlook his comments after Hurricane Maria wiped out Puerto Rico: "Sixteen people certified – 16 people versus in the thousands," Trump said during a briefing, and added that while "every death is a horror," the devastation has not been "a real catastrophe" on the same scale of Hurricane Katrina, which killed 1,800 people in New Orleans.

Is he really saying that losing 16 lives is not a real catastrophe? Losing just one life is a real catastrophe in my mind.

And of course, this statement takes the cake, at least for now until he comes up with something more asinine. Trump quipped: "Now I hate to tell you, Puerto Rico, but you've thrown our budget a little out of whack, but you're throwing our budget a little out of whack because we've spent a lot of money on Puerto Rico." Well, why shouldn't we spend the same amount of money and time and effort to help Puerto Rico rebuild that we did to help Houston or New Orleans or Florida? I have news for our president — Puerto Ricans **are** American citizens by birth.

Puerto Rico first became a U.S. territory following the Spanish-American War. In

1917, Congress passed the Jones-Shafroth Act granting U.S. citizenship to anyone born on the island. In 1952, Puerto Ricans adopted a new constitution establishing the current relationship of Puerto Rico as a commonwealth of the United States.

So why did #45 think it was appropriate to toss paper towels into the crowds as a means of consoling those American citizens who have lost everything instead of giving a hug or a warm handshake or some other heartfelt measure as former President Obama and all recent presidents before him did when they visited rampaged areas post devastation? Does he not consider Puerto Ricans the same as Texans or Floridians?

We need an organized movement that will bring our nation to its senses. Organized workers and citizens scare the oligarchs because when we are organized, we have the power to demand and achieve justice. It's time we do it and not talk about it.

Trump's nationalism fits the Republican agenda like a glove. On the surface, he's an unconventional populist who threatens foreign trading partners on behalf of "the forgotten man and woman." In reality, his tax-cut package, loaded with a conventional trickle-down agenda such as repeal of the estate tax and the alternative minimum tax, is not at all about working men and women; it solely serves the .1% donor class. This is not the type of movement we need to heal our country. We need unity. We need solidarity. We need to take action.

We need every single member to get involved. Organizing and taking an active role are the future of all unions.

To quote Theodore Roosevelt: "Patriotism means to stand by the country. It does not mean to stand by the president or any other public official, save exactly to the degree in which he himself stands by the country. It is patriotic to support him insofar as he efficiently serves the country. It is unpatriotic not to oppose him to the exact extent that by inefficiency or otherwise he fails in his duty to stand by the country. In either event, it is unpatriotic not to tell the truth, whether about the president or anyone else."

I certainly do not want to be labeled as unpatriotic so let me tell the truth. #45 is anti labor. He is doing nothing to unite our country and he has done nothing to help the working, middle class. That leaves us no other choice but to help ourselves. ■

If we don't learn from history, we are doomed to repeat it. If we don't resist and fight back, if we don't band together to find the good in each other and our commonality, we are setting ourselves up for failure.

a crowd of desperate Puerto Ricans waiting for relief in order to survive as individuals and as a country after a devastating hurricane did untold damage.

Our president's job is to boost up our nation, not divide and conquer. Students of history have seen this before. The actions and rhetoric we view on a day-to-day basis are coming harrowingly close to what was seen and heard in the early 20th Century that eventually lead to fascism in Italy and Germany. My father did not fight the Nazis in WWII to let them now emerge on our shores here in the United States.

If we don't learn from history, we are doomed to repeat it. If we don't resist and fight back, if we don't band together to find the good in each other and our commonality, we are setting ourselves up for failure.

We must not despair, but build a movement that turns around our country. Not to do so will reap grim consequences. Far too many African Americans fear encounters with the



CWA STRONG

LOCAL 1180 INTERNATIO



More than 2,500 CWA delegates from nearly 400 locals from across the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico attending the 76th Biannual International Convention were testament to the phrase “CWA STRONG.”

The theme of this year’s convention echoed throughout the myriad of meetings, as delegates gathered en masse as well as in smaller District meetings.

CWA President Chris Shelton, in his opening remarks, said that the labor movement is under intensifying attacks and that locals must continue to rise up and fight back.

“Our work is cut out for us. But let me tell you this — I am 100 percent confident that we are up to the task. I know what CWA is made of. I know that every one of you will do whatever we have to do to save our union and to save our labor movement. I know that we are CWA STRONG and that nothing, nothing can break us!”

Shelton outlined the CWA STRONG program and noted that locals already are putting this plan into action. “Step 1 for CWA STRONG is increasing membership levels. Step 2 is more mobilization and member engagement. Across this union we must renew our commitment to building our union from the bottom up. At the same time, we must continue to reach out to our community allies who will stand with us against our enemies. A stronger CWA means a stronger foundation for a progressive movement. Locals, large and small, are working hard to sign up agency fee payers and non-members in both the public and private sectors.”

Local 1180 President Arthur Cheliotis echoed those sentiments.

“Unions are under attack. Labor is under attack. We were able to dodge a few bullets in the last year or so, like with the death of Supreme Court Justice Scalia, but we have to be more diligent than ever,” Cheliotis said. “There is a new case most likely coming before the Court that could change the way all unions do business going forward. We have to stay on top of it and be prepared. We need to be on the offense, not the defense.”

Shelton said that the attack on labor is also an attack on working people, on democracy itself, and on the rights of working people to have a voice.

“The union movement is all that stands in the way of every corporate bully imposing tyranny in the work-

ATTENDS 76TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION



place. Without unions, the workplace is little better than a fascist dictatorship, with the bosses free to do whatever they want, whenever they want. And it's not just that unions give workers a voice in the workplace. The labor movement is the key to a democratic society. Unions give regular people a collective voice in the political decision-making process which determines the quality of all of our lives," Shelton said.

He said that since corporate America does not want the concerns of regular people to get in its way, it is laser-focused on destroying the labor movement.

"The attacks on the labor movement are intensifying. There is an entrenched anti-labor majority on the Supreme Court. Our political system is drenched in corporate money. Republicans have gerrymandered their way to power in State Houses across the country," he said.

Cheliotis said the push by locals to sign up agency-fee payers has intensified in the wake of the upcoming Janus case before the Supreme Court. Statewide, CWA public sector membership has gone from slightly more than 70 percent to just under 80 percent. State and local government locals are determined to get to 90 percent before the Supreme Court eliminates agency fee payers in the public sector.

Numerous resolutions were tackled during the Convention as well, including one on Islamophobia. The CWA Policy on Discrimination, embedded in the Union Constitution, affirms the union's opposition to all forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on race,

Continued on next page





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color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or national origin. The resolution reaffirms CWA's commitment to dignity and respect for all people, fighting against discrimination in all its forms, including the targeting of people of the Islamic faith.

Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Middleton addressed all CWAers, with Local 1180 members proudly standing behind her in solidarity. “We cannot tolerate Islamophobia or any other type of discrimination in this country any more. We cannot ban people from entering this country based on a certain religion. It is against everything this country was built on,” Middleton said. “Racism in any form is unjust.”

And that includes discrimination against women and minorities, as Cheliotis talked about when he stood at the podium.

“Women and minorities, with the help of the union, worked their way up the ranks and they became managers. But as managers, they were treated like dirt. And they said ‘Wait a minute. we need a union to represent us because the work we’re doing isn’t managerial.’ It took us a decade, but we won the right to represent them, and then we began to look at how they were being paid. As we looked at that, we saw discrimination,” Cheliotis said. “Organized labor can make a difference for women.”

CWA has a lot to be proud of. Cheliotis said that 1180 is enhancing its organizing, political, and legislative campaigns. The Union is working diligently to sign up agency fee payers. Local 1180 has greatly improved its member outreach and communications, using 2017 technology to keep members informed via social media outlets. “We are CWA STRONG and we are Local 1180 strong, but our day-to-day fight continues.



Exhibit Hours
 Sunday, August 6
 Monday, August 7
 Tuesday, August 8

Registration Hours
 Sunday, August 6
 Monday, August 7

Convention Session
 Monday, August 7
 Tuesday, August 8

CWA STRONG

Our EEOC case remains unsettled; we are working to improve wages, benefits and working conditions of our members; we have strengthened our ties to political leaders who are labor friendly and worked with them on legislation that helps us. When it comes to fighting for members, the record of CWA Local 1180 is second to none," Cheliotis said.

And as President Shelton brought his opening remarks to a close, he summed it up by saying, "I am proud of our union. I am proud of all the work we are doing. But Brothers and Sisters, let's not kid ourselves. We are at war — a war to save the labor movement. In a war, there are no neutrals. To paraphrase the old union song, in times like these, every working person must decide which side are you on? Are you a union activist, a union militant, or are you a scab for the bosses? No middle ground. No bystanders."

That means we must build CWA STRONG, in every workplace, in every community, in the streets, at the ballot box, from the bottom up.

Building membership levels is the foundation of CWA STRONG. ■



RESOLUTIONS APPROVED AT THE 2017 CWA CONVENTION

Convention delegates voted on numerous resolutions, but not all passed. The following are those members voted in favor of:

Resolution 76A-17-01 CWA STRONG

CWA STRONG is a far-reaching plan to move every member to action, with the goal of strengthening our union at all levels and expanding our capacity to survive and fight back. Locals are developing systematic plans to talk with and sign up non-members, attend internal organizing training, recruit new stewards, participate in political boot camps, and much more. We must strengthen organizing committees and engage in deeper one-on-one conversations in every workplace, committing to listening and involving members at the center of everything we do. This resolution lists multiple means by which unions will work toward reaching a goal of signing up 40,000 non members before the next Convention.

Resolution 76A-17-02 A New NAFTA? Working Families Are Watching

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) that was supposed to create 200,000 new jobs, instead became more than 900,000 jobs lost. NAFTA has been a disaster for working people in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. CWA will work with coalition partners from the environmental, human rights, labor, faith and consumer rights communities to spotlight the harm that NAFTA has caused to members and millions of people in all three countries and to ensure that progressive communities in all three countries remain united in our demands and efforts to influence the NAFTA renegotiation and ensure it addresses all our concerns.

Resolution 76A-17-03 Call Center Offshoring and Outsourcing

CWA is under attack as large corporations increasingly outsource union call center jobs. Even while jobs are leaving the U.S., companies clearly see the value of a U.S.-based workforce for the vital role of customer interaction. CWA will share information among our leadership and bargaining teams about strategies to strengthen existing job protections and prevent our employers from shifting an increasing share of customer service work to low-wage vendors, and will continue to organize in the call center sector when it is strategic and builds power.

Resolution 76A-17-04 Workers' Rights are Human Rights: The Fight Forward

In response to the current climate of deep divisions along racial and socio-economic lines, CWA STRONG will incorporate the Fight Forward program, a Human Rights Committee initiative, founded on the belief that human rights can be used as an instrument to bridge division. This program will focus on building power through local activism and mobilization. CWA Districts and locals will rededicate themselves to building and supporting active Human Rights Committees, including the Women's Committee and the Civil Rights and Equity Committee, in every Local.

Resolution 76A-17-05 A Fair Tax and Budget Program for Working People

Corporate America and Wall Street financiers have used the tax code and government budget process to enrich themselves at the expense of millions of working families and communities. These tax proposals come in the context of a federal tax system in which everyday working Americans pay taxes on their income every week, yet many of the wealthiest Americans, corporate executives, and Wall Street bankers pay little or no tax at all. CWA supports equitable tax policies that make the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share in order to provide adequate resources to support the public investments necessary to build a strong economy, vibrant communities, and a good quality of life for all Americans. CWA opposes tax plans in Congress, as well as at the state and local levels, that would reduce tax rates on corporations, the financial industry, and the wealthy.

Resolution 76A-17-06 CWA Opposition to Islamophobia

Islamophobia serves as a structural force in American politics to divide people one against another and to promote violence and oppression that violates the core values of our nation. CWA reaffirms our commitment to dignity and respect for all people. We will fight against discrimination in all its forms, including the targeting of people of the Islamic faith and we will act in defense of and solidarity with those targeted by Islamophobia in our union, our workplaces, and our communities.

Resolution 76A-17-07 Defend the Right to Report & the People's Right to Know

Journalists are facing unprecedented attacks, including physical assault, arrest, and restrictions on access to information. These attacks are in conjunction with an all-out effort to demonize and discredit journalists and the truth they seek to tell. The attacks threaten the very foundation of our democracy. With this resolution, CWA supports the media sectors' efforts to fight the attacks on journalists and the First Amendment, and supports national and state legislation that would make it a felony to assault journalists, including reporters, photographers, and videographers, and supports expansion of state shield laws. CWA also supports passage and enforcement of, and adherence to, Freedom of Information laws at the federal, state, and municipal levels.



GERALD BROWN

Second Vice President

Constitutional Convention Proposition 1: A Major Concern for Unions

Every 20 years, the people of New York State have a mandated opportunity to amend the New York State Constitution. The question of whether to amend will be put before the voters on the November 7, 2017 General Election ballot in the form of a proposition.

While many New Yorkers can tell you they have seen a proposition on at least one Election Day ballot, the majority cannot tell you what a proposition is or why it is important.

A proposition is a general vote by the electorate on a single, political question that has been referred to them for a direct decision.

Voting for a Constitutional Convention could negatively change the dollar amount we plan to receive on retirement. The one sure way to avoid this is to VOTE NO for the Constitutional Convention on the BACK of the ballot.

Voting yes on Proposition 1 to amend the entire State Constitution in one fell swoop is an extremely risky business for public employee labor unions in this state. Our main concern is defending of public employee pensions — currently protected by the State Constitution — that would be at risk.

If the Constitutional Convention passes, and let's hope it doesn't, then the entire document would be open for changes. Many political leaders point the finger at public employee pensions whenever there is a budget deficit of any kind. Pension are under constant attack and are the target of much media coverage and scrutiny.

The devastation that could transpire for union members could be insurmountable. Workers with 30 years of pension credits with a few years to retirement could see their retirement change in the blink of an eye, or in this case, the cast of a vote. New laws and formulas for calculating pensions could be imposed, and would certainly have a negative impact on pension amounts received for future as well as current retirees.

Voting for a Constitutional Convention could negatively change the dollar amount we plan to receive on retirement. The one sure way to avoid this is to **VOTE NO** on the

Constitutional Convention on the **BACK of the ballot**.

Another concern for unions should a Constitutional Convention become reality is the Triborough Agreement, which states that when a collectively bargained contract expires, its terms will remain in effect until a new contract is ratified. With a Constitutional Convention, this Agreement is at serious risk of being changed, or worse yet eliminated. This would mean the employer could pay salary and benefits at their own will until a new contract is signed. We will have no say in our salaries and no protections until a new agreement is reached, and this could take years.

Without the protections of the Triborough Agreement, the City would be in no rush to reach a new deal as worker salaries could randomly be set to any amount.

We have the power to make sure this does not happen. We have the power to protect ourselves. We have the power to do something, but only if we all go **VOTE NO on November 7**.

Stopping a Constitutional Convention will require team work. Organized labor has put forth a huge united effort in the past several months. We have spoken about the dangers of a Convention, we have emailed information to our members, we have posted on our website (www.cwa1180.org) and on our Facebook page.

If you are still confused for any reason about why you need to **VOTE NO**, please go to the union's website or read the stories on pages 2-5 of this newsletter. Right at the top of the website's home page are multiple links to fliers and videos we have assembled with all the information. You can also visit a special website we created specifically about the Constitutional Convention. That site is <http://www.reddoorcreativity.com/no2concon/>.

There can't be any holds barred. There is no rerun here. If the naysayers are stronger than the guardians of the working class, then we will have lost the war.

With the current climate of resentment toward public employees and their pensions, there is never a better time than now to get out and vote — and be sure to **VOTE NO** — in order to protect our interests.

If you don't vote or you vote in favor, you are allowing a Constitutional Convention that will give well-funded special interests the

ability to control a process that can negatively impact our rights, including the right to organize, the right to join a union, and the rights of injured workers. Our rights are at risk because certain politicians and special interests groups could vote to change them

This will be a tough fight, but one we can win. As I see it, there are only two courses of action. First, you can sit back and do nothing, which in reality, is *not really* an option. Or two, you can take just a few minutes from your day and **GO VOTE**. By doing so, you will be joining hundreds of thousands of other New Yorkers who want to protect their futures and the futures of upcoming generations.

If you sit back and don't vote, you are not only harming yourself, you are harming countless others. Bottom line is, we are all in this together.

In fact, ALL New Yorkers, whether or not a union member, are in this together. There is so much about a Constitutional Convention that applies to everyone, least of which is the \$340 million bill to run the Convention that taxpayers will be responsible for if this Proposition is approved. That's \$340 million that could be better spent elsewhere.

A recent poll shows support for holding a Constitutional Convention is sliding, as the percentage of voters who say they've heard about the Convention process increases. After all, knowledge is power.

Organized labor is one of the most Convention-averse groups of voters because we have the most to lose. CWA, along with many other unions of all sizes, have banded together to defeat this proposition. Local 1180 has been out in the forefront, and we will stay there until November 7 has come and gone.

Since this is a very low voter turnout year, every single vote counts. We only have one chance to get this right, so let's get it right together on Tuesday, November 7. ■

MEMBERS IN ACTION

Disability Pride Rocks NYC for Health Care, Access



By Edward M. Yood, Co-Chair
Committee on People with Disabilities

More than 7,500 people with disabilities, along with their families, caregivers, friends and allies, marched, rolled, rode and scooted in a glorious New York City Disability Pride Parade on July 9. They were celebrating the anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act on July 26, 1990. They were also proudly and firmly opposing threatened government denial of support for access and health care. The looming budget cuts proposed in the U.S. Congress would decimate Medicaid, often a lifeline for elderly and disabled people. Loss of funding for needed services would mean a death sentence for untold numbers.

More than 140 organizations participated in this march, including disability rights and service/provider organizations. This was the third consecutive year that Local 1180 participated in the Disability Pride Parade since its revival in 2015 with a contingent of more than 20 members from the Local's Committee on People with Disabilities. This year CWA Local 1180 again hosted Disability Pride outreach meetings at our headquarters and since October 2016, has held a seat on the NYC Disability Pride Committee Executive Board. ■

African American Day Parade



Dozens of Local 1180 members marched in this year's African American Day Parade on September 16 that marks unique culture, heritage, and legacy. The Parade is the most renowned African American parade in the country, with the largest cross-section of participants, and drew an estimated 900,000 attendees along the parade route. More than 200 organizations from 12 states and many countries participated in this year's event. ■

Supporting Councilmember Cumbo

New York City Councilmember Laurie Cumbo held her campaign kick off event at her headquarters in Brooklyn. Cumbo has been a great supporter of the labor movement and Local 1180, particularly in our EEOC battle. Deborah Valentin, Local 1180 Organizing Coordinator, Helen S. Jarrett, Local 1180 Mobilization Coordinator, and Samantha Benton, Local 1180 member, attended the event to pledge the union's support. Pictured from left are Valentin, Cumbo, and Jarrett. ■



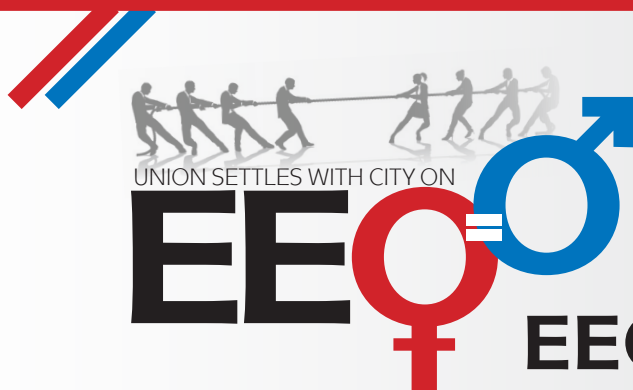
MEMBERS IN ACTION

Retiree Division Annual Picnic

By Carole Silverman, Local 1180 Retiree



On a bright summer day in August, eight buses of retired members, their families, and friends came out for the annual picnic at Black Bear Lake in Central New Jersey. Lots of activities abound with something for everyone — swimming, basketball, pedal boats, sports, arts and crafts, and the ever-popular Bingo. The winners received great gifts, and a delicious, gourmet buffet was served all day. There were plenty of desserts, popcorn, ice cream, sodas and wine. Many retirees “got down” on the lawn for line dancing and the electric slide, bringing smiles and applause. Retirees had positive thoughts about being at the picnic. Deloris Buffaloe, who retired seven years ago from NYPD, said she came to get away from the hustle and bustle of urban living and to enjoy fun in the sun, relaxing, socializing, eating delicious food and drink, and playing games. Mary Guest, retired 10 years ago from the Board of Education, said she loves to attend the Annual Retiree Picnic as it gives her lots of joy. She especially loves the Local 1180 Retiree Division for the wonderful benefits and activities they offer. This Annual Picnic is one of the many exciting activities the Retiree Division offers in order to keep all retirees active, alert, and forever young. ■



EEO Case Settlement UPDATE

Every month at the Union’s general membership meeting, members are brought up to date on the status of the EEOC case, and are given a chance to ask questions. For those members who do not or cannot attend a meeting, President Arthur Cheliotis provides the following update:

On July 6, 2017, the attorneys for both Local 1180 and the City appeared before the Federal Judge assigned to this case with the settlement proposal reached several months ago.

The Judge wanted changes incorporated into the settlement that would more broadly distribute the funds available. The Union and City agreed to meet the Judge’s requirement by recalculating the payments.

“The City promised to provide the Union with the data needed by the end of July, yet we are still waiting,” Cheliotis said. “We had a conference call in early October with the City and the Judge gave them two more weeks to provide the information. It is highly unfortunate that we have come to this point, but as always, Local 1180 is doing what is in the best interest of the members. As with any legal matter, we are restricted in how much detail of an ongoing case can be divulged, but our members should be aware that we are doing everything we can to get a settlement approved as quickly as possible.”

For members who want to become more familiar with the EEO case, an indepth article ran in the April-June 2017 issue of the Communique, which can be found on the homepage of the Local 1180 website at www.cwa1180.org

Cheliotis said that this case is a prime example of why members need to understand that elections and how you vote do have consequences. When Donald Trump was elected as president, Local 1180 knew he would not be good for the EEO case. His stance on labor and word of who he was appointing to the U.S. Attorneys Office were not in labor’s favor.

“With his announcement of Jeff Sessions as the Attorney General, we knew our case would have been dead in the water,” Cheliotis said. “Both Sessions and Trump don’t believe in equal rights or civil rights, and in fact have fought against them their entire lives. We knew it would be better to pursue a settlement with the City instead.”

He said it is the U.S. Attorney General’s office that would have to go into federal court to pursue the EEOC’s determination, and the Union did not foresee a positive outcome with this option.

“Our best option was to stay away from the Attorney General’s office, so we sought a settlement with the City and are now seeking the court’s approval of the case,” Cheliotis said. “To do otherwise would mean waiting another four or five years or even longer to get a decision from the federal courts.”

As the case progresses, Local 1180 will notify members immediately via the usual routes, including email blasts, social media, website, and the membership meetings. ■



Union Marches in Labor Day Parade



New York City's hardworking men and women — including those from CWA Local 1180 — came together in solidarity for this year's Labor Day Parade on September 9. The streets of Manhattan were lined with spectators as thousands of union leaders, members, friends, and family proudly stood together to commemorate the day. The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City. In 1884, the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday to celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country. "The labor movement makes tremendous contributions to New York City, and in essence is the real backbone. Without our contributions on a daily basis, the City would cease to function. The annual parade gives all unions a chance to come together as one large group and show our strength," said 1180 President Arthur Cheliotis. ■

about our members

- Congratulations to Second Vice President Gerald Brown on being elected as First Vice President of the CWA International Minority Caucus. ■
- Condolences to Denise Paul, ACS Shop Steward, on the loss of her mother Ethel Paul on July 15, 2017. ■
- Condolences to the family of DCAS retiree Joseph "Joe" Johnson who passed away on July 16, 2017. ■
- Condolences to Geraldine Key (Retired 2011, PAA, Kings County District Attorney's Office) on the death of her mother Barbara Key on July 25, 2017, at the age of 82. Barbara was a retired PAA from the Department of Social Services. She retired at 65 years old after more than 30 years in this title. Barbara began with the City right out of high school. She leaves behind four children, six grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. ■
- Condolences to the family of Thelma Knight (Harlem Hospital Center) who passed away on September 6, 2017. ■

NEW SHOP STEWARDS

Congratulation to Shop Stewards elected since April 2017

Rose Mary Algerio	Department of Transportation	4/25/2017
Fitz-Arthur Brown.	Department of Transportation	4/25/2017
Earlene Powell.	Department of Transportation	4/25/2017
Angela Greaves.	Department of Probation	5/19/2017
Crystal Copeland	NYPD.	6/13/2017
Imtiaz Abdul	HRA/MIS.	7/3/2017
Crystal Johnson	NYPD.	7/11/2017
Jennson Casimir	HRA.	7/13/2017
LaMarr Taylor	DEP	7/28/2017
Niasha Walker	Teachers Retirement System.	8/23/2017
Chinesta Jenkins.	DEP	8/24/2017

MEMBERS IN ACTION

Annual Picnic a HUGE Success

CWA Local 1180 members, their families, and friends turned out for the Union's annual picnic on September 2 at the famous Holiday Hill in Cheshire, CT. This all-day event was sponsored by the Local and coordinated by Hazel O. Worley. "This year's picnic was another opportunity for our active and retired members to come together and enjoy some game time and shake off some of the good food that was served all day on the dance floor. The excitement displayed on the faces of the kids throughout the day was priceless," Worley said. Special thanks to faithful bus captains (our members and retirees) for another job well done in getting guests on the buses. Also thanks to 1180 dedicated staff members for their support in making this event a success once again."

"A special note of thanks to Local 1180 support staff for their assistance in selling tickets for the Local's annual picnic. I appreciate all the time you put into making the day such a pleasurable one. It would not have been successful without your involvement. It's due to our dedication and teamwork that we received so many accolades from members and their families. Kudos to each one of you for rising to the task," Worley said. ■



Bus Captains: Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Middleton, members Dareese Frierson and Regina Kelly, 1st Vice President Gina Strickland, 1180 staff member Jennifer Callender, Executive Board member Debra Paylor, Executive Board member & Picnic Coordinator Hazel O. Worley, members Quinella Williams, Bruce Smith, and Virginia Johnson-Conway, President Arthur Cheliot, Executive Board member Denise Gilliams, member Carol Griffith, Executive Board member/Staff Representative Robin Blair-Batte, 1180 Retiree Division staff member Linda Hogan, and Mobilization Coordinator Helen S. Jarrett.

Thanks also to the bus captains not pictured: members Tamika Paul, Helena Crump, Tracey Harrington, (retiree) Veronica Glasgow, and Denise Gibson, retired member Beverline Parks, and Executive Board members Lenora Smith and Hilary Bloomfield. ■



1180's members, family and friend getting their stepping on! ■



A great day for Local 1180 staff member Juanita Santiago's husband and son during their one-on-one game time. ■



Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Middleton's grandson Michael and god sister summed it up best: it was a truly a fun day for all, which is why they are passed out from exhaustion. ■



Thanks to the heated pool at Holiday Hill, our members were able to enjoy the pool. ■

Every great dream begins with a dreamer, unless you are one of the 800,000 children living in the United States who might now be forced to leave.



the right to dream

Part 1 in a Series

For 800,000 young people who grew up on America soil, the dream of a better life might be just that — a dream. They were brought to this country illegally as children by parents fleeing other countries who wanted more for themselves and their families. They have been raised as American as Americans themselves. The question is whether they will be allowed to continue living the dream of an American life, or they and their families will be deported.

These children, and possibly hundreds of thousands more, are referred to as Dreamers under a program called the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, created by former President Obama through a 2012 executive order that has allowed them to remain in the country.

But enrollment in the DACA program is not automatic; immigrants must apply. Those who did were at least temporarily shielded from deportation. They also got temporary Social Security numbers and two-year work permits. To qualify, they had to have arrived in the U.S. before 2007 (at 16 years old, or younger), been 30 or younger in 2012, and either have a high-school degree or be enrolled in school or a similar educational program. DACA recipients can live and work legally in the U.S. for renewable two-year periods.

Immigration rights advocates have said up to 200,000 more have sought DACA protection since Donald Trump became president. Some experts have said the program could end up covering 1.3 million young people if allowed to continue. Requests for renewals are reportedly being filed at the rate of about 8,000 a week.

DACA was a compromise created by the Obama administration after Congress failed to pass the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. DREAM would have offered those who came to the U.S. illegally as children the opportunity to potentially gain permanent legal residency. The act was first introduced in August 2001 and has resurfaced several times, always failing to get through Congress.

But all that might change thanks to Commander in Chief #45, whose intention is to “wind down” the government program. It is an initiative being intensely debated across the country.

Communications Workers of America (CWA) denounced Trump’s decision as cruel and mean-spirited. “These young people were brought here by their parents at a very young age. They know no other home than the United States, and have made productive, successful lives here, contributing to their communities and looking to be full participants in our nation. The United States is their home country,” CWA wrote in a statement.

Dreamers have attended American schools and learned the language and way of life. Many contribute toward their families, their communities, and the U.S. economy. Repealing DACA would have negative consequences for the schools, hospitals, tech firms, courts, and community organizations at which a large number of Dreamers now, or will, work.

Democrats and Republicans, including the Republican leadership, have urged the President not to eliminate DACA. It’s now up to Congress to focus on passing adequate and appropriate legislation. While DACA is not a perfect policy, it has provided a significant boost to a large number of young people. “Ending this program would hurt the lives of thousands of people in a cruel fashion and serves no purpose,” said Gloria Middleton, Local 1180 Secretary-Treasurer. “CWA strongly believes that any changes to the program should not have a negative impact on children or their families. The Trump administration has failed a moral test in trying to end DACA.”

When Obama announced his intention to expand DACA to cover additional immigrants, multiple states immediately sued to prevent the expansion, which was ultimately blocked by the courts. Fast forward to the Trump Administration that on September 5, 2017, rescinded the program. However, full implementation of the rescission was delayed six months to give Congress time to decide how to deal with the population that was previously eligible under the policy.

Just one day later, on September 6, after a meeting with Trump at the White House, Democratic leaders Chuck Schumer and Nancy Pelosi said they had come to terms with Trump on a plan that would provide protection for Dreamers in exchange for stronger border security. #45 then tweeted, as he’s prone to do: “No deal was made last night on DACA. Massive border security would have to be agreed to in exchange for consent. Would be subject to vote.”

Even Dreamers themselves seem to sometimes be on opposite sides of the fence, which is what makes DACA itself a complicated issue. A group representing young undocumented immigrants interrupted an event hosted by House Minority Leader Pelosi to accuse her and other Democrats of selling out immigrants by negotiating with President Donald Trump.

“We are not your bargaining chip,” they yelled at the event. Some of the protesters said they were concerned that they will be granted new protections in a deal that harms other undocumented immigrants, potentially including their parents.

Many progressive organizations, labor unions, faith-based groups, and elected officials have expressed solidarity with the young people whose DACA status is on the line. In addition to CWA, members and officials of the United Auto Workers, SEIU, UNITE HERE!, RWDSU and other labor unions have all denounced DACA’s termination.

So what’s next for the Dreamers? That lies in the hands of Congress and #45. This series will be continued in the next Communique. ■



PRIVATE SECTOR SHOPS

WELCOME TO THE UNION, STORYCORPS

STORYCORPS EMPLOYEES VOTE FOR CWA LOCAL 1180 REPRESENTATION AND A UNION VOICE



Staff members at StoryCorps voted for union representation by CWA Local 1180 on September 13.

The National Labor Relations Board announced the results of the representation election. StoryCorps workers voted by an 83 percent margin for a union voice. The balloting took place in two parts — on August 22 in the Brooklyn office, and by mail-in ballot for workers in out-of-town locations.

StoryCorps is a nonprofit based in Brooklyn that curates and shares stories of everyday Americans. Workers at StoryCorps help conduct interviews, do community outreach, produce stories, and work on the website and app.

"In the past, we experienced sudden layoffs, worked for low wages, and weren't able to negotiate over working conditions. My colleagues and I decided to come together and organize so we could have a seat at the table to discuss issues like healthcare benefits, severance packages, and greater transparency around pay. Now we'll be able to have a say in making StoryCorps a better place to work," said Mia Warren, production assistant.



"Even when facing an anti-union campaign by management, my coworkers and I stayed strong for months. Now that we've made our voices heard, we can't wait to get to the bargaining table," said Roselyn Almonte, national facilitator.

The 24-person bargaining unit includes non-managerial staff in programs, finance, external relations and digital divisions and staff in San Francisco and Chicago. StoryCorps staff members are excited to join with Local 1180 members at other non-profits, including OSF, the Nation Institute, and Human Rights Watch.

Workers initially faced an aggressive anti-union campaign of captive audience meetings, literature, and delays. After media and other pressure, the employer remained neutral for the remainder of the campaign.

Former 1180 Organizer Ryan Bruckenthal initially built the organizing committee, and Local Staff Representative Lena Solow gallantly stepped in when he left to lead the group through the anti-union campaign, NLRB hearing, and election. ■

After gaining union recognition earlier this year, The Century Foundation bargaining committee has been hard at work on their first contract. Among their demands are clearer remote work policies, annual raises, and expanded leave. They have met four times with management and are looking forward to achieving a great contract.

Century Foundation, a 10-person shop, is a progressive, nonpartisan think tank that seeks to foster opportunity, reduce inequality, and promote security at home and abroad. Pictured from left: Kimberly Quick, Molly Bangs, and Michael McCormack. ■



SHOUTOUTS

Thank you to outgoing Shop Steward **Laura Kauer-Garcia** who will be leaving Human Rights Watch after an extremely successful tenure. Laura participated in the Political Leadership Development training this year and helped sign up a record number of private sector workers as recommitted union members and new donors to the Political Action Fund. She is a fierce advocate for her colleagues, and will be missed. Thanks Laura, and best of luck!

Open Society Foundations continue to bargain for their first contract: The bargaining committee at OSF continues to push for their first contract. They've covered important items such as job descriptions, immigration rights, and flexible work hours, and are delving into wages and benefits.

Meet Our New Organizer



Leslie Fine joins CWA Local 1180 as an organizer for the nonprofit and private sector. She has more than 12 years experience in union, community, and electoral organizing.

Most recently, she organized workers in higher education with the UAW, including the ground-breaking student employee union fights at Columbia, The New School, and NYU. Leslie also worked on the contingent faculty campaign at Barnard College, leading to historic wage increases. Her work at UAW built on her years organizing with administrative, fast food, and retail workers in New York City at organizations such as SEIU, Workers United, and NYCC.

Before union organizing, Leslie worked for many years at nonprofits herself, doing fundraising, program and administrative work, including at the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey and the American Cancer Society in Brooklyn. Her political work includes serving as a canvass director on the Obama '08 campaign. She also worked for the Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) running the Philadelphia fundraising canvass, and as the Field and Operations Director for several grassroots local electoral campaigns in New Jersey.

She is from Montclair, NJ, and has been living in Brooklyn with her partner, roommates, and plants for several years. She attended Rutgers University and did Union Semester at the Murphy Institute. When she's not working on these campaigns, she been active in OWS, Occupy Sandy and is Secretary of the Labor Branch of NYC-DSA.

In this moment of increasing interest in and need for a strong labor movement, Leslie is thrilled to be working with CWA Local 1180 to build worker power. ■



Nonprofit Workers Take Action!
September 18: Workers from ALIGN joined their CWA 1180 family at a rally to support Spectrum workers on strike! Pictured from left: Leslie Fine, Local 1180 Nonprofit Organizer; Brett Thomason, ALIGN; Jessica Quiason, ALIGN; Lena Solow, Local 1180 Nonprofit Rep. ■

NONPROFIT SHOP STEWARDS

Amnesty International

Emily Walsh
Kristen Vellozo

ASPCA

Anna Whitehead
Janice Fenichel

Human Rights First

Christopher Plummer
Eric Helms
Meredith Kucherov

Human Rights Watch

Rebecca Chowdhury
Laura Kaur-Garcia
Amelia Neumayer
Aditi Shetty
Benson Weekes
Ava Ahmadbeigi

Javits Center

Geraldo Tavaras
Philip Slattery

Nation Institute

Katy O'Donnell
Roz Hunter

NONPROFIT STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Lena Solow
lsolow@cwa1180.org

Nonprofit Organizer

Leslie Fine
lfine@cwa1180.org

IN MEMORIAM

NAME	AGENCY	DECEASED
Sylvester Cherry	Dept. of Environmental Protection	5/24/2017
Evelyn Cleghorne	NYC Transit Authority	6/30/2017
Dorah Degale	Kings County Hospital Center	6/10/2017
Euzelia Denny	Dept. of Social Services	6/26/2017
Eva Dupree	Dept. of Social Services	5/15/2017
Laverne Edwards	NYC Transit Authority	5/12/2017
Joyce Forst	Department of Education	5/21/2017
Norman Gorenstein	Dept. of Social Services	7/20/2017
Milagros Irizarry	Dept. of Social Services	6/6/2017
Adelaide Jaskot	Police Department	6/30/2017
Sarah Lam	Dept. of Social Services	5/3/2017
Marjorie Lander	Department of Education	6/4/2017
Eleanor McBean	Jacobi Medical Center	5/5/2017
Janice McMillan	Dept. of Social Services	5/15/2017
Juliet Meola	Queens Hospital Center	6/15/2017
Liya Mindina	Enterprise IT	7/3/2017
Dolores Niles	Dept. of Social Services	7/20/2017
Shaminder Parmar	L1180 SBF Employees	5/26/2017
Katherine Perper	Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene	6/8/2017
Carol Porter	NYC Housing Authority	7/3/2017
Annette Schauder	Dept. of Social Services	7/8/2017
Sarah Sparkes	Department Of Education	7/23/2017
Anthony Sumpter	Dept. of Social Services	7/28/2017
Malvina Taurisano	Dept. of Environmental Protection	6/8/2017

COMMUNIQUE

Official Publication

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Claim Forms Hotline: 212.925.1091 • Retiree Division: 212.226.5800

For Out-of-Town Retirees

Retiree Division: 800.801.2882
Retiree Benefits: 888.966.5353

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Gina Strickland, First Vice President
Gerald Brown, Second Vice President
Gloria Middleton, Secretary-Treasurer
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Communique Editor/Designer

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Gerald Brown, Gloria Middleton — Committee Facilitators
Robin Blair-Batte, Sheila Boyd, Dan Cunningham, Robin Person, Evelyn Rodriguez, Carole Silverman, Desiree Waters, Quinella Williams, Edward Yood



Local 1180 Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Middleton, as Chair of the CWA National Committee on Civil Rights & Equity, organized a presentation with her committee members that focused on one of the many reports given during the Human Rights Department meetings, some of which focused on police cameras, LGBTQ, and mass incarceration, and were summarized in the Committee's presentation, "It Takes 45 Ways to Trump the People."

Middleton and her committee members then joined with the Women's Committee at the end of their report to bring attention to women's rights, which are under attack with the Trump Administration.



It takes

45 Ways to Trump the People

My mere existence is a pre-existing condition,
 How can I overcome when my health is not a number one?
 How can our country be safer with more guns?
 There is no safety in this great nation!
 And the answer is not mass incarceration!

We have a president who uses his authority to rendition situations that deplete my savings, home, and security, the proposed Choice Act is not where it's at and we will witness Wall Street 2008 or even worse, the new millennia Watergate.

Too much funding appropriated by fools as they have forgotten about our public schools because the charter got us taxed out. As a matter of fact, if you stop and track it out, you will find that billions of dollars have been axed out and 45 will be the blame for the shame of our future children who will act out.

We have plenty of immigrants who have made this country great. See race is a construct and racism is all about hate. In 1740 the very first immigration law was for whoever could classify as white with good character, but we know that's not how we all identify. Just look at Grace Cantania, she is a believer and a leader at our TNG-CWA and what I want to know is are we going to let 45 take her rights away.

We have to fight for what is right and shout out loud with all our might!
 We have to get our souls to the polls!
 Voter suppression is enough to cause a depression!
 And I will stand with my people
 Educate voters to be equal
 Even though minorities keep getting hurt in the sequel.

The Supreme Court defines the Law of the Land
 But with the last appointment it may change the choice of where workers stand.
 Liberty, Justice and the American Way
 Has a whole new meaning in this current day,
 So what is right, what is fair?
 How do we hold what is sacred and what is so dear?
 Classism, racism, sexism, when will they be erased?
 These concepts are much stronger now that 45 has given them grace.

Working class is what they call us, but don't be confused,
 We are the ones that keep the fire lit to the fuse.
 We are the light, we are the might, we are the strength,
 We are the ones that go the distance!
 If we are not healthy, happy, and strong,
 Then how can the middle class live on?
 We are more than our health status,
 We are more than they throw at us,
 We are CWA. Worth our benefits and way more worth than our pay!

This is not my wall, this is not my freedom,
 This wall is made of steel, that will burn the hands of the seekers of Freedom, for the Arizona sun has NO hate, it has an unyielding love of the people and a fervor for insuring a future for our folks and our fate.
 This is not my Wall.

Those of you who thought 45 was going to bring things alive,
 Just wait on the day you decide to have some justice and a taste of cultural pride.
 This new leader is greedy, could care less for the needy
 45 has nothing for us
 Ain't nothing funny about this administration, nothing just!

My country tis of thee, Sweet Land of Liberty, except for you and me
 It is our responsibility to expect accountability
 Perhaps the last of the middle class, if we don't get off our ass
 We the people, We the active, We the planners, not the passive,
 Be the change.
 It is time for a revolution. We have the solution
 We are CWA
 And for our families we must pave the way.
 Wake Up, Wake Up, Wake up

CWA LOCAL 1180 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 24, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:25 p.m.
Executive Board Members in Attendance

Officers

Arthur Cheliotas, President; Gina Strickland, First Vice President; Gerald Brown, Second Vice President; Gloria Middleton, Secretary-Treasurer; Lourdes Acevedo, Recording Secretary

Members-at-Large

Robin Blair-Batte, Hillary Bloomfield, Charles Garcia, Denise Gilliam, Lisa Lloyd, Debra Paylor, Lenora Smith, Hazel O. Worley, Venus Williams

Minutes of the April 26, 2017, meeting were presented. Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept minutes with necessary corrections.

President's Report

President Cheliotas introduced Hae-Lin Choi, Deputy Political Director of CWA District 1, to discuss the upcoming vote on the Choice Act. The Wall Street Choice Act will eliminate the Labor Department's Fiduciary rule that requires brokers to act in the best interest of their clients when providing investment advice. The bill will erase some of Dodd-Frank Banking Rules put into place in 2010. Passage of the bill gives handouts to Wall Street while putting everyday investors at risk. CWA Local 1180 members need to pressure their members of Congress to vote NO.

President Cheliotas discussed the Administrative Manager EEO Case. Dennis Trainor, CWA District 1 Vice President, advised that Robert Linn, Commissioner of NYC Labor Relations, is pushing for a resolution to settle out of court. We will reconvene the Administrative Manager Bargaining Committee once it is done.

President Cheliotas reported the Diversity Scholarship Program at the Murphy Institute has raised \$120,000. The CUNY Board of Trustees will meet in June to establish a School of Labor and Urban Studies.

President Cheliotas' meetings since the last Executive Board Meeting:

April 27, 2017 — Held a conference call with PowHerNY leaders. Later that morning, attended and gave testimony at the New York City Council Budget Hearing on Intro 1536-2017. The Intro Bill is a local law to amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York, requiring reporting of Pay and Employment Equity Data annually to the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS). That evening, he attended the Civil Service Merit Council Scholarship Awards Reception.

April 28, 2017 — Chaired the monthly Municipal Labor Committee Membership Meeting. That afternoon, held a conference call with the CWA Defense Fund Over-Site Committee (DFOC) regarding various grant approvals. Later that day held a conference call with NuPenn regarding the redevelopment work being performed at 6 Harrison Street.

April 30-May 4, 2017 — Attended various DFOC meetings at CWA Washington D.C. Headquarters.

May 5, 2017 — Attended the special Union Dues Tax Deduction Bill signing hosted by Governor Cuomo, accompanied by Secretary Treasurer Gloria Middleton. This bill is a significant victory in this year's state budget that will allow union members to deduct the cost of their union dues from their state taxes. This new benefit will put an estimated \$35 million back into the pockets of union members in private sector, public sector, and building trade unions throughout the state. Aside from the economic benefit provided to our members, this demonstrates the state's commitment to collective bargaining at a time when other states are attacking unions. Later that day, Cheliotas held a follow-up conference call with NuPenn regarding the redevelopment work being performed at 6 Harrison Street.

May 8, 2017 — Met with Council Member Mark Levine, 7th District in Northern Manhattan, regarding funding for the Murphy Institute. That afternoon, he met with Governor Cuomo who has agreed to fund the Murphy School of Labor. That evening, he attended a reception for Council Member Julissa Ferreras-Copeland of the 21st District in Queens.

May 9, 2017 — Chaired the weekly staff meeting. That afternoon, he attended the HHC and Pay Plan EEO cases meeting with Henry Garrido, DC 37 Executive Director.

May 10, 2017 — Placed a call on the Equal Pay Campaign/NYS Salary History bill. That afternoon, had an introductory meeting with Amalgamated Bank of New York executives. Later that day, he attended a meeting with Council Member Inez D. Barron, 42nd District representing Brooklyn and Queens, regarding funding for the Murphy Institute. That evening, he attended a fundraiser for Council Member Barry S. Grodenchik, 23rd District in Queens.

May 11, 2017 — Attended Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.'s, Bronx Week Labor Breakfast honoring Staff Representative Venus Colon-Williams and other honorees. He was accompanied by CWA Local 1180 officers and members. That afternoon, he met with Investment Manager Tom Fitzgerald to discuss grants for the DFOC. That evening, he met with Greg Mantsios to discuss the upcoming meeting with CUNY Board of Trustees Chair Bill Thompson regarding the conversion of the Murphy Institute to the CUNY School of Labor.

May 12, 2017 — Held a meeting with CUNY Board of Trustees Chair Bill Thompson to discuss the CUNY School of Labor.

May 15, 2017 — Met with Dwight Kearns, CWA Local 1180 Fund Administrator, regarding the funds.

May 16, 2017 — Attended a special Municipal Labor Council Steering Committee meeting to discuss health benefits. That afternoon, chaired the weekly staff meeting. Later that day, met with Robert Croghan, Organizational Staff Analysts President, to discuss the upcoming Office of Collective Bargaining hearings. That evening, attended City Council Member Helen Rosenthal's Re-Election Campaign Kick-off Reception accompanied by Recording Secretary Lourdes Acevedo.

May 17, 2017 — Attended the CWA District 1 New York City Candidate endorsement interviews, accompanied by John T. O'Malley, Helen S. Jarrett, Debra Paylor, and Ingrid Brown.

May 18, 2017 — Attended the New York City Central Labor Council's Executive Board meeting. That afternoon, met with Donna Dolan, Chair of the NYS Paid Family Leave Coalition, regarding the FMLA legislation going into effect in January 2018. Later that afternoon had a preliminary conference call to discuss the upcoming New York Mercantile Exchange Building Condominium meeting for 6 Harrison Street.

May 19, 2017 — Attended the FDNY Employee Recognition Ceremony. That afternoon, conducted the New York Mercantile Exchange Building Condominium meeting. Additionally, he chaired a DFOC Conference call. Lastly, he conducted a conference call with NuPenn regarding the development of 6 Harrison Street.

May 21, 2017 — Supported AT&T strikers on their picket line.

May 22, 2017 — Held a meeting with Adam Hunt of Transamerica Insurance regarding the CWA Local 1180 Annuity Fund. That evening, he attended the Bay Terrace Community Alliance General Membership meeting.

May 23, 2017 — Met with Council Member Deborah Rose regarding funding for the Murphy Institute. Later that day, met with Gayle Horowitz, Senior Advisor to the Chancellor and Secretary to the Board, and Marc Shaw, Senior Advisor to the Chancellor for Fiscal Policy regarding funding for CUNY.

May 24, 2017 — Held a conference call with Council Member Antonio Reynoso, 34th District in Brooklyn, regarding funding for the Murphy

Institute. That evening, chaired the CWA Local 1180 monthly Executive Board meeting.

Lastly, President Cheliotas distributed and discussed the status report dated May 1, 2017 from Mirkin & Gordon, P.C. listing legal matters they are working on for CWA Local 1180. Additionally, he presented the project updates memorandum dated May 23, 2017, submitted by Marci Rosenblum, Communications Director.

A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the President's Report.

First Vice President's Report

First Vice President Gina Strickland reported the following:

April 27, 2017 — First Vice President Gina Strickland was honored at the West Indian American Day Carnival Association's 50th Anniversary Celebration.

April 28, 2017 — Attended the Municipal Labor Committee General Membership meeting.

May 4, 2017 — Attended a bill signing ceremony for the Salary History Ban bill that prohibits employers from asking potential employees about their previous salary histories. This bill was sponsored by NYC Public Advocate Letitia James.

May 6, 2017 — Hosted the May Day Carnival at CWA Local 1180. It was well attended and everyone had a great time. We will host next year's event at a new location as we will be celebrating our 10th Anniversary.

May 10, 2017 — Attended the ACS Labor Management meeting accompanied by Staff Representative Olivia Lyde to discuss movement of the Administrative Manager list. They have agreed to review the list and consider hiring other members off the list. Later that day, attended the Municipal Labor Steer Committee meeting.

May 11, 2017 — Attended Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.'s, Bronx Week Labor Breakfast honoring Staff Representative Venus Colon-Williams.

May 17, 2017 — Attended the Department of Finance Employee Recognition Ceremony.

May 18, 2017 — Attended the Municipal Labor Committee general membership meeting. A health care savings proposal update was submitted. A motion was duly made, voted on, and passed. Three unions opposed.

Unified Court System ballots went out to members for ratification. Ballots are due back by May 30, 2017. There was an FDNY List Call last week. They will be finished updating their list and will be giving the information to the Local.

First Vice President Gina Strickland will submit Staff Representative activity at next month's Executive Board meeting.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the First Vice President's Report.

Second Vice President's Report

Second Vice-President Gerald Brown reported the following:

Since the last executive board meeting, Second Vice President Brown attended two morning meetings with City Council members. The first meeting was with New York City Council Member Rafael Salamanca from the Bronx and the second meeting was with New York City Council Member Rafael Espinal of Brooklyn. Both reached out to Brown to see how they could be helpful to Local 1180's issues and concerns. Both have signed onto Intro. Bill 1536, reporting of pay and employment equity data.

Second Vice President Brown represented Local 1180 at a press conference called by New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer. The purpose of the press conference on how New York City will be affected by the proposed budget cuts of President Trump. After the press conference, Brown's discussion with Comptroller Stringer led to an invite for the Comptroller to speak at our May 31st General Membership meeting.

Second Vice President Brown raised the con-

tinued concerns of Local 1180 regarding the Constitutional Convention (ConCon) question on the November 7, 2017, General Election Ballot. Local 1180 is strongly in support of a "No" vote for the ConCon. Brown devoted his column in the July-September 2016 issue of the Communique on the subject. We continue to educate our members, retirees, and the public on our position. In addition, the next issue of the Communique, scheduled for delivery in July, will have an extensive article addressing our position on the Constitutional Convention.

April 27, 2017 — Attended the New York City Council hearing where President Cheliotas gave detailed testimony, along with our EEO Attorney Yetta Kurland, Esq., on the Administrative Manager EEO case. Later in the day, he attended a program sponsored by the Civil Service Merit Council. President Cheliotas was honored and received an award at the event. The award was presented to him by CWA District 1 Vice President Dennis Trainor and New York City Council Member Matthew Eugene.

May 4, 2017 — Attended a meeting at HRA-DHS to discuss the possibility of a pilot program to bring a Murphy Institute Class to Local 1180 members at 4 World Trade Center. If everything works out and the pilot program receives a green light, we are anticipating a start date of Spring 2018.

May 5, 2017 — Attended and gave remarks at the HRA-DHS Employee Recognition Ceremony. The recognition honored staff with 25 years of dedicated service to the agency. The keynote speaker for the event was CWA Local 1180 Shop Steward Ellice Vessels. Her speech was emotional at times and was well received by the more than 400 individuals in attendance. Later that day, he attended a meeting at DCAS regarding titles represented by CWA Local 1180.

May 9, 2017 — Conducted the rescheduled Annual Albany Lobby Day, at which 106 members and retirees attended The original Lobby Day of March 14th was rescheduled due to a statewide blizzard.

Second Vice President Brown advised on the planned New Member Orientation for June 21, 2017. He concluded his report by advising of the planned candidate screening for New York City Council candidates on Saturday, June 24. The Executive Board has made early endorsements at a prior Executive Board meeting. However, there are a host of district races in which the membership is being consulted for recommendations. Brown will coordinate the event with the Local's Legislative Political Committee and the membership will be invited to participate.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Second Vice President's Report.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Middleton advised that the T.D. checking account has a balance of \$1,268,068.14 as of C.O.B May 23, 2017.

Secretary Treasurer Gloria Middleton attended the H+H meeting to discuss the process of consolidating functional titles. The Acting Director has assured the leadership that the Mayor has no plans to terminate union workers. They want to improve mental health services, and to help alleviate the homelessness situation in the City. The City realizes those with mental illness and lack of proper care cause the revolving door of homelessness to Mental Health facilities.

Secretary-Treasurer Middleton also reported on the costs and expenses of the Shop Steward Conference in April 2017. Expenses fell within the budget approved by the Executive Board in October 2016.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Secretary-Treasurer's Report.

Recording Secretary Lourdes Acevedo announced that the Staten Island Borough Coordinating Committee met on May 17, 2017. The Advance Group's Sebastian Levinson stated Bill 1536 has 32 Council Members signed on as of the meeting. We have many remaining members to get on the bill. We are still waiting for

CWA LOCAL 1180 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

a confirmation meeting with Council Member Steven Matteo and Council Member Joseph Borelli. Those meeting dates will be announced.

Staten Island Borough Community Coordinating Committee Chair Rosie Roman announced that she was accompanied by her Committee Co-Chair Monise Etienne to a meeting held at Council Member Deborah Rose's office in order to obtain her signature on Intro Bill 1536. Council Member Rose was called away to a meeting, but Roman met with her Chief of Staff who was very energetic and onboard with everything presented to her. It was Roman's first experience meeting with an elected official and she highly recommends we all attend in the future. Etienne also attended and stated she felt welcome. The meeting was very successful as Council Member Rose signed onto the bill as soon as she returned to the office. Deborah Rose is a former CWA member who worked for the Department of Transportation.

Helen S. Jarrett introduced Deborah Valentin who discussed the Constitutional Convention, distributed Political Action Fund cards, and expressed why members should contribute to the fund. Seven members signed the pledge cards.

Jarrett also informed the members about the upcoming AT&T strike and how we need to support our union brothers and sisters. Lastly, Acevedo announced that she attended the Peoples Climate March on April 29, 2017, on Staten Island.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Recording Secretary's report.

Member-at-Large Venus Colon-Williams expressed her appreciation for everyone who attended her award ceremony in the Bronx, where she was honored by Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. It was truly an honor accepting this prestigious award. She took the stance that CWA Local 1180 is still marching in the Puerto Rican Day Parade. Oscar Lopez-Rivera was pardoned by former President Barack Obama and it is not about him. It is about saving Puerto Rico, which is in a financial crisis. The people of Puerto Rico will be voting on statehood.

Member-at-Large Denise Gilliam read the report submitted by Member-at-Large Hilary Bloomfield. She reported that the Bronx Community Coordinating Committee held its election on May 18, 2017. The four positions were filled as follows: Carolyn Chamorro, Chair; Sabrina Graves, Vice-Chair; Vanessa E. Thomas, Secretary; and Eric Henry, Assistant Secretary. The committee is working with Sebastian Levinson of the Advance Group to assist them in moving forward.

Deborah Valentin spoke at the meeting discussing the Constitutional Convention and expressed why members should contribute to the Political Action Fund. Four members signed the pledge cards. Helen S. Jarrett informed the members about the upcoming AT&T strike and how we need to support our union brothers and sisters. Five members who attended their first Albany Lobby Day on May 9 were impressed with the entire process. They were glad to attend and are looking forward to the next Lobby Day. Lastly, she announced that Councilman Andy King signed on to Intro 1536.

Member-at-Large Charles Garcia represented CWA Local 1180 in the 30th Anniversary Loisa Festival celebrating our immigrant and migrant community on Sunday, May 28, 2017.

The next Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for June 29, 2017.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lourdes Acevedo
Recording Secretary

June 29, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:20 p.m.
Executive Board Members in Attendance

Officers

Arthur Cheliotos, President; Gina Strickland, First Vice President; Gerald Brown, Second Vice President; Gloria Middleton, Secretary-Treasurer; Lourdes Acevedo, Recording Secretary

Members-at-Large

Robin Blair-Batte, Hilary Bloomfield, Charles Garcia, Denise Gilliam, Lisa Lloyd, Debra Paylor, Lenora Smith, Hazel O. Worley, Venus Colon-Williams

Minutes of the May 24, 2017, meeting were presented. Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept minutes with necessary corrections.

President's Report

President Cheliotos introduced Pete Sikora, Former CWA District 1 Legislative Coordinator, to discuss the dangers of climate change and seek support of CWA Local 1180.

President Cheliotos discussed the Administrative Manager EEO Case. Dennis G. Trainor, Vice-President, CWA District 1, advised that Bob Linn, OLR Commissioner, is pushing for a resolution to settle out of court. We will reconvene the Administrative Manager Bargaining Committee once it is done.

President Cheliotos' meetings since the last Executive Board Meeting:

May 25, 2017 — Attended the Retired Members Chapter 41st Annual Luncheon. Later that day, attended the Diversity Scholarship Ceremony.

May 26, 2017 — Met with Council Member Andy King regarding funding for Murphy Institute. Later that day, held a conference call with the CWA Defense Fund Over-Site Committee (DFOC) regarding various grant approvals.

May 27, 2017 — Participated in the Graffiti Clean-up at P.S. 169 in Bay Terrace.

May 30, 2017 — Chaired the weekly staff meeting.

May 31, 2017 — Held a conference call regarding Equal Pay Campaign/NYS Salary History Bill A.6707 with Council Member Donovan Richards. That afternoon, attended the farewell luncheon for Ryan Bruckenthal, 1180 Organizer. Later that day, held conference calls with Council Member Annabel Palma's Chief of Staff Jason Cintron, Council Member Jimmy Vacca, and Council Member Ritchie Torres to discuss funding for the Murphy Institute CUNY School of Labor. That evening, chaired the CWA Local 1180 monthly membership meeting.

June 1, 2017 — Attended the Labor Press Leadership Award for CWA District 1 Vice President Dennis Trainor. That evening, attended a fundraiser for Assembly Member Peter J. Abbate Jr., representing the 49th District in Brooklyn.

June 5, 2017 — Attended the MLC Steering Committee Meeting.

June 6, 2017 — Attended a rally with Governor Andrew Cuomo. That afternoon, chaired the weekly staff meeting. Later that day, met with Cushman and Wakefield regarding the development of the 6 Harrison Street property. That evening, held a conference call with Yetta Kurland, Esq. and CWA District 1 Vice President Dennis Trainor regarding the EEO Case.

June 7, 2017 — Attended the monthly Municipal Labor Committee Membership Meeting accompanied by First Vice President Gina Strickland and Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Middleton. Later that day, met with Council Member Mark Levine, 7th District in Northern Manhattan, regarding funding for the Murphy Institute.

June 8, 2017 — Attended Cornell University ILR School's 50th Anniversary of the New York City Collective Bargaining Labor Program.

June 13, 2017 — Reviewed data for Shop Stewards and Grievance representatives. That afternoon, chaired the weekly staff meeting. Later

that day, attended the HANAC Board of Directors meeting covering Affordable Housing for Seniors.

June 15, 2017 — Attended a fundraiser for Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez of the 10th District in Manhattan.

June 16, 2017 — Held a conference call with Newmark regarding the development of 6 Harrison Street.

June 19, 2017 — Attended the opening of the New West End Concourse Penn-Farley Building with Governor Andrew Cuomo. Later that day, gave testimony at the City University of New York (CUNY) Public Hearing on the importance of creating the CUNY School of Labor.

June 20, 2017 — Held a conference call with State Senator Diane Savino, and Bob Master, CWA District 1 Director of Legislative/Political and Mobilization Activities, for assistance with outstanding bills in the Senate. That afternoon, chaired the weekly staff meeting. Later that day, met with representatives from General Vision Services to discuss the eyeglass benefits for members.

June 21, 2017 — Attended the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Quality of Work Life (QWL) oversight meeting. That evening, he chaired the CWA Local 1180 new member orientation meeting.

June 22, 2017 — Met with CWA Local 1180 IT Director Naresh Mohabir to discuss new network programs.

June 23, 2017 — Held a conference call with H+H to discuss redeployment of permanent employees due to reports of possible closures of the Carter Senior Center. That afternoon, held a conference call with the DFOC to discuss the Next Generation, Electoral Mobilization, Carrier Members, and Political Action. Later that day, met with Greg Mantsios, Director of the Murphy Institute, and Elizabeth Deleon-Bhargava, Esq., Deputy Secretary for Labor, regarding the conversion from the Murphy Institute to the CUNY School of Labor. Lastly, he met with Henry Garrido, DC 37 Executive Director, to discuss the possibility of moving DC37's college program from the College of New Rochelle to join the Murphy Institute-CUNY School of Labor.

June 26, 2017 — Attended the Center for an Urban Future for a symposium on Moving the Needle on College Success in New York City. President Cheliotos discussed what constitutes college success. Later that morning, held a follow-up conference call with Yetta Kurland, Esq., and CWA District 1 Vice President Dennis Trainor regarding the EEO Case settlement proceedings. That afternoon, attended the New York City Central Labor Council meeting with State Labor Commissioner Roberta Reardon to discuss the importance of pay equity. That afternoon, gave testimony at the State hearing on Pay Equity.

June 27, 2017, held a conference call with Yetta Kurland, Esq., and Dennis Trainor. Later that morning, he held a CWA District One conference call. The call was followed by an RDS audit meeting regarding Medicare reimbursements for our Retiree Benefits Fund. That afternoon, he chaired the weekly staff meeting. Lastly, he met with CWA Local 1180 Legislative Coordinator John T. O'Malley to discuss creating a program that will get our Political Action Fund up to par. John has put together a training that will allow the Borough Community Coordinating Committee Chairs better run their committees and expand the circle of members participating.

June 28, 2017 — Met with Scott Levinson and Sebastian Levinson of the Advance Group and Afua Atta-Mensa, new Executive Director for Community Voices, on organizing.

June 29, 2017 — Attended the webinar update on defending our pensions. Met with Monica Abend, Chief of Staff for Council Member Laurie A. Cumbo, to define proposed legislation on EEO data. If we don't know where inequality exists, we cannot correct it. Later that day, he chaired the Kings County District Attorney candidates interviews, and then the CWA Local 1180 monthly Executive Board meeting.

Lastly, President Cheliotos distributed and discussed the status report dated June 1, 2017, from Mirkin & Gordon, P.C. listing legal matters they are working on for CWA Local 1180. Additionally, he presented and discussed the Policy Research Group's Briefing Report on contract expiration dates of major NYC and NYS Public Employee Groups and the NYC economy.

A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the President's Report.

First Vice President's Report

First Vice President Gina Strickland reported the following:

May 25, 2017 — Attended the Retired Members Chapter 41st Annual Luncheon.

June 5, 2017 — Attended the Municipal Labor Committee General Membership meeting.

June 6, 2017 — Attended a rally at the Javits Center with Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to take back the White House.

June 8, 2017 — Attended Cornell University ILR's 50th Anniversary of the New York City Office of Collective Bargaining ceremony.

June 13, 2017 — Reviewed data for Stewards/Grievance Reps. Later that day, attended a meeting with New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to update the collective bargaining contract.

June 15, 2017 — Attended a Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) site meeting.

June 16, 2017 — The Caribbean Heritage Committee held its Game and Karaoke Night, with 60 people attending. Shop Steward Michael Bishop, who will be performing in Ain't Misbehavin, also performed at Karaoke Night. Strickland requested the Union purchase 10 tickets in support of Bishop's upcoming performance. Motion was duly made, seconded and carried to purchase 10 tickets to his performance.

June 21, 2017 — Attended oversight DEP Quality of Work Life (QWL) meeting.

June 23, 2017 — Participated in a conference call with H+H to discuss reassignment of employees due to reports of possible closures of the Carter Senior Center.

June 26, 2017 — Attended a meeting accompanied by Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Middleton and Staff Representative Olivia Lyde at Administration for Children Services (ACS) with the new Commissioner David Hansell to thank him for moving the Administrative Manager list and advocating for additional appointments. Also discussed our Educational Program with the Murphy Institute.

First Vice President Strickland reported that DEP held an Administrative Manager hiring pool on June 20, 2017. There were 102 candidates called to the pool, with 78 members appointed. Appointments were made in conjunction with the 1 and 3 rule.

First Vice President Strickland further reported that the Department of Finance (DOF) held its hiring pool and we are awaiting the results for review.

First Vice President Gina Strickland will submit staff representative activity at next month's Executive Board meeting.

Motion was duly made, seconded and carried to accept the First Vice President's Report.

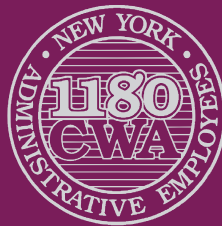
Second Vice President's Report

Second Vice-President Gerald Brown reported the following:

May 25, 2017 — Attended the Murphy Institute Diversity Scholarship Ceremony at the CUNY Graduate Center in New York City.

May 31, 2017 — Attended the monthly General Membership meeting and coordinated New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer's participation at the meeting. The Comptroller was very impressed by the number of members in attendance, which totaled nearly 300.

June 6, 2017 — Attended a meeting at the NYC Human Resource Administration (HRA) to discuss bringing Murphy Institute classes to 4



CWA LOCAL 1180 COMMITTEE LISTING

Please note, where meeting date is not listed, contact chair for date. All meetings start at 6 p.m. and are held at Local 1180 with the exception of the Borough Community Coordinating Committees. For their locations and start times, contact the respective Borough Coordinator.

Education Committee

Linda Jenkins, Chair
ljenkins@cwa1180.org

Legislative and Political Committee

Gerald Brown, Chair
gbrown@cwa1180.org

Women's Committee

Denise Gilliam, Chair
dgilliam@cwa1180.org

Organizing Committee

Steve Ferrer, Chair
sferrer@cwa1180.org

Editorial Committee

Marci Rosenblum, Chair
marci@rwdgroup.com

Civil Rights and Equity Committee

Gloria Middleton, Chair
gmiddleton@cwa1180.org
Meeting:
1st Thursday of each month

Community Services Committee Meeting

Patricia Ruffin, Chair
Email contact:
gmiddleton@cwa1180.org
Meeting: 1st Thursday of
each month

People with Disabilities Committee

Alan Goldblatt, Chair
cwaanimal@aol.com
Meeting: 1st Wednesday of
each month

Civil Service Committee Meeting

Gina Strickland, Chair
gstrickland@cwa1180.org
Meeting: 4th Tuesday of
each month

Hispanic Committee Meeting

Venus Williams, Chair
vwilliams@cwa1180.org
Meeting: 2nd Thursday of
each month

Caribbean Heritage Committee Meeting

Gina Strickland, Chair
gstrickland@cwa1180.org
Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of
each month

BOROUGH COMMUNITY COORDINATING COMMITTEES

Brooklyn BCCC

Helen S. Jarrett, Chair
krystleimages@yahoo.com

Bronx BCCC

Carolyn Chamorro, Chair
carolynchamorro@hotmail.com

Manhattan BCCC

Patti Jacobs, Chair
manhattanbcc1@gmail.com

Queens BCCC

Priscilla Carrow, Chair
mspriscilla2@aol.com

Staten Island BCCC

Rosie Roman, Chair
rosieroman800@gmail.com

World Trade Center in the Spring of 2018 for Local 1180 members.

Coordinated with Communications Director Marci Rosenblum on the editing of the next issue of the Communiqué that will be in the mail to members the second week of July.

June 21, 2017 — Coordinated an orientation for 70 new members of CWA Local 1180.

June 27, 2017 — Conducted candidate screenings for 16 candidates running for the New York City Council in the September 2017 Primary Election. Nearly 30 members were in attendance to interview the following candidates:

Manhattan
8th District:
Diana Ayala, Robert Rodriguez, Edward Santos

9th District:
Bill Perkins, Marvin Holland

Bronx
13th District:
Marjorie Velazquez, John Doyle, Mark Gjonaj

18th District:
Elvin Garcia, Michael Beltzer, Armanda Farias

Queens
28th District:
Richard David, Hettie Powell, Ruben Wills

Brooklyn
40th District:
Mathieu Eugene, Brian Cunningham, Pia Raymond

41st District:
Alicka Samuel, Deidre Olivera

43rd District:
Justin Brannan

At this time, the Executive Board voted to table the discussion and endorsement of candidates until a future date.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Second Vice President's Report.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Middleton advised that the T.D. checking account has a balance of \$1,022,413.13 as of C.O.B June 28, 2017.

CWA Local 1180 obtained 96 new members since the last report from the Secretary Treasurer.

Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Middleton announced that this is an election year for the CWA Local 1180 Officers and Executive Board. The Election Committee will be reconvened next month in order to start the proceedings.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Secretary-Treasurer's Report.

Member-at-Large Hazel O. Worley reported that the Summer Camp applications were a hit. This year, the Union was able to help 66 families. The CWA Local 1180 Annual Picnic flier will be available by July 10, 2017. The information will also be on the CWA Local 1180 website at www.cwa1180.org. In addition, she requested the Executive Board approve CWA Local 1180 Bowling Night. Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to approve a Bowling Night.

Regina Kelly, HRA Shop Steward, requested the Local to send her to the 42nd Annual National

Eligibility Workers Conference August 13-16, 2017, in San Diego, California. Motion made and approved.

Member-at-Large Denise Gilliam indicated CLUW is hosting its 19th Biennial Convention from September 6-9, 2017, in Detroit, Michigan. Motion was made and approved to send four CLUW members. In addition, she reported that the CWA Local 1180 Women's Committee will be hosting its 2nd Annual Pink and White Afternoon Affair Brunch on August 19, 2017, in order to kick off the 2017 making Strides Against Breast Cancer campaign. Lastly, she reported that in collaboration with the Disability Committee, they will host a Health Fair on November 11, 2017.

Member-at-Large Venus Colon-Williams reported that this year's Hispanic Heritage Celebration will be on November 4, 2017, at the Borough of Manhattan Community College in Lower Manhattan. Complete details to follow. Lastly, she reported that the Back to School Back Pack Drive flier will be available in the beginning of July. The collection will be through the last week of August.

Member-at-Large Hilary Bloomfield reported on the Bronx Borough Coordinating Meeting held on June 22, 2017, with 49 people attending. Housing and various community issues were discussed. Meetings will be held in other Bronx locations in order to get to know those neighborhoods. Committee member Cheryl Simmons spoke about opioid addiction. The Bronx Borough Community Coordinating Committee will reconvene in September 2017. She also reported that she was presented with a certificate from Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark for being a neighborhood activist. She also reported that she is reaching out to Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and NYC Council member Andy King from the Bronx on issues facing the community.

The next Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2017.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to adjourn at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lourdes Acevedo
Recording Secretary

**Communications Workers
of America, Local 1180**6 Harrison Street
New York, NY 10013-2898

CWA LOCAL 1180 BENEFIT FUNDS

Dental Plan OPEN ENROLLMENT

The CWA Local 1180 Benefit Funds' Dental Open Enrollment Period started September 25, 2017 and runs through December 1, 2017. Changes in your dental plan coverage will be effective January 1, 2018. You may choose one plan only, either the Dentcare Dental Plan or the Scheduled Dental Benefit Plan. **You cannot be enrolled under both plans at the same time.** You must stay with your choice until the next open enrollment period.

**IF YOU WISH TO REMAIN IN YOUR CURRENT PLAN NO ACTION IS REQUIRED
DENTCARE DENTAL PLAN**

This program provides all necessary dental services with little or no out-of-pocket expense. You are required to use a DENTCARE AFFILIATED PROVIDER. You will receive an ID card that you will present to your participating provider. (No claim forms are required under this plan).

SCHEDULED DENTAL BENEFIT PLAN

Under this plan you may go to any dentist you choose, but when you use a dentist who is not a participating dentist, you may incur an out-of-pocket expense for covered services. Payment is made for dental expenses up to \$2,000 per calendar year for each covered member and eligible dependent. Payments are made according to the Schedule of Dental Allowances. In addition, there is an orthodontia benefit based on a schedule. Participating dentists will accept the fixed fee set by the plan as payment-in-full for the services you receive. (Claim forms are required)

If cost of treatment will be more than \$500, or when charges for a course of treatment includes crown or bridgework, you must submit a pre-treatment plan to the dental consultant's office before treatment begins. Benefits will be denied on any claim not submitted for pre-treatment review as required.

RETIRES BENEFITS FUND

Florida Dental Plan OPEN ENROLLMENT

The Dental Plan Open Enrollment Period for **Florida Retirees** runs through December 1, 2017, with changes in coverage taking effect on January 1, 2018. **If you wish to remain in your current plan no action is required.** You may choose one plan only, either the Scheduled Dental Benefit Plan, the \$700 Dental Plan, or the Dentcare Dental Plan. You must stay with your choice until the next open enrollment period. You cannot be enrolled under more than one plan at the same time.

SCHEDULED DENTAL BENEFIT PLAN

Under this plan you may go to any dentist you choose, but when you use a non-participating dentist, you may incur an out-of-pocket expense for covered services. Payment is made for dental expenses up to \$2,000 per calendar year for each covered member and eligible dependent. Payments are made according to the Schedule of Dental Allowances. In addition, there is an orthodontia benefit based on a schedule. Participating dentists will accept the allowance set by the plan as payment-in-full for the services you receive. If cost of treatment will be more than \$500, or when charges for a course of treatment include crown or bridgework, you

must submit a pre-treatment plan to the dental consultant's office before treatment begins. Benefits will be denied on any claim not submitted for pre-treatment review as required.

HEALTHPLEX AMERICA VALUE PLUS PLAN (\$700)

Please note that should you elect coverage under this plan the Fund pays all subscription fees but you will be responsible for moderate co-payments (if any). This Plan offers a very robust network of providers in Florida.

DENTCARE DENTAL PLAN

Dentcare providers are located almost exclusively in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. Although this may be an option to Florida residents who return to these areas for their dental care, it may not be appropriate for most permanent Florida residents. Dentcare supports retirees with a limited number of providers in Broward, Dade and Palm Beach counties. There are just a few specialist available under this plan for these Florida counties.

NOTE FOR ALL ACTIVE AND RETIRED MEMBERS: If you are interested in changing your dental plan we will provide more detailed information and applications upon request. Please contact the Fund at 212.966.5353 or out-of-area at 888.966.5353.