

Los Angeles County Federation of Labor Meeting Report 7-18-2016

Reverend William Smart delivered the invocation. He spoke of how we win when we stand together.

LA Trade Tech representatives presented the new LA Trade Tech Labor Studies and Community Planning graduates with their certificates for 2016. The Labor Studies program is an ongoing 38-year program to build stronger unions for a better life for workers.

July Executive Board report:
CWA local 9586 joined the Fed.

Executive Secretary's Report:
Secretary Rusty Hicks spoke about how proud he was of his mom when she graduated college two years after he did from the L.A. Labor Studies college program.

The Fed will not have a meeting in August. Look for a lot of recruitment for door knocking, phone banking and electioneering requests in September for the November election. The local races have a huge impact on day-to-day life in L.A., so those races are important too.

Grocery Workers Strike Looming

The 30,000 grocery workers at Ralph's, Vons, Pavilions, Albertsons etc. of the UFCW are gearing up to go on strike. They are being offered a three-year contract with only a 10 cent raise over the entire three years and cuts to their health care insurance.

Most big chain grocery workers are employed 35 hours or less which already makes it an enormous challenge to provide a living wage for a family.

UFCW is asking working people to show their support for grocery workers by dropping off a letter to the manager at the store where you buy your groceries saying you support the union brothers and sisters of the UFCW.

The UFCW has scheduled a strike vote for July 20th. The last major grocery workers strike over a similarly terrible contract offering in 2003 lasted 140 days.

Info on rallies and picket lines will be on the UFCW local 770 website. For a list of petition gatherings <http://www.ufcw770.org/actions>. To adopt a store: [http://www.ufcw770.org/adopt a store](http://www.ufcw770.org/adopt_a_store). There will be a Rally on August 2.

is a planned [American immigration policy](#) to grant [deferred action](#) status to certain [illegal immigrants](#) who have lived in the United States since 2010 and have children who are either [American citizens](#) or [lawful permanent residents](#). Deferred action is not full legal status but would come with a three-year, renewable work permit and exemption from [deportation](#).

The program was announced in November 2014 by President [Barack Obama](#), along with a number of [immigration reform](#) steps including increased resources for border enforcement, new procedures for high-skilled immigrants, and an expansion of the existing [Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals](#) (DACA) program.^{[1][2]}

The lawsuit against the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA), an immigration policy put forth by Executive Order of President Obama and subsequently challenged in Federal Courts by Several States, made its way to The Supreme Court where a 4-4 tie vote caused the lower Federal Appeals Court ruling to stand; a ruling that struck down the orders of.

The Obama Administration has asked for the ruling to be set aside and reconsidered by the Supreme Court after the vacant 9th Supreme Court Justice seat is filled.

The current nominee, Merrick Garland, has now been kept waiting 120 days, longer than every other nominee in history, due to Congressional Republican Senators refusing to do their appointed duty and hold confirmation hearings. There are over 1 million undocumented people in California whose lives are in the balance while this Executive order and a lack of action on the issue of immigration reform by Congress stands by.

Secretary Hicks commented on the violence of current events around the world that "it's as if the world has lost its damn mind" and that the labor movement is about better jobs to build the bedrock of a stable society and a stable world. It is about better education for everyone. It is about better transportation, and homes people can afford.

Secretary Hicks spoke about the Build Better L.A. campaign:

[https://ballotpedia.org/Los Angeles, California, %22Build Better LA%22 Affordable Housing and Development Initiative \(November 2016\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Los_Angeles,_California,_%22Build_Better_LA%22_Affordable_Housing_and_Development_Initiative_(November_2016))

And Prop 55 (which would extend tax raise on wealthy 12 more years -

[https://ballotpedia.org/California Tax Extension to Fund Education and Healthcare Initiative, Proposition 55 \(2016\)](https://ballotpedia.org/California_Tax_Extension_to_Fund_Education_and_Healthcare_Initiative,_Proposition_55_(2016))

and Measure M (a half cent sales tax increase to fund \$120 billion in transit expansion and subsidize free rides for

students.) <http://thesource.metro.net/2015/05/07/update-metro-continues-to-explore-2016-ballot-measure/>

all of which the Fed supports for the 10,000 or so jobs it would create. The County Fed endorses Hillary Clinton (D) for President and Kathryn Barger (R) as County Supervisor for being competent and pro-labor.

Secretary Hicks asked - who do you want to choose new Supreme Court Justices? He spoke about the need to make trips and phone calls to battleground states to help with the election. He said you need bodies and money to win campaigns. They hope to get 2-3% turnout of each local to volunteer. He wants to reduce mass incarceration, build respect for public sector workers, fight the deportation of workers and the exportation of jobs.

Report of Committees:

The farmworkers are fighting to get overtime pay.

Please Call Bloom at 310 450 0041 on Wednesday this week and voice your support for OT for farmworkers. Ask him to vote Yes on

AB1066. http://www.ufw.org/board.php?mode=view&b_code=org_key&b_no=17877

The CA Nurses Association asks you to support Prop 61 to help bring drug price increases under

control. [https://ballotpedia.org/California %22Drug Price Relief Act%22 Initiative, Proposition 61 \(2016\)](https://ballotpedia.org/California_%22Drug_Price_Relief_Act%22_Initiative,_Proposition_61_(2016))

Dawn Meredith of the CA Alliance of Retired Americans. CA State Treasurer John Cheung speaking at garden party fundraiser. <http://californiaalliance.org>

Cecile Ben David AFT is a delegate to the Democratic Convention. She seems pretty peppy about it.

California Reinvestment Coalition is fighting to regulate insane payday and car title lenders to stop predatory lending. Check them out at <http://www.calreinvest.org>

The nurses are working on an environmental campaign for September. More info then.

If anyone is interested in putting together a fundraising team from the Local to participate in Homewalk, the November 5k run/walk United Way fundraiser to help homeless vets. Exposition Park Exposition Park Drive Los Angeles 90037 Contact Margarita Chavez at mchavez@unitedwayla.org or (213) 985-1987 for info on organizing a team.

The SOFA, Society of Financial Awareness offers free seminars on financial literacy and workshops to groups to educate the community. Info @: vic@vicclement.com <http://sofausa.org>

The AFL-CIO is looking for organizations to support the Build Better LA campaign. Info@ www.buildbetterla.org

AFL-CIO Labor Community services has help for union members in need. Utilities, rent, groceries. info: www.laborcommunityservicesla.org

Labor studies classes on workplace safety, worker rights, collective bargaining and union messaging etc. available at LA Trade Tech. info at <http://college.lattc.edu/laborcenter> or (213) 763-7129. Fall semester begins August 29th. Classes like labor in cinema. The IA has a program to help with tuition and fees. Check with the staff at Local 728. Other financial aid also available.

COPE endorsements are given to candidates and ballot measures based on what the COPE Board feels will best serve the interests of working people overall in a particular jurisdiction.

The County Fed has interviewed candidates for upcoming elections for Congress, State Senate, State Assembly, Municipalities, Judicial, and Supervisorial jobs and reviewed when possible their voting records on labor and labor issues. Those who they feel are friends of workers are given a COPE endorsement.

For the list of endorsed candidates and supported ballot measures go to: <http://launionaflcio.org/endorsement>

Labor411 has a listing of American union made goods and services. They will be going to the Democratic National Convention and promoting ethical buying. Check out www.labor411foundation.org

Labor Leadership training seminars for seniors at the LA County Fed. Please call the Fed if you are interested in attending.

Medicare For All wants you to check out and contribute to their plan to extend health coverage to the 15 million Americans who still lack coverage. www.peoplessummit.org

The LA Young Workers Committee meeting is the last Tuesday of the month at the Fed. Check the website.

Events:

July 20th, 9:00 am and 2:00pm. Help is needed for Voter Registration of new Californians following their swearing in as Americans. Downtown Convention Center. Call the LA County Fed to volunteer. You will be fed.

July 26th, 6-8pm. Young Workers committee meeting at the LA County Fed

August 2nd, 11 am. Please turn out to support the grocery workers. Address TBD after the permit is issued. Check the LACounty Fed website for address.

August 11th, 9:00 am and 2:00pm. Help is needed for Voter Registration of new Americans following their swearing in as Americans. Downtown convention Center. Call the County Fed to volunteer. You will be fed.

August 21st, 12 pm - 5pm. Free legal fair. Immigration, contract, tenant disputes, family law, workman's comp questions. 100 lawyers will be there to help. 2727 W. Pico Blvd Los Angeles www.mabaattorneys.com

August 28th, 10 am - 1 pm. Jewish labor committee Award brunch 4024 Radford Ave. CBS Radford email: jlcwr1@gmail.com

Sept 5th, 11 am. Labor Day working Californians concert featuring Snoop Dogg and other notable artisits.

Tickets and info: <http://www.workingcalifornians.org/splash/>