

Ward Eight Democrats, Inc.

**General Business Meeting
June 20, 2015**

Present: Barbara Jones, 1st Vice President; Theresa Kelly, Recording Secretary; Deloris Walker, Corresponding Secretary; Darryl Ross, Treasurer; Sheila Bunn (At-Large); Charles Wilson, Committeeman, Arnehl Lyon, Anthony Muhammad, Committeeman, Mary Cuthbert, Committeewoman, Phillip Pannell and Marcus Batchelor.

Excused: Natalie Williams, President;

Unexcused: Trayon White 2nd Vice President, Wanda Lockridge, Committeewoman, Arrington Dixon; National Committeeman.

Ward Eight General Business Meeting

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 12:15pm	
Determination of a Quorum	Barbara Jones, 1 st Vice President confirmed a quorum was present.	
Approval of the Agenda	none	
Approval of Minutes	Minutes were not approved due to the missing information from the last hour of the meeting. (The Recording Secretary had to leave after the first hour).	
Discussions	Barbara Jones, 1 st Vice President gave Greetings. We were asked to give a moment of silence. Board members introduced themselves. Darryl Ross shared the Treasury Report. The balance is \$1,958.38. Barbara introduced the Speakers for the day. US Representative Franklin Garcia,	

Senator Michael Brown, Senator Paul Strauss and the Honorable Eleanor Holmes gave updates on Home Rule, Statehood, Taxes and our responsibilities in making our voices heard. They entertained questions from the audience dealing with Topics of interest in our city and Ward.

Suggestions From the Guests Include the Following:

- Need to fight our Resolute and demand our full Rights.
- Look at ways to participate in Primaries.
- Increase visibility.
- Need thoughts for the Political Activity Committee.
- Need to do a Peaceful March on Capital Hill. Need Media strategies, celebrities, and White House involvement to aid in making decisions.
- Need more support.
- Relationship with the Senate is important.
- Need to inject some energy in our city.
- Involve young people and community leaders.
- Promote Statehood through TV show (July 1, 2015, on DCTV.
- Recruit Interns.
- Do Documentary on Statehood.
- Have Forums and discussions on the history of the city.
- Develop a professional video.
- Need involvement in a Film Festival.
- Involve Latino people.

Suggestions From the Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton:

- Ward Eight Democrats are invited to come and visit her on the Hill to tour the Capitol and observe her duties.
- Councilwoman LaRuby May should look into the Department of Energy on the Waterfront to make sure jobs are available for Ward Eight residents.
- There is money in the Old Post Office building and a certain amount should involve DC residents.
- Let her know if Ward Eight residents have a problem with flight noise.
- Ward Eight Democrats is invited to sit on the Floor of the House of Representatives during the second Anniversary of the Frederick Douglas Statute,

	<p>The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton passed out her newsletter and invited all to sign up for it.</p> <p><u>Some Questions Asked From the Audience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did you change Parties? Senator Michael Brown stated that he had the right and freedom as an United States citizen to change from Democrat to an Independent. • Why do we have to pay Federal Taxes? Until we have a vote, we'll have to pay Federal taxes. An employer could violate the Federal law. There is no legal argument of getting out of paying Taxes. Congress has great power in the District. • Does the Popular Point belong to us? The Park is not for our use, The transfer of the title replaced the National Park Service. <p>Our guests thanked the Ward Eight Democrats for inviting them to the Business meeting.</p>	
	<p>Meeting adjourned at 2:05pm</p> <p>Natalie Williams, President, nataliewilliams9427@gmail.com (202)904-9466 Theresa Kelly, Recording Secretary, theresa.kelly1@verizon.net</p>	