



FRIENDS OF NYC PARK WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

SONDRA YODELMAN, CHAIR

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*An Open Letter to the Employees of the Central Park Conservancy
from
“Friends of NYC Park Worker’ Organizing Committee,
District Council 37, AFSCME”
Sondra Youdelman, Interim Chair*

June 25th, 2008

Recently, it has come to our attention that Central Park Conservancy employees want to form a union. As community leaders and advocates for social justice in New York City, we fully support you in this courageous effort. Only by coming together and forming a union can Central Park Conservancy workers ensure that their jobs will be protected and that they will have an effective and powerful voice at work with regard to wages, working conditions and job security.

We are concerned that the Central Park Conservancy has chosen to vehemently oppose your efforts to unionize. We disapprove of their tactics of intimidation and harassment and their attempt to paint a negative picture of unions in general, and DC 37 in particular. We value the work that unions and their members do each and every day for our City of New York.

Historically, unions’ fight for economic justice helped create the middle class. Today, their presence in the workplace ensures that workers’ rights are protected. Conservancy employees work hard to maintain Central Park’s pristine condition for the benefit of city residents and tourists. You deserve to have the same rights and benefits as those enjoyed by the municipal employees who work alongside of you in Central Park. Know that our coalition of concerned New Yorkers supports you and stands with you in your courageous fight for your rights.

Sincerely,

Sondra Youdelman, (Dir, Community Voices Heard)
Chair, Friends of NYC Park Workers Organizing Committee (growing list of participants)

Rabbi Michael Feinberg, GNY Labor – Religion Coal.
Dr. Joseph Fahey, Catholic Scholars for Worker Justice
Ed Ott, NYC Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO
Jonathan Tasini, Labor Research Association
Rev. Charles Straut, Jr., United Methodist Church
Rabbi J Rolando Matalon, B’nai Jeshurun
Rabbi Marcelo R Bronstein, B’nai Jeshurun
Rev. Mark Hallinan, Society of Jesus, NY Province

Rev. James Karpen, St Pauls & St Andrews
Angelo Falcon, National Institute for Latino Policy
Carrie Brunk, NY Jobs With Justice Coalition
Sonia Ivany, NY Labor Council Latin American Advanc
Minister Jeff Mansfield, Judson Memorial Church
Rickke Mananzala, FIERCE
Rabbi Felicia L Sol, B’nai Jeshurun

