

Pittsburgh Anti Sweatshop Community
Alliance – PASCA
AHI @ TMC - Kenneth Miller
5125 Penn Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15224

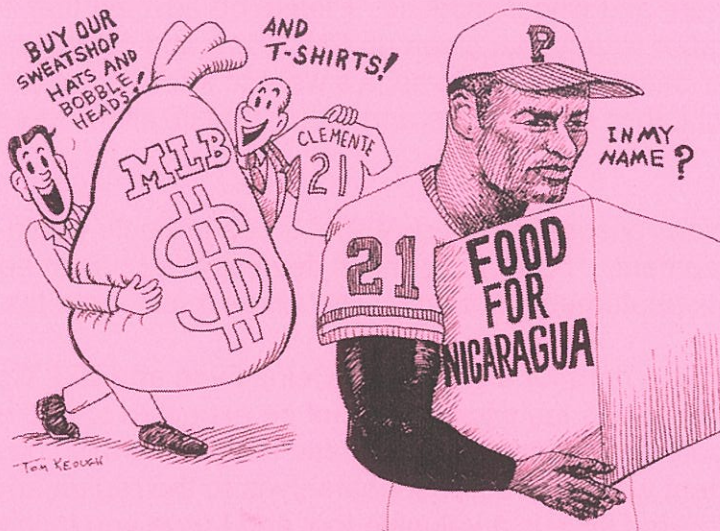
412-241-1339
nosweatshopsbucco@yahoo.com

July 3, 2007

Controller's Office
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Deputy Controller Anthony J. Pokora,

I understand that the audit of the City's Anti Sweatshop Ordinance is nearly complete. Could you please let us know when it will be released? We are hopeful that it can be made available several days before the July 11, 2007 All Star Game in San Francisco. The audit will certainly touch on our high standards for workers rights and the key issue of disclosing factory locations. These are key things that we are following up with the Pirates in the context of City Council's July 11, 2006 Anti Sweatshop Proclamation. It will be empowering for our Pittsburgh Pirates to share our audit with all of the Major League Baseball Owners and Licensers hob-knobbing in the San Francisco Giant's skyboxes exactly one year after the Pirates promised us an honest investigation of Pirate's logo garments at the PNC Park All Star Game.



Several members of the Pittsburgh Anti Sweatshop Community Alliance were in attendance at a candidates' debate in February this year sponsored by the Black Political Empowerment Project, the League of Women Voters and the League of Young Voters. All of the candidates for the Controller's Office, including you, responded enthusiastically to a request for an audit of the PNC Park, Heinz Field and David L Laurence Convention Center projects. Without characterizing the feelings of everyone at the debate, there was certainly a collective groan by those in attendance that expressed a feeling that promises have been broken and that these projects might not have delivered what the community was assured they would.

Responding to this groan in the crowded church social hall, all four candidates at that time unanimously agreed that a "Report Card" style audit was in order. There are a number of reason why such an audit is needed now. A "Community Benefits Agreement" is now being negotiated, after the money for a new arena has already been allocated, with the Pittsburgh Penguins. Groups like PASCA are trying to determine how the team can be held accountable, or even held to a basic standard of honesty, in their dealings with community groups. Most importantly, citizens do not understand how the terms of these agreements were reached or what the long-term impact on jobs and the city budget is going to be.

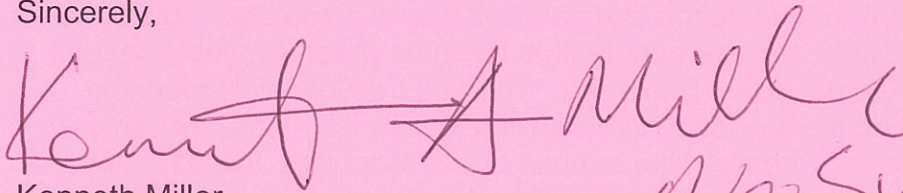
It's time to investigate and educate the people in the City about the impact on the City's budget and explain how these expenses are being shared with the County and State. It is time review

what jobs were created at these facilities, who negotiated the terms of employment, what those terms are and who is working. Please be advised that it is temporary workers from Saint Moritz and Labor Ready that clean up PNC Park and constitute a majority of servers at large Convention Center banquets. Of course, we want to know who built these facilities and understand how Project Labor Agreements and Labor Stabilization Agreements affected who worked on these job sites.

Politicians assured the people that these projects would generate additional jobs and development... how much of this development has already been funded by additional subsidies and tax abatements from the City? How much more tax money to these developers anticipate?

The time is right for a PNC Park/Heinz Field and DLL Convention Center Report Card. Without this information the citizens cannot be expected to make good decisions on their own behalf or hold politicians accountable. These teams and this convention center are symbols of our city; important ways we represent ourselves to the region and to the world. The independence of the Controllers Office is a valuable tool and I urge you to initiate a Report Card style audit and set a date for it to be completed and released quickly.

Sincerely,


Kenneth Miller

*No Sweet shops
bucco!*

Cc: B-PEP
City Council President
League of Women Voters
League of Young Voters
One Hill
Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball Club