

NABET-CWA Local 16 Executive Board

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, April 6, 2005
ATTENDANCE: **President:** Eugene J. Maxwell
Vice President: James C. Joyce
Secretary-Treasurer: Richard L. Gelber

Executive Board Representatives:

Unit #1: William Bores
Unit #2: Gary Boyarsky(work)
Unit #3: Gregory Ciccone (ill)
Unit #4: Dennis Allen
Unit #5: James J. Nolan
Unit #6: Orlando Burgos
Unit #7: Paul Vasquez

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on March 2, 2005, were approved as corrected.

Moved: Joyce

Seconded: Nolan

Passed Unanimously

2. Grievance and Arbitration Report

Vice-President and Grievance Chairman Jim Joyce reported that the Union lost the suspension arbitration at WABC-TV and that we are very disappointed in the result.

An arbitration hearing was held on March 29 over WABC-TV's refusal to reschedule a vacation due to an injury. The arbitration will continue on further dates to be scheduled.

The outside employment arbitration will continue on Wednesday, April 27.

Settlement discussions surrounding the discharge of a videotape operator were not successful, and the Union is moving towards arbitration.

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2. Grievance and Arbitration Report – Cont'd

Grievance meeting dates for the second calendar quarter of 2005 are pending, and will include extra dates at B.O. &E. to make up for the Company's failure to schedule dates during the first quarter.

3. New Members

The following members were accepted into membership contingent upon payment of initiation fees, dues, and verification of application:

A. Roove K. Weyl M. Wood

Moved: Burgos Seconded: Vasquez Passed Unanimously

4. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber presented income and disbursement reports for February and March, 2005, and first half fiscal year summaries. Most items are at or near budgeted figures, taking into account expected seasonal variations.

The faulty leased copier has been replaced at no cost to Local 16 and the new unit is functioning properly.

4A. New Computer for Vice-President

It is finally time to retire the 1997 model Sony desktop computer that Vice-President Joyce has been using, since it has reached the limit of our ability to upgrade it.

Motion (#05-005): To allocate \$1200 to purchase a new computer for use by the Local 16 Vice-President.

Moved: Joyce Seconded: Nolan Passed Unanimously

5. Political Report

Jim Joyce, Paul Vasquez, Mike Cullen, and Debbie Simmons represented Local 16 at the CWA Annual National Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, from March 6 to March 9. The major item of concern was the Bush administration's push towards Social Security changes that would hurt working people. Jim Joyce addressed the conference on the status of the FCC's media ownership rules. The CWA is heavily backing the Employee Free Choice Act (S. 842 and HR 1696), which would make it easier for unions to organize workplaces through card check, and which has bipartisan co-sponsorship.

Over the weekend of March 18, Jim Joyce attended the CWA District One Political Retreat in Saratoga Springs, NY.

5. Political Report – Cont’d

Paul Vasquez spoke about Social Security and the CWA’s efforts to protect the program. We are part of the “In This Together” campaign and will be asking for extensive member participation.

6. Training

Paul Vasquez reports that the expansion of the BURST Board is still pending.

A BURST camera seminar is in development for May.

Three online courses, specifically developed by CWA for NABET, will be added to the CWA-NETT curriculum.

An Internet e-mail activism tool, called “Get Active”, is being introduced on the CWA website. It may be added to local websites later.

7. Organizing

Organizing rights of higher education workers at Yale, Columbia, NYU, and other institutions are at the forefront of a campaign by the Central Labor Council, and which is being endorsed by Local 16.

8. NABET-CWA Sector Conference / CWA Annual Convention

The Conference and Convention will take place in Chicago this year in August, 2005. Pursuant to Section 7.21 of the Local 16 By-Laws, the following motion was proposed:

Motion (#05-006): To send 4 delegates to the 2005 NABET-CWA Sector Conference and CWA Annual Convention. Petitions will be available immediately and due back by 5 p.m. on May 6, 2005. The due date for the election ballots will be June 6, 2005, with the count taking place on June 10, 2005. The candidates receiving the four highest numbers of votes will be elected delegates, with the remaining four candidates (if that many) declared alternates in descending order of votes received.

Moved: Gelber

Seconded: Burgos

Passed Unanimously

The Sector By-Laws permit any NABET-CWA Local to submit proposed changes to the Sector By-Laws for consideration by the Sector Conference By-Law Committee. This year the deadline for such submissions is May 25. President Maxwell appointed a committee consisting of Bill Bores, Jim Nolan, and Orlando Burgos to consider such changes as Local 16 might wish to propose and report back to the Executive Board at the next meeting.

[At this point, Jim Joyce left the meeting on a personal matter.]

9. NYCOSH Funding Request

NYCOSH, the New York Committee on Occupational Safety and Health is having its annual Awards Celebration in early May.

Moved (#05-007): To purchase two tickets to the annual NYCOSH Awards Celebration at a total cost of \$200.

Moved: Allen

Seconded: Nolan

Passed Unanimously

10. Letters of Thanks

Expressions of thanks were received from Ken Sainz for the Local 16 LTD gift, and from the New Jersey IBEW Locals on strike at N.J.P.&L. for Local 16's contribution to their strike fund.

11. Labor Day Parade

President Maxwell is looking for a volunteer to coordinate Local 16's participation in the 2005 Labor Day Parade.

12. National Conference for Media Reform

Paul Vasquez attended this AFL-CIO sponsored conference in a previous year when it was held in Madison, Wisconsin. The Conference takes place this year in St. Louis, Missouri, from May 13 to 15. Paul feels strongly that this is an important event and offers to attend on his vacation time if Local 16 covers his travel expenses.

Motion (#05-008): To allocate up to \$1300 to send Paul Vasquez to the National Conference for Media Reform in St. Louis, Missouri from May 13-15, 2005. (No LOA expense)

Moved: Vasquez

Seconded: Burgos

Passed Unanimously

Abstain: Allen

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Gelber