

NABET-CWA Local 16 Executive Board

DATE OF MEETING: April 11, 2008
ATTENDANCE: President: Eugene J. Maxwell
Vice President: James J. Nolan
Secretary-Treasurer: Richard L. Gelber

Executive Board Representatives:

Unit #1: Brendan Black
Unit #2: William Bores
Unit #3: Gregory Ciccone
Unit #4: Dennis Allen
Unit #5: (vacant)
Unit #6: Orlando Burgos
Unit #7: Paul Vasquez
Unit #8: Katherine Henry

The meeting was called to order at 10:50 a.m.

1. Elections Committee Report

Elections Committee Chairman Brendan Black reported the results of recent elections:

a. Local 16 President

The ballots in the run-off election for Local 16 President were counted on April 7. The results are as follows:

James Joyce 265 votes
Paul Vasquez 351 votes

Brother Vasquez is declared elected.

b. Executive Board Unit #5

One valid petition was received for Executive Board Unit #5, to fill the remainder of the current term. Arthur Mazzacca is declared elected.

c. Delegates to the 2008 NABET-CWA Sector Conference and CWA Convention

Four valid petitions were received for four delegate seats. Rich Gelber, Jim Joyce, Jim Nolan, and Paul Vasquez are declared elected. There is no alternate delegate.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2008 – Page 2

2. Swearing-in of New Officers

Newly elected Executive Board Representative Arthur Mazzacca was sworn in by President Maxwell (applause). Brother Mazzacca was then seated as the Representative for Unit #5.

Newly elected Local 16 President Paul Vasquez was then sworn in by President Maxwell (applause). President Vasquez then assumed the chair and Brother Maxwell departed the meeting.

3. Old Business

a. Sector By-Law Amendment Proposal

The proposed amendment to Sector By-Law 7.6F, adopted by the Local 16 Executive Board at the previous meeting, has been submitted to Sector President Clark.

b. Grievance Committee Chairman

Vice-President Nolan proposed to continue Jim Joyce on full-time leave as Grievance Chairman until the next Executive Board meeting. After discussion, the following motion was put forward:

Motion (#08-07):

To continue Motion #08-04, adopted at the March Executive Board meeting, until the next meeting on approximately May 14.

Moved: Nolan

Seconded: Bores

In Favor: Nolan, Gelber, Black, Bores, Ciccone, Allen, Burgos, Henry

Opposed: Mazzacca

Motion Adopted

4. Minutes

The minutes of the previous regular meeting of the Local 16 Executive Board, held on March 13, 2008, were approved as submitted.

Moved: Black

Seconded: Burgos

Passed Unanimously

Abstain: Mazzacca

5. Grievance and Arbitration Report

Grievance Committee Chairman Jim Joyce reported on the following activities:

A grievance meeting was held at WABC-TV on March 13.

Air quality in the E.N.G. garage was extensively discussed. Diesel fumes have filled the basement of 7 Lincoln Square on at least one occasion due to improper venting of garbage truck exhaust. Local 16 has asked the Company to inform us regarding the operational status of carbon monoxide alarms.

New Fortel digital audio consoles produce unusual levels of acoustic noise. Baffles will be installed to minimize this noise.

6. Political Report

Jim Joyce reported on the CWA Annual Legislative Conference that was recently held in Washington. Jim, Paul Vasquez, Debbie Simmons, and Mike Cullen attended for Local 16. Meetings were held with numerous Senators and Representatives from the metropolitan area. Jim Joyce met with Senators Schumer and Lieberman, and also attended a Senate subcommittee hearing on the broadcast industry DTV conversion, at which Senators pointedly questioned FCC Chairman Martin about numerous issues. Jim briefly spoke with Martin about proposed Cable TV “digital must-carry” regulations.

The Conference was addressed by Senators Clinton and Obama, and by DNC Chairman Howard Dean.

Paul Vasquez and Debbie Simmons attended several political workshops conducted as part of the Conference.

7. Training Report

Jim Joyce and Paul Vasquez reported that the BURST Avid training schedule is currently limited by having only one trainer. If BURST can get another trainer, CWA-NETT will assume the costs. The issue will be brought up at the upcoming NCC (Network Coordinating Committee) and Regions 2 and 6 RAB (Regional Advisory Board) meetings.

A BURST “post-NAB” event will be held on May 14, probably in a Madison Square Garden facility.

BURST is preparing a DVD of its activities to show at the upcoming Sector Conference.

BURST is examining further possibilities for distance-learning programs.

8. Sick Leave Policy

Numerous questions abound about the application of the new sick leave policy, which is the same as the existing policy for non-represented Disney employees. The Union will take these up with Labor Relations for resolution.

9. Disney Dependent Verification Review

Many members have expressed concerns and questions about forms they have received from Disney for verification of dependents receiving Company benefits. A third-party is conducting this process for Disney. The matter will be discussed at the NCC meeting and brought up with Labor Relations.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2008 – Page 5

10. New Member

The following member was accepted into membership contingent upon payment of initiation fee, dues, and verification of application:

M. Herkner

Moved: Bores

Seconded: Ciccone

Passed Unanimously

11. Pension Report

Pension Plan Trustee Dennis Allen reported that the Plan assets were back up to \$688 million as of the end of March. The funding ratio is approximately 125%. The cost to the Plan of the extra benefit payments recently made to certain retirees was about 0.5% of the funding ratio.

12. Funding Requests

a. Black Trade Union Leadership Academy

Al Cohen (Network Graphics) expressed interest in attending the Black Trade Union Leadership Academy discussed at the previous meeting, and has been registered for the program. Half of the tuition will be reimbursable by the NABET-CWA Sector.

Motion (#08-08): To allocate \$495 for tuition for Al Cohen to attend the Cornell University ILR School Black Trade Union Leadership Academy.

Moved: Gelber

Seconded: Allen

Passed Unanimously

b. NYCOSH

NYCOSH's (New York Committee on Occupational Safety and Health) Annual Awards Celebration is coming up in May.

Motion (#08-09): To allocate \$325 for a one-eighth page journal ad and one ticket to the NYCOSH Annual Awards Celebration.

Moved: Ciccone

Seconded: Burgos

Passed Unanimously

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber will prepare the ad copy and President Vasquez will determine the use of the ticket.

13. Executive Board Unit #7 Election

Elections Committee Chairman Black reported the following schedule for the Special Election for Executive Board Unit #7, to fill the remainder of the current term:

April 12: Petitions available

April 25: Petitions due

May 2: Ballots to be mailed

May 19: Ballots due at Post Office

May 23: Ballots counted

