

NABET-CWA LOCAL 16 EXECUTIVE BOARD

DATE OF MEETING: **Wednesday, May 14, 2003**

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**
Unit #3: **Gregory Ciccone**
Unit #4: **Dennis Allen**
Unit #5: **James J. Nolan**
Unit #6: **Orlando Burgos**
Unit #7: **Paul Vasquez**

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m.

1. ABC Negotiations / Mobilization

Local 16's Negotiating Committee representative Jim Joyce summarized for the Board the current state of the negotiations.

The parties resumed face-to-face negotiations on April 30, 2003. The Company pension trustees attended the session at which the Company's pension consultant, Robert Sartorius of Buck Consulting, presented his analysis of the state of the NABET-ABC Retirement Trust Fund. The Company's latest package was distributed to the Board, and details of many of the proposals were discussed.

We are probably going to have membership meetings to discuss the negotiations on May 29, and the next Executive Board meeting on June 10.

Paul Vasquez made several mobilization suggestions.

2. Grievance and Arbitration Report

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Secretary-Treasurer Gelber reported that the arbitration over the suspensions of John Schultz and Lenzen Davis was scheduled for April 29, but shortly after the arbitration hearing began, the parties entered into settlement discussions and the matter was settled to the satisfaction of all concerned.

A payroll problem was encountered by Gary Rafuse after he returned from medical leave-of-absence. The problem was eventually rectified, but Local 16 is disappointed at the amount of time it took for the Company to resolve it.

President Maxwell described a problem with a member's LTD benefit payments (or more accurately, non-payments).

3. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber reported that the recent IRS audit found no problem with our continued entitlement to our federal income tax exemption.

The Board approved by consensus Steve Ciliberto's voucher for his recent trip to Washington on retiree matters.

Gelber distributed to the Board reports on April, 2003 receipts and disbursements. The March, 2003 receipt report was also re-issued to reflect the investment results, which were not available as of the date of the last Executive Board meeting. Our disbursements continue to run somewhat under (and the receipts are running slightly over) the budgeted figures. Dennis Allen observed that the disbursements are currently running approximately \$20,000 per month under the peak figures.

4. Political Report

Bill Bores and Paul Vasquez reported on the annual CWA New York State Lobbying day. The agenda and schedule were extremely well-organized by CWA, and our representatives were well received by New York State legislators from both major parties.

The FCC vote on relaxation of multiple- and cross-ownership restrictions is scheduled for June 2. Although Congressional opposition to the proposed changes is growing, analysts expect the FCC to adopt them.

The Working Families Party has scheduled local candidate interviews for this weekend.

5. Training Report

Paul Vasquez presented some funding proposals for BURST. A 501(c)3 IRS-qualified entity may well need to be formed to handle grant money for BURST and other training initiatives.

5. Training Report – Cont'd

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Motion (#03-007): To conduct an election for a 4th delegate to be sent to the 2003 CWA Annual Convention in Chicago.

Moved: Nolan

Seconded: (none)

Motion dies for lack of a second

Therefore, 3 delegates will represent Local 16 at the Convention.

10. “Adopt-a-Striker” (CWA 1101 – Sprint)

Members of CWA Local 1101 are on strike against a Sprint subsidiary in Northern New Jersey. CWA District One has appealed to all District One locals to “adopt-a-striker” at the rate of \$500 per month, until the dispute is settled. (Local 16 participated in this program several years ago during the Detroit newspaper strike.)

Motion (#03-008): To allocate \$500 per month through the “Adopt-a-Striker” program to help support a CWA Local 1101 member on strike against Sprint.

Moved: Burgos

Seconded: Vasquez

In Favor: Joyce, Gelber, Bores, Ciccone, Nolan, Burgos, Vasquez

Opposed: Boyarsky

Motion Adopted

11. Freedom Ride for Immigrant Workers

The Freedom Ride is an AFL-CIO project intended to have National impact. President Maxwell is looking to appoint a coordinator for Local 16. Suggestions and volunteers welcomed.

12. New York “Health Care for All” Campaign

The New York “Health Care for All” campaign has sent a request for another periodic contribution. Many well-known local labor activists who have been friends of Local 16, including Nick Unger, who is currently associated with TWU Local 100, are closely involved with this campaign. If we had Universal Health Care, our retirement medical coverage would no longer be an issue. In lieu of a Local 16 contribution, Gary Boyarsky suggested we solicit contributions from the members via e-mail. In addition, the following motion was put forward:

Motion (#03-009): To contribute \$150 to the New York “Health Care for All” campaign

Moved: Gelber

Seconded: Ciccone

In Favor: Joyce, Gelber, Ciccone, Vasquez, Burgos

Opposed: Bores, Boyarsky, Nolan

Motion Adopted

13. NYC-CLC Labor Day Parade

