

**NABET-CWA Local 16 Executive Board**

**DATE OF MEETING:** Wednesday, June 8, 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:** Frank Schiraldi  
**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 5:30 pm.

**1. Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on May 9, 2005, were approved as corrected.

Moved: Nolan                      Seconded: Ciccone                      Passed Unanimously

**2. Old Business**

**a. Harvard Negotiation Program**

Orlando Burgos presented a brochure describing a negotiation program periodically conducted at Harvard University. President Maxwell will study the suitability and cost of the program as well as other issues, and the Executive Board will revisit the issue in early 2006.

**b. Labor Day Parade**

President Maxwell announced that retiree Harry Gralton has agreed to coordinate Local 16's Labor Day Parade participation this year.

**c. Local 16 Picnic**

We have received enough reservation forms for the picnic to be able to state that the Local 16 picnic will definitely be taking place on Sunday, June 26.

**3. Grievance and Arbitration Report**

Vice-President and Grievance Chairman Jim Joyce reported that the first of two scheduled Network Grievance Meetings took place on May 12. Among the items discussed were the elimination of the overnight shift, safety issues and overall staffing in “Slant 3” Maintenance, the number of utility positions and the overall workload in TV-17, and some issues concerning the new Network Release facility.

The second Network Grievance Meeting was held on June 6. This meeting consisted almost entirely of a further extensive discussion of the Network Release facility. Also discussed was the continuing problem of non-“local” Daily Hires being assigned to utility positions on remotes without being provided with travel expenses, hotel rooms, and per diem.

A second arbitration hearing date was held in the James McGuigan vacation reschedule case, during which a settlement was reached between the parties.

The arbitration in the William Stallone discharge case begins tomorrow.

Two Grievance Meetings are to be held this week and next at WABC-TV.

**4. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report**

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber presented income and disbursement reports for May, 2005, and explained the year-to-date figures. The anticipated high receipt levels in July and August should reset the accumulated deficit for the year to near-zero.

Recent arbitrations have resulted in our reaching the existing budget figure for legal expenses, so the following motion was proposed:

Motion (#05-016): To increase the current fiscal year budget amount for Professional Fees (Legal) by \$25,000, to \$75,000.

Moved: Ciccone                      Seconded: Bores                      Passed Unanimously

**5. New Members**

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

J. Weiner    A. Bailey    A. Lane    K. Rhoades    A. Joyce

Moved: Schiraldi                      Seconded: Burgos                      Passed Unanimously

**6. NABET-CWA Sector Conference / CWA Annual Convention**

Elections Committee Chairman Brendan Black reports that five valid petitions were received for the four positions to be filled. Jim Nolan has volunteered to serve as the alternate in order to save the Local the expense of conducting an election. Committee assignments that will need to be performed by the other delegates may make it helpful to Local 16 for the Alternate to be present at the Sector Conference and CWA Convention.

Motion (#05-017): To allocate up to \$2000 for Jim Nolan to attend the 2005 NABET-CWA Sector Conference and CWA Convention as an Alternate.

Moved: Vasquez                      Seconded: Burgos                      Passed Unanimously  
Abstain: Nolan

**7. Funding Request**

We have received a request for a contribution from the Metro New York Health Care for All Campaign, to which we have contributed in the past and which is supported by many of our friends in the labor movement.

Motion (#05-018): To contribute \$200 to the Metro New York Health Care for All Campaign  
Moved: Gelber                      Seconded: Vasquez                      Passed Unanimously  
Abstain: Bores

**8. WABC-TV Layoffs**

Subsequent to offering a buyout for a targeted group, WABC-TV laid off two other engineers last week.

Motion to go into Executive Session.

Moved: Burgos                      Seconded: Vasquez                      Passed Unanimously

[during the Executive Session, Dennis Allen left the meeting]

Motion to come out of Executive Session.

Moved: Nolan                      Seconded: Vasquez                      Passed Unanimously

The Executive Board discussed the layoff as well as ways that the Company could save money by reducing management staffing levels.

**9. Retiree Medical Benefits**

Greg Ciccone inquired about the possible implications of certain recent court decisions regarding benefits and age discrimination. President Maxwell will request a review of the cases by counsel.

**10. Member Survey**

A membership survey is being prepared at the request of the Presidents of the Network locals. The survey is in the preliminary stages at this point.

**11. Political Report**

Jim Joyce reported that the CWA District One Political Committee has interviewed all seven announced candidates for the position of Manhattan Borough President, and has decided to endorse Assemblyman Scott Stringer. This was also the strong recommendation of Local 16.

The Committee is reviewing the races for New York City Council.

[at this point, Greg Ciccone left the meeting]

Paul Vasquez reported that TWU Local 100 member Darlene Mealy is running for a City Council seat from Brooklyn, and has already been endorsed by the Working Families Party.

**12. Training Report**

Paul Vasquez reported that BURST was approached by Odyssey Tech, a New Jersey-based training company, with an offer of providing training programs. Also BURST will conduct Final Cut Pro and Avid classes in the near future.

Jim Joyce reports that the Sector's Task Force on Technology and Training is working on a new opportunity for computer training.

Jim Nolan reports that Network Maintenance is sending two Daily Hires for Ikegami camera training.

**13. Organizing Report**

Jim Nolan is continuing to pursue interest expressed by an internal group at ABC.

**14. National Conference for Media Reform**

Paul Vasquez recently attended this Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, at Local 16's expense, but on his vacation time. He distributed copies of the agenda and an information packet, and will present a full report at the next meeting.

**15. Communications Committee**

Paul Vasquez expressed interest in Local 16's forming a Communications Committee. This will be held over and dealt with as "old business" at the July meeting.

**16. Unit #7 Meeting**

Paul Vasquez (E-Board Unit #7 Rep.) wishes to hold a meeting of Unit #7 (WABC-TV), pursuant to the Local 16 By-Laws. President Maxwell will schedule a date in the near future.

**17. Sector Executive Council Meeting**

NABET-CWA Region #1 Vice-President Rich Gelber briefly reported on the Sector Executive Council meeting that was recently held in San Francisco. Of particular interest to Local 16 is that Local 12 in Philadelphia was disbanded due to the reduced size of the unit (representing engineers at KYW radio). The two remaining engineers, while not sufficient in number to constitute a local, are still represented by NABET-CWA and are covered by a contract currently in force, and have been assigned to Local 16 by the S.E.C.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Gelber