

**NABET-CWA Local 16 Executive Board**

**DATE OF MEETING:** Tuesday, June 6, 2006  
**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 4:50 p.m.

**1. New Members**

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

M. Saraga

D. Stanley

Moved: Joyce

Seconded: Allen

Passed Unanimously

**2. Membership – Michael Bolnick**

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber briefed the Board on the membership status of Michael Bolnick. Bolnick joined Local 16 in 2000 as a new member of NABET-CWA, and failed to disclose his existing membership in Local 31 (Washington). Recently, Local 31 notified Local 16 that Bolnick was a suspended member of that local (for reason of dues arrears) at the time that he joined Local 16. Gelber wrote to Bolnick about the matter last month and did not receive a reply.

**2. Membership – Michael Bolnick – Cont’d**

Motion (#06-014): To revoke Michael Bolnick’s membership in Local 16 as a result of his failure to disclose on his application form his existing membership in Local 31, suspension, and dues arrears.

Moved: Gelber

Seconded: Vasquez

Passed Unanimously

As a result of the above action, Bolnick remains a member of NABET-CWA, and his status reverts to that of a suspended member of Local 31. Any action to be taken regarding enforcement of Article III of the Master Agreement is the responsibility of Local 31, which will immediately be informed of the action taken by Local 16.

**3. Old Business**

**a. CWA Retired Members Club**

President Maxwell informed the Board that NABET-CWA National Retiree Coordinator Bill Freeda will make a presentation at the July Executive Board meeting.

**b. Network Coordinating Committee (NCC) Meeting**

President Maxwell reported on the NCC meeting that took place in April. The NABET-CWA Sector office in Washington is working on an Internet-based “No-work list” website. Locals would have read and write access for their own members, and employers would have read-only access. It is hoped that this system will enhance our ability to enforce Article III of the ABC and NBC Master Agreements. The NCC discussed recent changes in the structure of the Entertainment Industry Flex Plan, the benefits plan for daily hires. The Plan has a new Board of Trustees that includes Local 57 President Daszkowski, as NABET-CWA’s representative. Parkervision-based local newscasts are now on the air during non-prime periods in San Francisco and Los Angeles, and ABC plans to expand this to Chicago by the end of the year. WABC-TV will apparently take a bit longer. The Local Presidents are examining data relating to Hurricane Katrina coverage crew assignments in order to make sure that all members concerned received the proper wages, benefits, and per diem payments.

**c. Audio Post Production Steward**

In recent years the Audio Post Production group has not had a separate steward, but has been covered by the audio steward in Unit #2. Bill Bores believes that there is need for a separate steward to cover Audio Post Production, and the Board concurred.

Motion (#06-015): To create a steward position for Audio Post Production in Executive Board Unit #2.

Moved: Bores

Seconded: Schiraldi

Passed Unanimously

**d. Donald DiFranco Scholarship Fund T-shirts**

Vice-President Joyce reported that the Don DiFranco Memorial Scholarship Fund t-shirts authorized at the last meeting have been ordered and will be available for sale, first at the CWA Convention in Las Vegas, and then afterwards at Local 16.

**4. Unit #1 Executive Board Election**

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber reported that Unit #1 Executive Board Representative Bill Bores has been named to a permanent T.D. position by ABC, so he is no longer eligible to represent Unit #1. Bores will remain on the Executive Board as an additional representative for Unit #2, until the next election for Unit #2, pursuant to the Local 16 By-Laws. A vacancy therefore exists in the Executive Board position for Unit #1, and is referred, by consensus of the Board, to the Elections Committee for the conduct of a Special Election to fill the position until the expiration of the current term.

**5. Grievance and Arbitration Report**

Vice-President and Grievance Chairman Joyce reported that NABET-CWA won the national (“AIO”) arbitration over the payment of night-shift differential during vacations, although the Arbitrator did not award all of the back pay the Union thought was warranted.

Local 16 lost the most recent suspension arbitration at WABC-TV news.

A network Grievance Meeting is scheduled for June 22, at which the grievance over the Company’s improper warning issued to a shop steward will be discussed.

We are still awaiting the arbitrator’s ruling in the vacation pro-ration case, concerning those members who returned from long-term medical leave during 2005.

Grievances have been filed during the past month over the following:

- a. The Company’s change in the vacation pro-ration calculation for the members involved in the above case
- b. The suspension of a Light Direction Engineer
- c. “Pre-cast” recordings in NR being done without a Technical Director

**6. Pension Update**

Pension Trustee Dennis Allen reported that the Pension Fund ended the month of May with an unaudited balance of approximately \$625 million. This represents a “cushion” of approximately \$30 million with one month to go before the “pop-up snapshot” date.

The Board discussed the various payout options applicable to retirees under the Plan.

**7. Hong Kong Disneyland**

Paul Vasquez reported that, on a recent visit to Hong Kong, he met with members of the Hong Kong Disneyland Cast Members Union to discuss issues of mutual concern.

[At this point, Dennis Allen left the meeting.]

**8. Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber presented the May receipt and disbursement reports and year-to-date summaries. The current deficit was discussed along with the expectation of its upcoming reduction when we have our predicted large income month in July

**9. "#1 Master Seniority List" Buttons**

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber reported that he has been able to acquire at no cost a limited number of "#1 Master Seniority List" Buttons. One has already been presented to Saul Rochman, who currently holds that position, and 4 others will be sent to members who held the position previously prior to their retirement.

**10. Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on May 11, 2006, were approved as corrected.

Moved: Nolan

Seconded: Schiraldi

Passed Unanimously

**11. Political Report**

Jim Joyce reported that he went to Albany with Working Families Party officials on May 24, for a hearing on the WFP "Fair Share for Health Care" bill. Employer groups, of course, testified against this bill, but the same groups, somewhat inexplicably, are also opposed to universal health care.

The next day Jim participated with the CWA District One Political Directors in discussing the District's legislative endorsements. On the same day, Paul Vasquez participated in picketing Verizon on West Street in connection with the "National Day of Access".

New Jersey resident members of Local 16 who are not registered to vote will be receiving a mailing urging them to register.

Rich Gelber mentioned a fund-raiser for Senator Hillary Clinton's re-election campaign that he will be attending, which will feature an appearance by former President Bill Clinton.





