

NABET-CWA Local 16 Executive Board

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, August 10, 2005
ATTENDANCE: **President:** Eugene J. Maxwell (Vacation)
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 4:15 pm with Vice-President Joyce in the Chair.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on July 13, 2005, were approved as submitted.

Moved: Ciccone Seconded: Allen Passed Unanimously
Abstain: Schiraldi

2. Old Business

a. Communications Committee

(See below)

b. Retiree Medical Benefits

Local 16 General Counsel David Mintz responded to President Maxwell's request with several case summaries and opinions that were distributed by Vice-President Joyce. Counsel Mintz is in the process of preparing a more comprehensive analysis.

3. New Members

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

M. Humphries J. Escudero

Moved: Nolan Seconded: Schiraldi Passed Unanimously

4. TV-17 Time Sheets

Frank Schiraldi reported that Doug Schmitt (TD: TV-17) has identified a problem with the processing of time sheets at the soap opera studios (TV-17, and, to a lesser extent, TV-23). The time sheets are left in Production Managers' mailboxes at night, after production is completed, and these sheets often reach Tech Records the next day after the checkerboards have been sent "upstairs" for processing, frequently resulting in payroll delays. Jim Joyce will pursue this issue with B.O.&E. management.

5. Organizing Report

Jim Nolan is continuing discussions with several internal ABC groups.

6. Training Report

Paul Vasquez reported that BURST representatives attended the recent DV Expo in New York.

Completion of flyers promoting upcoming training programs for Avid and Final Cut Pro is pending.

BURST will make a presentation regarding its progress and plans at the upcoming NABET-CWA Sector Conference in Chicago.

7. Political Report

Jim Joyce reported that CWA District One has completed endorsement interviews for all the New York City office elections. Jim participated in Citizen Action interviews for various races. District One has not yet announced an endorsement in the New York City Mayoral election. Jim suggested that Local 16 complete the cycle of CWA endorsements for West Side Assemblyman Scott Stringer as Manhattan Borough President by adding our own.

Motion (#05-020): Based on his unblemished record of support for the rights of union members and other working people, and on his outstanding history of walking in solidarity with Local 16 members on our picket lines, NABET-CWA Local 16 enthusiastically endorses Scott Stringer for the office of Manhattan Borough President.

Moved: Gelber

Seconded: Bores

Passed Unanimously

7. Political Report – Cont’d

Jim Joyce then informed the Board that Helen Murphy, the wife of Local 16 member Michael Murphy, was running for Town Clerk of the Town of Orangeburg, New York (in Rockland County), and has already been endorsed by the Working Families Party.

Motion (#05-021): NABET-CWA Local 16 endorses the candidacy of Helen Murphy for Town Clerk of the Town of Orangeburg, New York.

Moved: Allen

Seconded: Nolan

Passed Unanimously

**2. Old Business (continued)
a. Communications Committee**

Paul Vasquez distributed the text of a proposal regarding the establishment of a Local 16 Communications Committee. The Board discussed the extent and scope of the responsibilities of such a committee and the methods of communications that it might cover.

Motion (#05-022): To recommend the establishment of a Communications Committee of Local 16 in order to maintain and improve methods of communication within Local 16 and among its members.

Moved: Vasquez

Seconded: Nolan

Passed Unanimously

8. Grievance and Arbitration Report

Vice-President and Grievance Chairman Jim Joyce reported on the Arbitrator's decision in the Greg Ciccone outside employment case. Impartial Umpire Howard Edelman has denied the Union's grievance. The Board discussed at length the Union's total and utter disappointment with the analysis and decision submitted by Arbitrator Edelman, and the Union is discussing with counsel further options in connection with this case.

The parties are waiting for the Arbitrator's decision on the William Stallone discharge. The parties have submitted briefs and reply briefs.

An arbitration on "On Camera Appearances" at Good Morning America is coming up.

A national grievance (case #AIO 05-01) has been filed over the payment of night differential during vacation periods to members entitled to such payment under the contract. Such payments have suddenly become limited to 30 days in New York and Chicago.

A grievance was filed last week over the Company's failure to pay per diem (7.7a) properly to some members assigned to local news coverage. Our contractual third quarter grievance meetings will be scheduled during September.

8. Grievance Report – Cont'd

A case over the Company's failure to reschedule Danny Cahn's vacation was settled to the satisfaction of the parties on the day of the arbitration.

9. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber presented income and disbursement reports for July, 2005, along with the year-to-date figures. Gelber still anticipates the deficit at the end of the fiscal year to fall short of the originally budgeted amount.

Motion (#05-023): To raise the Arbitration budget by \$10,000 to \$25,000 and to authorize payment of the currently pending \$29,000 bill from Local 16 General Counsel Mintz for the months of May and June, 2005, which would otherwise exceed the currently authorized budget.

Moved: Gelber

Seconded: Ciccone

Passed Unanimously

10. Funding Request

A retirement dinner will be held in honor of retiring CWA President Morton Bahr in Washington, D.C. on September 22. The dinner will be a benefit for the Morton Bahr Educational Wing of the Yitzhak Rabin Center in Jerusalem. Vice-President Joyce mentioned the likelihood that his ticket and expenses would be borne by the Sector in light of his role as Sector Vice-President. Secretary-Treasurer Gelber indicated his intent to buy a ticket for himself in the event the Local does not act, and to travel at his own expense in either event. Those recorded below as voting in the negative indicated their opposition to spending on benefit events while the Local is operating at a deficit.

Motion (#05-024): To purchase two tickets, at a cost of \$1000, to the Morton Bahr retirement dinner benefit on September 22.

Moved: Nolan

Seconded: Vasquez

In Favor: Gelber, Schiraldi, Nolan, Vasquez, Joyce

Opposed: Bores, Ciccone, Allen, Burgos

Motion Adopted

A tie existed until Vice-President Joyce, as Chairman of the meeting, voted in the affirmative.

11. Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session

Moved: Bores

Seconded: Allen

Passed Unanimously

Motion to come out of Executive Session

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2005 – Page 5

Moved: Burgos

Seconded: Ciccone

Passed Unanimously

12. Pension Update

Pension Trustee Dennis Allen reminded the Board that June 30, 2006 is the “snapshot date”, as of which the accrual rate for the Pension Plan, covering the period from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006, will be determined. The Fund assets as of July 31, 2005 were \$609 million, and the number that needs to be exceeded for the accrual rate to increase is \$580 million.

13. NABET-CWA Sector Conference / CWA Annual Convention

On August 25, 2005 the first Triennial NABET-CWA Sector Conference will commence in Chicago. Since the most important business of the Conference will be the election of our national Sector officers for the next three years, and Local 16 has not yet spoken officially on the subject, the following motion was proposed:

Motion (#05-025): To endorse the candidacies of John Clark and Jim Joyce for NABET-CWA Sector President and Sector Vice-President, respectively.

Moved: Ciccone

Seconded: Burgos

Passed Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Gelber

RLG:ph
opeiu153afl-cio