

7. Grievance and Arbitration Report

Grievance Committee Chairman Jim Joyce reported that the final hearing was held on a discrimination arbitration involving a shop steward. Briefs were already due, but the Company was successful in procuring an extension from the arbitrator.

An arbitration hearing was held on July 26 over the suspension of a shop steward for going home sick. Briefs are now pending.

Local 16 has filed a grievance over the suspension of a member for alleged insubordination.

Fifteen grievances have been filed thus far during 2007.

The next available arbitration date is September 25.

The Union has exercised its contractual right to terminate the appointment of Howard Edelman as one of the Impartial Umpires (arbitrators) in the New York office. A replacement will be negotiated with the Company as part of the ongoing talks.

8. New Members

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

F. Coleman T. Hightower

Moved: Vasquez Seconded: Ciccone Passed Unanimously

9. ABC Negotiations & Mobilization

The third round of negotiations will take place in Chicago from August 20 through August 28. Current Union and Company proposals are on the abc-contract.info website. The Union's position continues to be that the Pension Plan is doing very well and that the Company's proposal to freeze the Plan is totally unnecessary. The Union's proposals for a benefit increase for existing retirees and to restore retiree medical coverage for some current employees until Medicare eligibility age are still on the table.

The Company has asked the Union for a waiver that would allow it to put into effect its jurisdictional proposals regarding college football. The waiver was not granted.

At the last round of bargaining, the Company continued generally to ignore the Union's proposals.

The Union's goal in these negotiations continues to be the restoration of lost jurisdiction, and the prevention of any further loss of jurisdiction.

A report from the NABET-CWA Negotiating Committee on the current state of the negotiations is going in the mail prior to the commencement of the third round of talks.

9. ABC Negotiations & Mobilization – Cont’d

On Monday, August 13, the New York State AFL-CIO Arts & Entertainment Committee met and discussed the desirability of coordinating all bargaining between Disney and the various unions concerned. This discussion will continue at the next meeting on September 7.

10. Political Report

Jim Joyce reported that the national CWA-COPE goal for the upcoming election year is to encourage every member to contribute \$8 per month in 2008. CWA feels that a “one-on-one” approach may be best for increasing COPE contributions.

11. Training Report

The AVID training that was to be held in Syracuse was cancelled due to local problems there. The most recent AVID training class held by BURST took place at Local 11 in New York. AVID training is scheduled in the near future in Detroit and Saginaw and a separate BURST event is coming up concerning the “tapeless environment”.

12. Organizing Report

The Board discussed some graphics design work that is being done for ABC News in New York that might come under the “sophisticated graphics” language in sideletter “DV”.

13. Funding Requests

The Executive Board considered numerous funding requests and took action on the following:

a. Retired Members Council

Motion (#07-10): To allocate \$300 for a contribution to the CWA Retired Members Council that was requested by NABET-CWA National Retiree Coordinator Bill Freeda. Brother Freeda is also the Merger Partners Sector representative on the Board of the RMC.

Moved: Allen

Seconded: Nolan

Passed Unanimously

b. “Milkshake Man Fund”

Motion (#07-11): To allocate \$100 to be included in the CWA support for the “Milkshake Man Fund”, which is a novel approach to helping wounded and disabled veterans and supports the “Wounded Warrior Project”.

Moved: Gelber

Seconded: Ciccone

Passed Unanimously

13. Funding Requests – Cont'd

c. TWU Family Day

Motion (#07-12): To allocate \$75 for a one-quarter page journal ad for the Transport Workers Union Local 100 Family Day, as we have done in the past.

Moved: Gelber

Seconded: Ciccone

Passed Unanimously

d. NABET-CWA Local 213 (Harrisburg)

Motion (#07-13): To allocate \$500 to support mobilization against WITF-TV being conducted by Local 213, which is being attacked by a vicious union-busting campaign, and which has very little money in its treasury.

Moved: Joyce

Seconded: Bores

Passed Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Gelber

RLG:ph
opeiu153afl-cio