

NABET-CWA Local 16 Executive Board

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, November 9, 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 (personal)
Unit #7: Paul Vasquez

The meeting was called to order at 10:50 a.m. with Vice-President Joyce in the Chair.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on October 12, 2005, were approved as amended.

Moved: Nolan

Seconded: Schiraldi

Passed Unanimously

2. Grievance and Arbitration Report

Vice-President and Grievance Chairman Jim Joyce reported that an arbitration hearing was held on October 18 in a suspension case at WABC-TV. An additional hearing date will be necessary.

2. Grievance and Arbitration Report – Cont'd

Grievances have been filed over the following:

- Overtime payments in Post Production
- The Union's belief that the Company is violating the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 when it threatens discipline for people with chronic medical conditions
- The Company's unprecedented demand for personal medical information for a Local 16 Committee Chairman
- 2005 Vacation for reinstated member William Stallone

A Grievance Meeting will be held on November 29 at WABC-TV. The Union is awaiting four fourth quarter Grievance Meeting dates from B.O.&E.

Local 16 and ABC have mutually committed to holding a Sideletter "BY" meeting.

Grievances will likely be filed over the new use of "EVS" devices in the network news slant area by non NABET-CWA represented persons. These devices have always been operated by NABET in the past and we do not believe they qualify as "DK" devices. The same applies to the use of "DDR" devices at Times Square Studios on ABC programs by non-NABET. Neither of these devices bears any resemblance to a computer.

Local 16 is reviewing pending cases for the November 30 arbitration date.

3. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber distributed the October receipt and expenditure reports and noted several unusual and one-time items. The CWA is late again in processing some dues receipts.

4. Political Report

Jim Joyce and Paul Vasquez reported on labor's (and CWA's in particular) big wins on election day:

- John Corzine, heavily backed by CWA with volunteers and funding, won the race for New Jersey Governor by a sizable margin.
- Scott Stringer, endorsed by CWA District One and Local 16, was elected Manhattan Borough President with about 75% of the vote.
- The Transportation Bond proposal won 56% to 44%.
- Labor-backed candidates, including TWU member Darlene Mealy won all four contested New York City Council seats.

4. Political Report – Cont'd

- Jim LaCarrubba lost his bid for Brookhaven Town Council, while the Democrats gained control of the Suffolk County Legislature for the first time in decades.
- Mayor Bloomberg, endorsed by the construction trade unions, but few others, won by a margin of 19.8% of the vote.
- Betsy Gotbaum was re-elected NYC Public Advocate.
- In Michigan, the President of NABET-CWA Local 45, was elected to the Flint City Council.

Paul distributed a document packet regarding bills pending in Congress that would eliminate Federal funding for public access Cable TV.

5. New Members

Motion #05-029

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

D. Bernstein	Z. Lebrun	S. Schwartz	K. Wolf
K. Smith	S. Superka		

Moved: Gelber

Seconded: Vasquez

Greg Ciccone reported that a question had arisen regarding one of the proposed new members. After discussion, the following amendment was proposed:

Motion (#05-030) to amend Motion #05-029 to separate Scott Superka from the list contained in the motion, pending further investigation.

Moved: Ciccone

Seconded: Schiraldi

Passed Unanimously

The original Motion (#05-029), less Scott Superka, then was adopted unanimously.

[see continuation of item #5 below]

6. Training Report

Paul Vasquez reported that Local 11 members have been sent BURST-branded Motion Picture TV and Theatre Directories.

In Denver, the NABET-CWA represented station KCMC bought a Sony switcher and did not arrange for Sony to train as many members as wanted to receive the training. BURST was able to arrange for Sony to offer training to several additional members, at no cost to the station. In exchange, KCMC agreed for the extra training to take place during paid time.

6. Training Report – Cont’d

CWA-NETT has supplied a laptop computer to BURST for evaluation purposes for use as a platform for Avid training. BURST has suggested several options and enhancements to be added to the laptop, which when completed, will serve as a model for additional units to be furnished.

7. Organizing Report

Jim Nolan continues to pursue discussions with several internal ABC groups. Larry D’Alessandro has been appointed to the Local 16 Organizing Committee.

Jim Joyce is working on a new organizing inquiry from a local video facilities company.

8. Pension Update

Dennis Allen reported that the Plan’s balance ended the month of October at \$597 million. November has shown a small increase so far.

The parties discussed the Union’s request regarding the applicability of the “pop-up” date at the Sideletter “DC” meeting recently held, but no answer has yet been received from the Company.

5. New Members – Cont’d

After further investigation, as noted in #5 above, and discussion via telephone with Scott Superka, Greg Ciccone now recommends that he be admitted to membership in Local 16.

Motion (#05-031): Scott Superka is accepted into membership contingent upon payment of initiation fees, dues, and verification of application.

Moved: Ciccone Seconded: Gelber Passed Unanimously

9. Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session.

Moved: Schiraldi Seconded: Bores Passed Unanimously

Motion to come out of Executive Session.

Moved: Gelber Seconded: Schiraldi Passed Unanimously

10. Funding Requests

a. Pediatric AIDS Foundation

The Pediatric AIDS Foundation is CWA's "Charity of Choice" and the CWA strongly recommends that each Local contribute its "quota" of one dollar per member per year. A major appeal is presented each year at the Annual Convention.

Motion (#05-032): To contribute Local 16's 2005 annual quota of \$1100 to the Pediatric AIDS Foundation.

Moved: Gelber Seconded: Nolan
In Favor: Gelber, Nolan, Vasquez
Opposed: Bores, Schiraldi, Ciccone, Allen
Motion fails

b. Eduardo Diaz Union-to-Union Fund

The Eduardo Diaz Union-to-Union Fund is used to promote solidarity with Unions in other countries, primarily in Central and South America. The CWA recommends a contribution of \$0.10 per member per year.

Motion (#05-033): To contribute Local 16 2005 annual contribution of \$110 to the Eduardo Diaz Union-to-Union Fund.

Moved: Bores Seconded: Vasquez
In Favor: Gelber, Bores, Schiraldi, Nolan, Allen, Vasquez
Opposed: Ciccone
Motion adopted

c. Citizen Action of New York City

Jim Joyce serves on the Board of Citizen Action of New York City, and requests an allocation of \$500 to be listed as a host for the Citizen Action 2005 Progressive Leadership Awards.

Motion (#05-034): To contribute \$500 to Citizen Action of New York City.

Moved: Vasquez Seconded: Nolan Passed Unanimously

10. Funding Requests – Cont'd

d. New York Jobs with Justice

New York Jobs with Justice is closely associated with the CWA and regularly promoted activities concerning workers' rights. The organization was particularly helpful during the 1998-1999 ABC lockout.

Motion (#05-035): To pay Local 16's annual dues of \$250 to New York Jobs with Justice as a membership contribution.

Moved: Vasquez Seconded: Bores
In Favor: Gelber, Ciccone, Bores, Schiraldi, Allen, Vasquez
Opposed: Nolan
Motion adopted

11. Sideletter "CS" LOA Payments

Bill Bores described problems that have not been resolved regarding his paychecks that include days on Sideletter "CS" union leave, and recommended that the other Board members check their own situations.

[Bill Bores then left the meeting to report to work at ABC]

12. NABET-CWA National Daily Hire Advisory Committee

Sector President John Clark has appointed Paul Vasquez to be Chairman of the NABET-CWA National Daily Hire Advisory Committee. This committee was formed several years ago but has not been very active as of late. Paul discussed his plans and the committee's goals.

13. New York State AFL-CIO Arts and Entertainment Committee

Paul Vasquez attended a recent meeting of this committee on behalf of Local 16 and distributed a copy of the agenda. Local 16 strongly supports New York State AFL-CIO President Dennis Hughes' efforts to coordinate the work of the various unions in this industry.

The Screen Actors' Guild (SAG) and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA) are organizing an FCC forum to be held on November 16. FCC Commissioner Copps has promised to attend.

14. Finance Committee Report

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber described the methodology used by the Finance Committee and summarized the number and aggregate duration of meetings held.

[At this point, Greg Ciccone left the meeting]

The report of the Finance Committee and proposed budget for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2006 were submitted and moved (Motion #05-036) on behalf of the Committee by Paul Vasquez.

The Board discussed several budget items in detail.

The report and budget were adopted unanimously.

15. WOR Radio Negotiations

Vice-President Joyce reported that the current contract was extended until November 30, by mutual agreement of the parties (WOR Radio is owned by Buckley Broadcasting). One initial meeting has been held, and the proposals are due to be exchanged next Friday, November 18. The history of these negotiations (which previously were conducted by the former Local 209) suggests an amicable and brief negotiating process is to be expected.

16. Network Coordinating Committee and Semi-Annual (Sideletter “DC”) Meetings

Jim Joyce reported on these recent meetings. The NCC discussed the servicing of ABC and NBC remotes with emphasis on the need for better coordination and more coverage. The process of CWA restructuring mandated by CWA Convention Resolution #1 was also discussed, and this will also be discussed at each local.

At the Semi-annual (Sideletter “DC”) meeting with ABC, ABC Sports representatives provided projections on crew size and total work days anticipated for each type of event included in the ESPN “time-buy” agreement.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Gelber