

NABET-CWA Local 16 Executive Board

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, January 11, 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 (ill)
Unit #3: Gregory Ciccone
Unit #4: Dennis Allen
Unit #5: James J. Nolan
Unit #6: Orlando Burgos (family emergency)
Unit #7: Paul Vasquez

The meeting was called to order at 3:45 p.m.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on December 13, 2005, were approved as amended.

Moved: Nolan Seconded: Bores Passed Unanimously

2. New Members

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

D. Burke W. Rothschild Y. Lai K. Premo D. Carossela

Moved: Vasquez Seconded: Joyce Passed Unanimously

3. Old Business

a. Scene-16

President Maxwell continues to coordinate production of an issue with Editor Brendan Black. The Executive Board members were encouraged to supply reports concerning their own units.

b. Communications Committee

An initial meeting will be scheduled by President Maxwell.

c. Unit #7 Meeting

It is now likely that this meeting will take place during the second week of February.

d. Local 16 Daily Hire Committee

Additional possible appointees to this new committee were discussed.

e. CWA Convention Resolution #1

President Maxwell and Vice-President Joyce described the procedure being followed by The CWA in implementing Resolution #1. A web site dedicated to the solicitation of Individual member input is to go live imminently. The NABET-CWA Sector Executive Council has a Committee set up to develop recommendations, and the Sector is committed to encourage input from NABET-CWA locals. Structured recommendation forms developed by the CWA are to be returned by the Executive Board members at the next meeting.

4. Grievance and Arbitration Report

Vice-President and Grievance Chairman Jim Joyce reported that the parties have tentatively approved 11 arbitration dates for 2006 from Howard Edelman and 10 from Jack Tillem.

The following Arbitrations are upcoming:

- On January 20, the 20.10 Grievance over the shipment of sports master videotapes to Bristol for dubbing.
- On February 1, the three-day suspension of a WABC-TV ENG editor.
- On February 24, the national “AIO” case over the improper insufficient payment of night-shift differential (Article X) during vacations in several cities.

The National Labor Relations Board is collecting evidence in the Unfair Labor Practice case filed by Local 16 over retaliation against a member who recently won an arbitration award.

A date for a Sideletter “BY” meeting is still pending.

4. Grievance and Arbitration Report – Cont'd

The first arbitration to be held under the alternate discharge language in Section 14.1(b) of the Master Agreement is being held at Local 41 in Chicago. Local 16 is closely monitoring the case.

Requests for new grievance meeting dates in New York have been sent to ABC.

5. Pension Update

Dennis Allen reported that the Pension Plan ended calendar 2005 with a total (unaudited) of \$614 million, which will probably increase slightly after normal accounting adjustments.

As of January 10, the Fund's total is up to \$622 million with less than six months to go until the "pop-up snapshot" date of June 30, 2006. ABC has still not responded to the Union's request regarding enhanced applicability of the pop-up.

Dennis highlighted some national pension plan trends for the Board.

The next meeting of the Pension Trustees is scheduled for February 15 and 16.

6. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber presented the December receipt and disbursement reports and explained one-time and other unusual items including a large arbitration bill.

The new Pitney Bowes mailing machine and postage meter have been installed and are functioning well.

A total of \$6200 in Long Term Disability Holiday Gift checks were issued, somewhat under the budgeted amount. Several telephone calls and written acknowledgements of thanks have already been received.

The Board discussed possible changes in the method of collection of Local Dues, which, if implemented, would smooth out income flow and reduce administrative costs.

Local 16's accountant will be in the office next week to post investment income and otherwise bring the books up to date for the first current fiscal quarter.

The CWA continues to be consistently a month behind in the remittance of our rebate of ABC Sector Dues. There isn't much we can do, since most departments at CWA Headquarters are already operating under-staffed to save payroll expense.

6. Secretary-Treasurer's Report – Cont'd

Due to December having been a three-paycheck month at ABC, January is anticipated to be a big revenue month at Local 16, if all the dues are remitted by ABC and promptly processed by CWA.

7. Political Report

Paul Vasquez reported that Christine Quinn, who won her New York City Council Seat with the support of several Unions, has been elected (by the Council) as the new Speaker.

Jim Joyce reported that a special election will be held to fill the unexpired part of newly-elected Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer's State Assembly seat. No date has yet been set for the special election. There are several announced candidates, but Jim recommended that the Board officially endorse Marc Landis, a well-established West Side community activist, who has previously met informally with the Board members. The district covered by this seat encompasses Local 16's office and many ABC facilities. Secretary-Treasurer Gelber also resides in this district.

Motion (#06-001): Whereas Marc Landis has declared his candidacy for the New York State Assembly in the special election to be held in the 67th Assembly District; and

Whereas Marc Landis has a proven record as a community activist in the areas of workers' and tenants' rights; and

Whereas Marc Landis has specifically provided assistance to NABET-CWA Local 16 and CWA District One during past labor disputes; and

Whereas Marc Landis has assisted NABET-CWA Local 16 and CWA District One in the pursuit of New York City, New York State, and Federal legislative and electoral goals; and

Whereas NABET-CWA Local 16 firmly believes that Marc Landis is the best candidate to succeed Scott Stringer as our representative in the State Assembly;

Now Therefore be it Resolved that NABET-CWA Local 16 ENDORSES Marc Landis for the office of New York State Assembly Member from the 67th Assembly District, and pledges our full support for Marc during the upcoming special election process for this seat.

Moved: Joyce
Abstain: Ciccone

Seconded: Gelber

Passed Unanimously

7. Political Report – Cont'd

Rich Gelber reported on the Ceremonial Inauguration of Manhattan Borough President Stringer on Sunday, January 8 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The event was very well attended and, besides Scott's excellent inaugural address, featured remarks from Senator Chuck Schumer, N.Y.C. Comptroller Bill Thompson, and Rep. Jerrold Nadler, Scott's predecessor in the Assembly (and whom Scott served as Chief of Staff).

Gene Maxwell reported that Mike Cullen will attend the CWA District One Political Retreat upcoming in Saratoga Springs, NY.

8. Training Report

Paul Vasquez reported that BURST is continuing development work on its new website, which should be up and running by April.

Jim Joyce is working with BURST Chairman Joe Salvaggio of Local 11 to get additional cities to commit to participate in Avid training under CWA-NETT Academy sponsorship.

9. Organizing Report

Jim Nolan reported on continued organizing interest from two internal groups.

10. DK-DV Issues in Videotape

Bill Bores reported continuing concern over jurisdictional problems surrounding the "Mini-Me" ingest and dubbing operation in the Videotape area, connected with the Network Release facility. Some of this work is however, finally being done by NABET.

In the commercial ingest area, there has been at least one case of management using the videotape equipment associated with the ingest operation to screen commercials, which we believe represents a violation beyond the relief provided the Company under Sideletters "DK" and "DV".

There have also been cases of non-represented employees screening commercials on videotape in the HD area, which we believe is totally unsupported by any contractual provision.

11. Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session

Moved: Vasquez Seconded: Gelber Passed Unanimously

Motion to come out of Executive Session

Moved: Nolan Seconded: Ciccone Passed Unanimously

12. Funding Requests

The Board briefly discussed the possibility of making a nominal contribution to the Police Athletic League if no other recent contribution had been made (there has been).

No action was taken on this or the numerous other funding requests received.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Gelber

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