

2. Grievance and Arbitration Report – Cont'd

A WABC-TV Grievance Meeting was held on February 18. There is no vacation agreement in force at WABC-TV, and the Company continues to violate even its own unilaterally-determined rules. A grievance has been filed. There are continuing problems with the Opportunity to Work (“OTE”) provisions in the new contract, as well as with scheduling and notifications. The special WABC-TV ENG field meal buyouts have now been successfully renegotiated.

3. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber distributed the receipt and disbursement reports for February, 2004 and responded to Board members’ questions. Some income figures will have to be adjusted because of late receipt of income and dividend reports from the bank.

Gelber visited retiree Ron Godschalk at his home upstate. Ron is recovering from multiple bypass surgery and is overwhelmed with medical bills and other paperwork from that surgery and other surgery last year. Rich will help to the extent possible.

The Trial Body’s verdict in the charges brought by Rigoberto Brown against Richard Drummond are attached to these minutes.

4. Secretary-Treasurer’s Leave of Absence

President Maxwell reported that the Company has agreed in principle on the plan for Secretary-Treasurer Gelber to return to work at ABC two days per week, although there are some administrative details yet to be worked out.

Motion #04-007 from the previous meeting, postponed by Motion #04-008, was then placed in order for consideration as old business.

[Excerpt from February, 2004 minutes:

Motion (#04-007): To reduce payroll and associated costs in the Finance Committee Report by 9 % to reflect savings to be attained by the Secretary-Treasurer going back to work at ABC an average of two days per week.

Moved: Allen

Seconded: Boyarsky

Motion (#04-008): To postpone consideration of Amendment #04-007 until the next Executive Board meeting.

Moved: Nolan

Seconded: Vasquez

In Favor: Ciccone, Joyce, Gelber, Vasquez, Nolan, Burgos

Opposed: Bores, Allen, Boyarsky

Motion to Postpone adopted]

Motion #04-007 passed unanimously.

Abstain: Gelber

5. Retiree Medical Coverage – Supreme Court Case

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber reported on a recent Supreme Court decision which seems to settle (unfavorably, from Local 16's point of view) the question of whether younger employees, as opposed to older employees, can be a protected class under the law.

6. Disney Shareholder Meeting

President Maxwell and Vice-President Joyce reported on the recent Disney shareholders' meeting, as well as associated meetings called by CWA, and by former Disney Board members Roy Disney and Stanley Gold.

[At this point, G. Ciccone left the meeting.]

7. New Members

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

F. Bourassa S. Larkin R. Ransdell C. Vojvedich S. Harman

Moved: Vasquez

Seconded: Bores

Passed Unanimously

8. Political Report

Paul Vasquez reported on the CWA District 1 Political Retreat, held in Saratoga Springs, NY, over February 27 – 29. A written report will follow.

Paul discussed funding issues pertaining to Public Broadcasting in New York State.

Paul also requested the Board approve the purchase of a small journal ad and one ticket for the Working Families Party fund raiser to be held on April 15.

Motion (#04-015): To approve the allocation of \$325 for the purchase of one ticket and a journal ad for the WFP fund raiser on April 15, 2004.

Moved: Vasquez

Seconded: Joyce

In Favor: Joyce, Gelber, Bores, Allen, Nolan, Vasquez, Burgos

Opposed: Boyarsky

Motion Adopted

9. Training

Paul Vasquez reported that BURST is still awaiting word on the 501(c)3 application. Work continues on the BURST By-Laws. Training events involving Apple Computer are being planned for New York.

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

10. Harris Training

Jim Nolan reported that, although operations personnel are being trained on the Harris automation system that has been installed in the new TV-45 area, there does not seem to be any training in store for maintenance. President Maxwell will investigate.

11. Organizing

Jim Nolan reports some new approaches from several groups. Jim Joyce reported on the joint organizing project being set up by the New York State AFL-CIO.

12. Bargaining Study

Louise Novotny of the CWA Research Dept. is working on the wording of a survey to be sent out.

13. Executive Board Realignment

The Executive Board unit census and resolution of some data discrepancies continue.

14. Thomas Kennedy

Former NABET-CWA Network Coordinator Thomas Kennedy passed away last week after a long illness. The funeral is to take place this coming Saturday in Burbank, California. Jim Joyce will attend at Sector expense (as Sector Vice-President). Rich Gelber will attend partly at Sector expense (as Sector Regional Vice-President). Jim Nolan will attend at his own expense.

Motion (#04-016): To authorize up to \$1000 for Local 16 President Maxwell to attend Former NABET-CWA Network Coordinator Thomas Kennedy's funeral in California.

Moved: Joyce

Seconded: Nolan

Passed Unanimously

The NABET-CWA Sector is setting up a Thomas Kennedy memorial scholarship, with the details to be announced at a later time.

14. Thomas Kennedy – cont'd

The following resolution (#04-017) was adopted:

WHEREAS the late Brother Thomas F. Kennedy dedicated decades of his life to furthering the cause of unionism in general, NABET-CWA in particular, and all things Irish; and

WHEREAS Brother Kennedy served the membership of the Union faithfully and with distinction in many elected and appointed positions, including a long-term appointment as Network Coordinator, and as such was the chief spokesperson at ABC bargaining sessions that took place during the 1986 to 1995 time period ; and

WHEREAS Brother Kennedy's commitment and dedication to service to the membership of NABET-CWA was exemplary and leaves us all in his debt;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Board of Local 16 express its thanks, admiration and sincere condolences to the family of Brother Kennedy at this time of grief and sorrow; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as the family has requested, Local 16 shall make a donation (the amount to be decided at a future Executive Board meeting) to the scholarship fund that will be established in Brother Kennedy's name by the NABET-CWA Sector.

Moved: Joyce

Seconded: Nolan

Passed Unanimously

15. Copier Lease

A vendor proposal for a new photocopier and lease was presented to the Board by Secretary-Treasurer Gelber with no recommendation. No action was taken.

16. NYCOSH

The annual NYCOSH (New York Committee on Occupational Safety and Health) award dinner is to be held on May 14. Honorees this year include TWU Local 100 President Roger Toussaint, and Senator Hillary Clinton.

Motion (#04-018): To purchase two tickets, at a cost of \$200, for the 2004 NYCOSH award dinner.

Moved: Vasquez

Seconded: Joyce

In Favor: Joyce, Gelber, Bores, Nolan, Burgos, Vasquez

Opposed: Boyarsky

Motion Adopted

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The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Gelber

RLG:ph
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