

NABET-CWA Local 16 Executive Board

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, May 9, 2005
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
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 4:43 p.m.

1. Swearing-in of New Officers

NABET-CWA Sector President John Clark and CWA District One Vice-President Chris Shelton attended the meeting at the invitation of the Executive Board.

Sector President Clark administered the oath of office to newly elected Local 16 Executive Board Unit #2 Representative Frank Schiraldi, newly re-elected Executive Board Unit #4 Representative Dennis Allen, and newly re-elected Executive Board Unit #6 Representative Orlando Burgos. (applause)

CWA Vice-President Shelton administered the oath of office to newly re-elected Local 16 President Gene Maxwell and newly re-elected Local 16 Vice-President Jim Joyce. (applause)

Shelton then administered the oath of office to newly re-elected NABET-CWA Region #1 Vice-President Rich Gelber. (applause)

J. Clark and C. Shelton then departed from the meeting.

6. Political Report

Jim Joyce reported that CWA District One has “pre-endorsed” Assemblyman Richard Brodsky’s candidacy for New York State Attorney General, in advance of his formal declaration. No endorsement has yet been made in the New York City Mayoral election.

Jim was recently re-elected to the Executive Board of Citizen Action of New York. Citizen Action is considering endorsements in the N.Y.C. City Council races and the Brooklyn and Manhattan District Attorney elections.

Elected officials have recently been holding “town meetings” regarding the Bush Administration’s Social Security proposals. The Service Employees’ International Union has been conducting phone banking in opposition to these changes.

In Washington, the House of Representatives has restored the “old” ethics rules.

Paul Vasquez reported that the Working Families Party will consider its election endorsements on May 21.

7. Training

Paul Vasquez reports that BURST is working on ProTools classes and certification discounts.

President Maxwell reported that the Network Coordinating Committee has asked its locals to purchase some COMP-USA training vouchers in order to help reach the commitment that BURST has made.

Motion (#05-009): To purchase 10 COMP-USA discounted training vouchers at a cost of \$69 each.

Moved: Joyce Seconded: Vasquez Passed Unanimously

8. Organizing

The Board discussed the current status of ABC News Now. Efforts continue with other internal groups.

9. New Members

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

S. Yanez M. Gunzelman M. Lavergne E. Bennett
D. Stevens J. Pretnar

Moved: Ciccone Seconded: Gelber Passed Unanimously

10. Scholarships

Motion (#05-010): To award for the 2005-2006 school year, four James P. Nolan Memorial Scholarships and one Donald DiFranco Memorial Scholarship, each to be for \$1000. The application deadline will be June 24, and the drawing will take place the following week.

Moved: Allen Seconded: Burgos Passed Unanimously

11. Sector By-Law Committee Report

The Local 16 Sector By-Law Committee appointed at the previous meeting reported its recommendations.

Motion (#05-011): To submit to the 2005 NABET-CWA Sector Conference a Sector By-Law amendment proposal to delete the words “believes in,” in Sector By-Law 2.1.

Moved by the Committee
Passed Unanimously
Abstain: Ciccone, Allen

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

12. Funding Request

A request was received from CWA District One in connection with just-retired District One Vice-President Larry Mancino’s retirement dinner, to be held on June 23.

Motion (#05-012): To purchase two tickets and a half-page journal ad, at a cost of \$500, for retired CWA District One Vice-President Larry Mancino’s retirement dinner on June 23.

Moved: Vasquez Seconded: Nolan Passed Unanimously

13. Members’ Welfare

a.: The appointment of a Local 16 Labor Day Parade Coordinator is still pending.

b.: Patty Hildebrandt is collecting size information for the Shop Steward jackets.

c.: A flyer has been prepared by Bruce Giarraffa for promotion of the picnic and will be distributed by the Stewards.

16. Unit #7 Meeting

Paul Vasquez announced his intention to conduct a meeting of Executive Board Unit #7 (WABC-TV), pursuant to Local 16 By-Law 8.5, on a date to be determined, and invited all Local 16 officers to attend.

17. WABC-TV Buyout Offers

Twenty-seven engineers at WABC-TV have been offered buyouts. Depending on years of service, the severance terms offered were 8 weeks pay, 8 weeks pay plus one week per year of service, and 20 weeks pay plus 1 week per year of service. As provided for by the Master Agreement, Local 16 is conducting negotiations with the Company over these terms.

18. Harvard Negotiation Program

Orlando Burgos distributed literature regarding a program on labor negotiations periodically conducted at Harvard University and recommended participation by Local 16. President Maxwell promised to cover this as “old business” at the beginning of the June meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Gelber

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