



**2. Grievance and Arbitration Report – Cont'd**

During the negotiations, WABC-TV management eliminated editing upgrades that had previously been paid. NABET-CWA is considering an Unfair Labor Practice charge.

Dates for a WABC-TV grievance meeting and for continuation of the WABC-TV teleprompter negotiations are pending.

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber reported that Local 16 was able to get the Company to correct a network Desk Assistant's salary, which had been wrong for several months, and on which the News Department was non-responsive.

**3. Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

Secretary-Treasurer Gelber distributed the receipt and disbursement reports for August, 2003 and responded to Board members' questions. For the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2003, the overall receipts will be a few percent over budget. The disbursements will be close to ten percent under budget.

The Board discussed the costs of the recent contract ratification ballot mailing.

**4. New Members**

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

M. Abbenda  
W. Solem

N. Cap

E. Maxwell

D. Ray

Moved: Ciccone

Seconded: Joyce

Passed Unanimously

**5. Political Report**

Jim Joyce reported that yesterday was Primary Day in New York City. As usual, most City Council incumbents were not opposed in the Democratic Primary, and the continuation of a Democratic majority is a certainty.

Paul Vasquez reported that Annabel Palma of Local 1199 won a hotly contested City Council Primary Election in the Bronx.

The latest in the regular Republican proposals to change the City Charter is an attempt to ban the involvement of political parties from the primary election process. Among other effects, this would be bad for labor and the Working Families Party.

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**5. Political Report – Cont'd**

The U.S. Senate has passed the Harkin Amendment to block the Labor Departments extremely undesirable new overtime rules, and the White House has threatened a veto.

The FCC's rollback of the media ownership rules continue to be in trouble: the Senate has voted for a rollback, and an injunction was issued by a Federal Court in Philadelphia.

Joyce reported that CWA Staff Representative Larry deAngelis is again running for the Nassau County Legislature from the 3<sup>rd</sup> District.

Paul Vasquez requested to attend the National Conference on Media Reform, to be held in Madison, Wisconsin from November 7 through 9. After discussion, the following motion was proposed:

Motion (#03-016): To appropriate up to \$1700 for Paul Vasquez to attend the National Conference on Media Reform, to be held in Madison, Wisconsin from November 7 through 9.

Moved: Burgos

Seconded: Gelber

Passed Unanimously

**6. Training Report**

Paul Vasquez attended a BURST meeting earlier today. The ADOBE repeat performance BURST event will be held on October 8 at Local 11. A Pinnacle presentation will be the subject of an event on a date to be announced in November. The next BURST meeting will be held on October 24 at the Consortium for Worker Education office.

The Board discussed the AFL-CIO Working for America Conference, also in Wisconsin in November. President Maxwell will investigate how BURST is to be represented and whether it is necessary for Local 16 to send a delegate.

**7. Organizing Report**

Some leads are being followed up by Jim Nolan, and a proposal is forthcoming for a full-time position, probably to cover both Locals 11 and 16, and largely to be funded by CWA.

**8. Hunger for Justice Fund (Yale University Strikers)**

Jim Joyce reminded the Board of Local 16's considerable history of solidarity with H.E.R.E. Locals 34 and 35, which represent workers at Yale University, and which are on strike after lengthy and unsuccessful negotiations. The locals were extremely helpful to NABET-CWA in organizing a demonstration and sit-in during the 1998 lockout at the office of a Disney Board of Directors member.

Resolution (#03-017): Whereas the Local Unions comprising the Federation of Hospital and University Employees are on strike against Yale University, in New Haven Connecticut;

**8. Hunger for Justice Fund (Yale University Strikers) – Cont'd**

And whereas two of the Local Unions involved in the Yale strike, H.E.R.E. Locals 34 and 35, provided tremendous assistance to NABET-CWA Local 16 and 2700 NABET-CWA members nationwide in 1998, when we were locked out by Disney/ABC;

And whereas this assistance came in the form of Locals 34 and 35 organizing a demonstration of hundreds of labor activists at the office of Dean Robert Stern, a member of the Walt Disney Company Board of Directors;

And whereas the members of NABET-CWA Local 16 appreciate the assistance provided to us during our time of need;

Now therefore it be resolved that on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2003, that the Executive Board of NABET-CWA Local 16 unanimously pledges its support for the Federation of Hospital and University Employees in their fight for justice and dignity at Yale University;

And be it further resolved that the Executive Board of NABET-CWA Local 16 contributes \$500 to the “Hunger for Justice Fund” to provide assistance to the Yale union families during their time of need.

Moved: Nolan

Seconded: Ciccone

Passed Unanimously

**9. CWA Convention Report**

Convention Delegates Maxwell, Joyce, and Gelber jointly reported on the CWA Annual Convention, just concluded in Chicago, Illinois. Because there were no officer elections this year, the convention lasted two days, instead of three. Robert Lilja, President of CWA Local 1104, was re-elected, unopposed, to represent District One on the Defense Fund & Relief Fund Oversight Committee. Bob is also Chairman of the committee. Five of the nine announced Democratic Presidential candidates (Dean, Lieberman, Kerry, Gephardt, and Kucinich) addressed the Convention. No CWA endorsement has yet been made. Numerous resolutions and appeals were considered. Both NABET-related appeals were denied by the Convention. Convention delegates conducted large demonstrations at a downtown Verizon store, and at the Congress Hotel, where H.E.R.E. members are on strike.

**10. WABC-TV Issues**

President Maxwell reported that a meeting was held on the preceding Friday in WABC-TV General Manager Tom Kane’s office to discuss economic inequities at Channel 7. Gene and Jim Joyce and Paul Vasquez, accompanied by representatives of various departments, met with WABC-TV management to discuss numerous issues regarding disparity with the Network.

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The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Gelber

RLG:ph  
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