

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

September 7, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

President Koch called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. All Executive Board members were present except Cathy Jones and Stephan Zupkas.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Jeff Massie read the minutes of the August 3, 2004 Executive Board meeting. Bronwen Barry made a motion, seconded by Janette Hulett, that

the minutes of the August 3, 2004 meeting be accepted.

The motion *passed*.

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

New member lunches: Business Representative Steve Hulett reported that he and President Koch have been holding lunches for new members employed at various studios, at a rate of one or two a week. President Koch reported a generally favorable response. He would like to expand the lunch format to include others who may have questions.

Grievances and Studio Issues:

Cartoon Network writers: Hulett met with three CNS writers who were unhappy with having to join the Guild. He recommended to Brian Miller that all new employees should be informed that they are taking jobs that require Guild membership.

“Cooperative committee”: The committee will be having its first meeting with management during the IA /AMPTP quarterly meetings in Encino this month. Jeff Massie suggested that President Short and Joe Aredas be invited to attend. Among the items for the agenda will be discussion of animatic storyboards, the writer credits manual, long storyboard tests, and pre-tax child care accounts.

Organizing:

Film Roman: We have received seventy-five cards or so in the last six weeks, far and away the highest percentage of the studio we have had in fifteen years. We have a lunchtime organizing meeting set for September 9 at Local 44.

Electronic Arts: An EA employee has promised to get us a crew list with e-mail addresses.

July Films: There has been no word from Mike Nguyen since Dave Brewster's appearance at the August board meeting. Steve Hulett pointed out that *Curious George* is on another hiatus due to ongoing story problems.

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NeoPets: Following another negotiation session, Steve Hulett reported that no progress is being made. With employee support lukewarm at best, Hulett admitted he was “going nowhere,” and the time may be approaching where it may be best for us to walk away.

Renegade Animation: We still do not have more than a small handful of representation cards.

Sabella-Dern: This company is producing the *Alien Racers* series and payroll through Entertainment Partners.

Toonacious: Hulett has met with Tony Bancroft and other principals of this company which is subcontracting the *Tinkerbell Movie* DVD from Disney.

401(k) Plan: Hulett will be holding new enrollment meetings later this month for the fourth quarter enrollment.

The Trustees are looking at the possibility of replacing the Principal Financial Group as the Plan’s administrator. It has been felt that PFG has been too slow off the dime on important paperwork matters, although Hulett felt that to a certain extent the management trustees were blaming Principal for their own payroll foul-ups. The union trustees are trying to avoid the extra expense of hiring a third-party administrator.

Janette Hulett made a motion, seconded by Bob Foster, that

the Business Representative’s Report be accepted.

The motion *passed*.

OLD BUSINESS

Golden Awards: Jeff Massie made a motion, seconded by Dave Brain, that

the Golden Awards be postponed from November 6 to
April or May of 2005.

Massie and Brain reported that there has been very little response to the previous mailing to potential honorees, and they were concerned that there was not enough time to do a follow-up; Massie also pointed out that the November date would run up against the upcoming officer elections. Bob Foster was upset at the need to postpone the banquet.

The motion *passed*. Massie will speak to the Pickwick Center to get an idea of available dates.

Holiday gifts: Steve Newcomer was unable to provide samples in time for the instant meeting, but promised them for the October meeting, and said there would be no problem getting the gifts made up in time for the holiday party.

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The Board reviewed a proposal from former Vice-President George Sukara to supply membership gifts from his company. The sense of the Board was to continue with the Mike Perry Company for this year's gifts, but to give Sukara enough advance time next year to present a serious competitive bid.

Training funds: Erich Huelsman has reported that Friedman 3D may soon have a new ETP grant in place for Maya training.

OLD BUSINESS

Holiday party budget: Bob Foster made a motion, seconded by Jan Browning, that

the Executive Board recommend to the membership a budget of \$27,144 for the holiday party at the Pickwick Center on December 10, 2004.

The Board discussed whether to re-hire Trevor Tamboline as a d. j. or to go with other forms of entertainment such as a jazz or string quartet.

The motion *passed*.

Actors Fund banquet: Jeff Massie presented a proposal to contribute to an Actors Fund banquet honoring President Short. The proposal died for lack of a motion.

California Labor Federation; Proposition 72: Proposition 72 has been put on the November ballot by the state Chamber Of Commerce which is seeking to reverse the provisions of SB 2, the new state law that requires mid-sized to large employers to offer health insurance to their employees. Strangely, voters must vote in favor of the proposition in order to save SB 2.

The California Labor Federation is mounting a drive to pass Prop 72 and save SB 2. They have asked all locals to contribute \$2 per member to this cause.

Earl Kress made a motion, seconded by Janette Hulett, that

The Animation Guild contribute \$1,800 to the California Labor Federation to the campaign to pass Proposition 72.

The motion *passed* by a vote of seven in favor to six opposed.

Jeff Massie made a motion, seconded by Bronwen Barry, that

The Animation Guild contribute an additional \$1,800 to the California Labor Federation to the campaign to pass Proposition 72.

The motion received a *tie vote* of six in favor to six opposed. President Koch broke the tie in favor of the motion.

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Jan Browning and Steve Hulett raised points of order in objection to the previous motion after it was passed. In discussion, it became apparent that some Board members had voted for the first (Kress/Hulett) motion in the belief they could then vote on additional funds, not realizing that under Robert's Rules, the passage of the first motion should have resolved the issue, and that the second (Massie/Barry) motion should not have been recognized.

To resolve this issue, Jeff Massie made a motion, seconded by John Cataldi, to

rescind both previous motions (Kress/Hulett and
Massie/Barry)

Massie explained that he would subsequently introduce a motion to contribute \$3,600; if that motion failed, he invited Kress to introduce a motion to contribute \$1,800.

The motion *passed*.

Jeff Massie made a motion, seconded by Bronwen Barry, that

The Animation Guild contribute \$3,600 to the California
Labor Federation to the campaign to pass Proposition 72.

This motion *passed* by a vote of seven in favor, four opposed with two abstentions.

Pretax health care accounts: Mark Farquhar asked about this item, which President Koch said was on the Cooperative Committee agenda. Bronwen Barry asked if such plans could contribute towards COBRA contributions. She explained that if people with pre-existing conditions lose their COBRA or HIPAA options, they cannot get covered. Earl Kress explained that such accounts probably could not be used to supplement COBRA or other existing coverage.

ADJOURNMENT

Jeff Massie made a motion, seconded by Mark Farquhar, that

the meeting be adjourned.

The motion passed; the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey N. Massie
Recording Secretary