

**North Carolina Telecommunications Industry Association
Program Development Committee**

The Committee met January 6-7, 2005 at the Wilmington Hilton, Wilmington, North Carolina.

Present were: Brenda Dougherty, Sprint; Candy Finley, BellSouth; Herb Long, Ellerbe Telephone; John Wengert, Star TMC; John Wicker, Lexcom Telephone; Jim Humphrey, Tyco Electronics Power; Richard Royal, Nortel Networks; Tommy Nelson, Power and Telephone; Hal Carnes, CBW Communications; Steve Parrott, Sprint, Board Liaison; Charles Pickelsimer, Citizens Telephone, Board Liaison; Exec. Director Carole Woodward. Absent: Hayden McKenzie, North State; Stan Pace, Verizon ; Todd Murphy, US LEC; Charles Pickelsimer, Citizens Telephone; Tom Brady, CIENA; Earl Hester, TC&H Supply; Richard Yates, Network Op. Consulting.

Chairman Dougherty called the meeting to order, and thanked everyone for making the trip to Wilmington and for their service on the Committee. Appreciation was expressed to John Wicker for his service as Committee Chairman over the past two years.

NCTIA President Steve Parrott reviewed his 2005 Program of Work, noting the restructuring and strengthening of member services to increase value, increase participation and revenues. The former Convention Committee, now the Program Development Committee is charged with developing new ideas for new programmed events. The goal is new networking and revenue opportunities in the form of new programs that are knowledge based and offered at competitive prices. A new event for 2005 is the CEO Forum to be held with members of the NC Utilities Commission. The Program Development Committee will not oversee the events of other committees.

2005 Convention at Pinehurst- President Steve Parrott discussed negotiation strategies and progress with Pinehurst Resort for the 2005 NCTIA Convention. In an effort to increase attendance, the Committee will mail information out earlier – by May 15. Room rates include meeting room, all A/V needs, coffee breaks, use of hotel facilities such as the spa and 3 meals daily: Aug 21 Carolina Hotel \$219 single, 199 double, Manor House \$187 single, \$159 double. Sept. 11-14 rates increase to \$394 single and \$324 double. Jim Humphrey moved the 2005 NCTIA Convention be held at Pinehurst Aug. 21-23,2005. John Wicker seconded the motion that carried unanimously. After much discussion, the decision was made to shorten the Convention by one day – to adjourn with a Luncheon and featured speaker on Tuesday. Golf Tournament negotiations are continuing. The goal is to play #8 course at Pinehurst for \$100.

Featured Speakers for Pinehurst were discussed. Ideas: Jo Anne Sanford or Jim Kerr, Kevin Martin, Richard Burr, Hugh Shelton, Michael Durant (the pilot from Black Hawk Down). Convention themes related to golf were mentioned: Go for the Green, Stay Our of the Rough, Don't Get Trapped.

The Wilmington properties toured by the committee – Wilmington Hilton, Wrightsville Beach SunSpree, Blockade Runner were discussed. The committee's first preference is Wilmington Hilton. After reviewing dates and rates, John Wicker moved NCTIA enter into a contract, with a one year cancellation clause, with the Wilmington Hilton for August 27-29, 2006 at rates of \$119 per room. Tommy Nelson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The Committee will meet on February 10 in Raleigh from 10 to 3 to work on Convention Sub Committees, Theme, Speakers, Sponsors, Events as well as new programmed events for 2005 such as a golf tournament and issues based forums.