

North Carolina Telecommunications Industry Association Convention Committee

The Committee met October 4, 2004 via conference call.

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

Chairman Wicker called the meeting to order, and thanked everyone for their hard work at the Convention. Candy Finley served at the Registration Desk and all the events throughout Convention.

Old Business – Board Liaisons Hal Carnes and Charles Pickelsimer shared comments from the previous Board meeting regarding the Convention’s mission and purpose. The Board feels the Committee is doing an excellent job. The Associates Council meeting input was the same. Associate Members will attend Convention wherever it is held as long as the Member Companies support it through attendance.

Sub Committee Reports –

1. Golf Committee - Herb Long and Jim Humphrey reported rave reviews about the golf tournaments.
2. Convention Special Activities – Charles Pickelsimer, III reported rave reviews also from the various tours and special events. Candy Finley was instrumental in arranging for vans to transport the shoppers and Lowe’s Motor Speedway tour. BellSouth will pick up the cost of the refreshments and the van rentals.

Thank you, Candy.

Convention Entertainment during the Banquet – some thought it was too loud, others not loud enough.

Some comments were the right kind of music, others were mixed reviews.

Bingo - Charles discussed whether to order the larger bingo blower equipment or continue to use the drum and equipment that was purchased this year. The Committee agreed to keep the same equipment as used this time.

Convention Speakers – Richard Royal – Feedback on the speakers was varied – from the best ever to weak.

3. Hotel Contract and Food at Convention – Brenda Dougherty and Hal Carnes –next time we need to be specific regarding the premium brands, especially on the beer. Attendees were disappointed in the selection of beer in the hospitality area.
4. Sponsorship – Tommy Nelson – was instrumental in leading a task force that called the week prior to convention and acquired all the major sponsorships needed. Thank you, Tommy!
5. Communications/Media -John Wengert – Registration– Candy Finley, Frances Carr–Meal tickets worked well. No problems at the Registration desk.

Post Convention Attendee Evaluations - Comments from the attendee evaluations were reviewed and discussed.

Financial Report – Executive Director Woodward reviewed the Ballantyne invoice which contained a number of billing errors. She will talk with Ballantyne regarding correcting these mistakes.

2005 Convention – Jim Humphrey moved the 2005 NCTIA Convention should be in Pinehurst. Hayden McKenzie seconded the motion that carried unanimously. Incoming President Steve Parrott will negotiate with Pinehurst for Dates and Rates.

The Committee will travel to Myrtle Beach to tour the Myrtle Beach Marriott on November 4-5, 2005.