

April.lcatv

Lake Champlain Access Television
Meeting of the Board of Directors in Colchester, VT
April 20, 2009

Present: Ron Stotyn (RS), Kary Towne (KT), Sam Conant (SC) Dick Pecor (DP), Peter Russom (PR), Kevin Christopher (KC)
Staff Buddy Meilleur

Call to Order: DP called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm

Public / Board Member / Staff Comments:

There were none at this time.

Approval of the Minutes of 3/30/09:

RS made the motion, SC second, to approve the minutes of 3/30/09. Motion approved.

Executive Director's Report

Fairfax/Westford/Georgia: SC talked with at BFA St. Albans school administrator about the situation of content sharing with St. Albans PEG and LCATV. The administrator is willing to contact St. Albans PEG to discuss and will get back in touch with SC. SC will report back to the Board. The issue for us is community service. Our Board reiterated the previous information from Comcast that they are not going to finance up to \$500,000 for new lines.

Web platform: KC anticipates soft launch in early May '09.

2011 Contract: KC has met with Greg and has action plan in place. There are plans to set up more concentrated sector group meetings. KC is also looking for an attorney who is willing to work pro bono. SC suggested contacting Maureen Garafano for possible names. A list of sector groups might include the following community groups: education, municipal, religious, performing and fine arts, youth, seniors, agricultural and other not-for-profits such as Eagles and Grange. SC is a member of Rural Vermont and will check on possibilities through this organization. DP suggested the UVM Extension Program to include 4-H. DP suggested Rec Departments and RS suggested the professional organizations (MD, Dentists, Chiropractors, PT, lawyers) and academic professionals (college professors). Another contact is the Economic Development staff in our service area. If anyone has other ideas, contact KC.

Digital Media Grant: Georgia is working out the final details for their grant funds and should be purchasing equipment after the May Trustees meeting. KC will be attending the next Select Board Meeting to offer more information. KC is working with Gisele at the Burnham Library on their summer programs.

New Facility Exploration: KC expects to visit properties at the end of April and into May. He will keep the Board up to date on this.

Miscellaneous:

KC is working on the annual reports which he hopes to have completed in May

KT was reappointed to a 3-year term by the Milton School Board.

Voting for the Milton Public rep is open until May 1st. Voting can be done online or by paper ballot. PR is running for this position.

KC reported on upcoming events:

May 8th VAN Meeting in Hyde Park (all day meeting)

May 21-22 Alliance for Community Media North East Regional Conference at Champlain College

CCTV hosting 25th anniversary Retrospective at Waterfront Main Street Landing. Contact KC if interested or check cctv.org for more information and to RSVP

RS suggested our staff wear name tags when attending these events identifying LCATV's attendance.

POLICY REVIEW:**First Reading of Policy #7: (formerly Policy 8)**

The Board engaged in lengthy conversation during the policy review. Discussion included such areas as our policy making rights, federal law, cash donations to personnel versus non-profits, product donations and conflict of interest. It was noted that there is much time at the end of programs acknowledging sponsorship, grants and such and wondered if we are held to a different standard due to funding sources. In looking to the future, if funding sources change, we might want to say something about fundraising or other funding sources. The discussion changed direction as we focused on producers, not non-profits. We asked ourselves to determine what the problem is we were trying to fix and what did we not want the station to do. RS felt the current title was too vague and needed to be more specific. He also noted that LCATV doesn't permit payola as defined by Federal law. KC wants to make it is clear that citizens cannot borrow our equipment with the intent of making money. After further discussion, we agreed on the language. KC will make the changes and bring it to the next Board meeting for second reading. RS made the motion, PR second, to refer Policy 7 to the next meeting for second reading and adoption.

Second Reading of Policies 4,5,6:

More changes had been made in the past few days to include merging policies 4 & 6 into the new policy 4. In reviewing Policy 5, there was a question about the disclaimer at the end possibly being move to the beginning of the program in a simplified form (a crawl). KC reported that our playback system cannot do this. The Board did make some minor changes about disclaimer, essentially for legal protection. RS made the motion, SC second, to adopt policies 4 & 5 as amended. Motion passed. Note that policy 6 stricken.

Treasurer's Report

KC presented the balance sheet as of March 31, 2009. The total current assets are \$371,732.41. The next funding check is expected by mid May '09. KC commented that we will notice some reorganization, specifically pulling out web site work as separate category which will be coming from reserves. LCATV will also be doing same thing for upgrades such as the new modulators received last month. More equipment is coming (video amplifier) which is expected to increase video quality. RS asked if LCATV were approved to add Fairfax and Westford, would we need to consider another channel. KC reported that this could likely be the case and he would have to go to Comcast with a complete plan outlining the needs for a third channel.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as read.

Other Comments:

DP would like to add a new agenda item ' new business' starting next month. The Board thought this was a good idea.

RS wondered if, anticipating a meeting with Mike Simoneau, LCATV would have to enter into an agreement with him? KC reported that we do not have to enter into an agreement at this time. If we settled upon a location, we would have to make some sort of agreement with a realtor.

LCATV has not found a summer intern. The Board suggested checking with Champlain College , Burlington College or even finding a highly qualified HS student.

Executive Session

There was no need for Executive Session.

Adjournment

SC made the motion, PR second, to adjourn the meeting at 7 pm. Meeting adjourned. KC will set the next meeting up via email to Board members.

Respectfully submitted,
Kary Towne
Secretary