# LAKE CHAMPLAIN ACCESS TELEVISION

# Meeting of the Board of Directors Lake Champlain Islands Economic Development Corporation April 8, 2015

**Present:** Sam Conant, Ken Rocheleau, Bob Shea, Curt Taylor, Bob Sekerak, Carol Jones,

**Kevin Christopher** 

# Call to order:

Sam called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

### **Approve Agenda:**

Carol made the motion, Ken second, to approve the agenda. Motion approved.

# **Public / Board Member/ Staff Comments:**

There were no comments at this time.

# Approve Minutes of 1/28/15

Bob Sekerak made the motion, Carol second, to approve the minutes of 1/28/15. Motion passed.

# **Executive Director's Report:**

Kevin updated the Board on events over the past few months. The March elections and town meeting coverage went well. There were 8 forums leading up to a busy election night.

The Gallery @ LCATV is doing well. There are 2 photographers who have their work up currently. The Milton Artist Guild is scheduled to follow. The Gallery is booked through Spring '16. Receptions have been well attended. Advertising for the Gallery has been done via a promo video, a listing on our calendar and local papers. Front Porch Forum is another option which might increase visitors.

The next VAN meeting is 5/1/15 in Brattleboro. Board members are invited to attend. There will be a demonstration of live broadcasting at this meeting. Currently LCATV does live coverage of the Milton Select Board meeting.

Kevin was asked if LCATV is covering all the Select Board meetings in our territory. There has been no request from South Hero or North Hero for this service so it is not being done. LCATV is covering the school board meetings in all towns.

Sam wanted to know how we advertise our trainings. Kevin reported that they are advertised in the local papers and on our website.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Carol presented the financial statements and answered questions from the Board. Total current assets as of March are \$630,482.38. The Board accepted the report as presented.

#### **Old Business:**

Friends of LCATV:

The Board discussed this at length. There were lots of questions about how it might work. Kevin has done some research and is looking to see how others work – from having a mission statement to anticipated outcomes. He has contacted the Colchester Library to talk about how their *Friends of Burnham Library* functions. The Board felt that this could increase our volunteer base, bring in others who want to contribute / support us in some way and be a potential fund raising / philanthropic component of LCATV.

Bob Sekerak reminded us of our idea at the summer retreat (teaming up with RETN for coverage of in depth topics) and felt this complemented the Friends of LCATV concept nicely. Kevin has been working on this. He has met with RETN and the next step is to get St. Michael's College involved. He is working on a presentation to St. Mike's.

The Board is excited about these initiatives which could increase our presence in our service area and beyond due to the collaboration with RETN.

## **New Business:**

Future of the Mobile Video Lab:

Kevin would like the Board to know he is concerned about the safety of the mobile lab when parked overnight in the outdoor lot at Creek Farm Plaza. The catalytic converter was stolen last year. He is concerned about the potential for more issues and the value it now brings to our station. He gave the Board a historical perspective. Currently the equipment in the van is outdated. Its usage has declined over the years, although Stephanie uses it for her summer camps. It is a great piece of advertising, though. It was suggested that we get some sort of security system for the van (overnight parking) or find another spot to park it – possibly SSTA. The question was asked if we really need a mobile classroom, or would a smaller vehicle to help transport equipment be more useful? Pros and cons of all options were discussed. It was decided that Kevin will get prices for the van without equipment. He believes the equipment can be taken out and repurposed. The van might be useful to a contractor or even as an ambulance. We will discuss this more at a future meeting.

Carol brought up the idea of producing content about the local businesses—Husky, Blodgett Ovens, Hazlett and Charlebois for example. Most of us don't really know what they do. This could show the vibrancy of our communities. Do we have the staff to do this? Kevin reported that time of year could be a factor but our staff definitely has the skills and expertise to do this. Everyone agreed that this was a good idea and merits further discussion in the future.

## **Executive Session:**

Not needed

# Adjournment:

At 6:46 p.m. Carol made the motion, Curt second, to adjourn the meeting. This meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kary Towne Secretary