



Board of Directors Regular Meeting

August 14th, 2023, at 6:00 pm

LCATV & via Zoom

Board of Directors in Attendance: Dirk Reith (DR), Greg Drew (GD), Ken Rocheleau (KR), Curt Taylor (CT)

Staff in Attendance: Kevin Christopher (KC)

1. Call to Order by Chair DR at 6:00 PM.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by GD to approve the agenda, second by KR, passed unanimously.

3. Public / Board Members / Staff Comments

GD mentioned that he is attending a workshop on recording interviews and using them for teaching.

4. Approve Minutes of 6/5/23 and 7/26/23

KC proposed several small corrections to both draft minutes.

Motion by CT to approve minutes of 6/5/23 and 7/26/23 with small changes, second by KR, passed unanimously.

5. Executive Director's report

KC reported that the LCATV gallery is back in operation after about 3.5 years of bare walls. A reception was held on Friday. About 20 people visited. There are artists scheduled through mid-January and more available. There was some discussion about how LCATV operates the gallery.

Summer camps are wrapping up. In November LCATV will start screening the crowd-source film Toy Story. There will be a screening at the Milton grange and several other locations.

KC also explained that LCATV is a member of the Alliance for Community Media - a national organization with regional chapters. This fall the Northeast region conference will be held in Burlington. KC would like to close LCATV for the three days of the conference. LCATV will still be on the air with regular programming. The hope is that board members will attend the conference. The Board agreed to KC's proposed closer of the studio for the three days.

KC also mentioned that the FCC is making licenses available for low power FM stations. The question is whether LCATV is interested in acquiring such a license. There was some discussion about the range of the coverage, the placement of an antenna, and whether LCATV has the capacity to support FM radio programming. The Board concluded that though it is an interesting idea, LCATV is not ready to take advantage of the opportunity.

6. Treasurer's Report

Director Jeff Hathaway (treasurer) was unable to make this meeting, so KC reported the financials. He stated that he had nothing big to report other than receipt of the 2nd quarter funding check. Revenue remains steady. Regarding

LCATV CD's, the one with Opportunities Credit Union matures August 21st. The CD is for \$108,268 and earns roughly .3% interest. KR mentioned an investment opportunity some banks are offering for those that can accept a somewhat higher risk. After some discussion, DR stated that he would look into investment options and report to the Board.

CT asked about vehicle expenses on the financials. After some discussion KC agreed to look into the matter more carefully and get back to the Board.

7. Old Business

a. FCC & Legislative Status Update

KC reported that there are some new appointments up for consideration at the federal level, so there may be progress. The issue brought up in a previous meeting regarding legislation that would effectively nullify franchise agreements has gone nowhere and may well not be a concern.

Vermont Access Network is beginning work on legislative proposals for the coming session.

b. Creative Content Producer

KC offered Rusty Baldwin (RB) the Creative Content Producer position and he accepted. RB is working on acquiring housing. There was some negotiation over salary (\$57,500), but it was within the range approved by the Board. KC needed to know how many hours a week will be required for the position. The Board decided on 37.5. JC stated that he is trying to get RB on board by mid-September for a scheduled shoot.

KC and RB have been working on what equipment RB requires. The cost for an appropriate camera and accessories is about \$14,680. The Board approved KC's budget parameters. KR asked about from where in the budget the funding would come. KC responded that this would be a good use of the State's grant of about \$45k. The Board gave permission for KC to purchase the necessary startup equipment for RB.

c. Community Outreach & Engagement Plan and Budget

KC reported no budget as yet. J Andrews (JA - the marketing entity) has submitted a plan for the Producer side of outreach. KC and JA have been fleshing out that plan and should be able to propose a budget soon. The Board Recruitment plan is being worked on by JA. JA plans to contact each of the Directors when she is back on scene. KC plans to have more on this for the board at the next meeting.

GD mentioned a marketing class at Champlain College that may be looking for a project on which to work.

8. New Business

a. Long-Range Planning & Possible Retreat

This agenda item was promoted by Jeff Hathaway, but because he was unable to make the meeting, the Board did not take it up. However, there was some discussion regarding a retreat in the Fall. KC will propose some dates. The location has yet to be determined.

9. Executive Session (*if needed*)

Not needed

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by GD, second by KR passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07

DRAFT Respectfully submitted by Curt Taylor – Secretary on September 16th, 2023.

Approved at 9/21/2023 meeting.