

Present: Armitage, Decker, Lurie, McLain, Urcan - Birmingham  
McFadden, Woodard – Beverly Hills  
Eads – Franklin

Absent: Heldt, Thorsby – Birmingham  
Heyman, Verdi-Hus – Beverly Hills  
Ettenson – Bingham Farms

Also Present: Borgon – Executive Director  
Currier - Attorney for Cable Board  
Rota - Bloomfield Community Television representative  
Martinico - Director of Technology, Birmingham Schools  
Visperas – Comcast representative  
Valentine and Glenn – Birmingham staff representatives

Chairperson McLain called the meeting to order at 7:47 a.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR CABLE BOARD MEETING HELD JANUARY 20, 2010**

Motion by Decker, second by Eads, that the minutes of a regular Cable Board meeting held on January 20, 2010 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Cable Action Committee**

McFadden reported on the status of the Cable Board's survey of its constituents. The survey is finalized and is at the printer today; it will be mailed later this week. McFadden related that input from the municipalities led to expanding the scope of the survey. Additionally, an online version of the survey will go active when the mailing goes out. There have been public relations efforts to promote the survey. Press releases have been forwarded to the Eccentric and Eagle newspapers.

Intellitrends staff has been an exceptional partner in terms of being interactive with their comments and feedback. McFadden asserted that the survey will be an excellent representation of what the Board wants to communicate to its constituents.

McFadden mentioned a recent event that underscores the dynamic nature of what is taking place in the industry. Google is planning to build and test ultra-high speed broadband networks in a small number of trial locations across the country. It intends to deliver Internet speeds more than 100 times faster than what most Americans have access to today with 1 gigabit per second, fiber-to-the-home connections. Google is preparing to offer service at a competitive price to at least 50,000, and potentially up to 500,000 people. McFadden stressed the importance of having a

profile of our constituents and understanding what they value to help determine where this body should go in terms of formulating long-range plans.

### **PEG Committee**

McLain commented on legislation that will affect PEG access. She received a response letter from Senator Carl Levin, indicating his support of House Resolution 3745 known as the Community Access Preservation (CAP) Act of 2009 to address the challenges faced by public, educational, and governmental (PEG) TV channels and community access television stations.

The PEG Committee is following up on a draft letter from the BACB addressed to the chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation as well as the minority ranking members of both of those committees. The letter is in reply to a correspondence from a consortium of cable and Internet providers addressing federal jurisdiction over Internet protocol.

Borgon stated that members of the PEG Committee will be meeting with Leslie Helwig from Bloomfield Community Television next week to begin negotiations on contract updates.

### **Personnel Committee**

No report

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Borgon reported that three new complaints were filed since the last meeting concerning billing problems, reception outages, and customer service. Two of the complaints have been resolved. Borgon said that he continues to receive calls from frustrated subscribers, many of whom do not file a formal complaint.

Last month it was questioned whether Comcast could include Channel 15 and 18 program information on the PEG station listing. This is not feasible because BACB programming shares a channel at the head end with Bloomfield Television, and there can be only one source ID shown on the screen.

Borgon related that he will provide a monthly financial report to Board members including a year-to-date income and expense overview and budget versus actual figures. He will present an amended budget for consideration at next month's meeting to incorporate expenses that were added since the FY 2009/10 budget was approved.

Board members are in receipt of an annual report filed with the Michigan Public Service Commission. AT&T remains at less than 20% penetration in the four consortium communities with respect to its U-verse product.

Borgon reported that he attended a February 11 event launching the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission. This is change from the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Advisory Board that has served the community since 1984 with information and programming about local issues and events that affect its residents.

The Comcast tour of Plymouth Call Center for Board members has been rescheduled for March 24 at 9:00 a.m.

McLain remarked that she and Ken McFadden attended the January 29 Focus on Forecasting 2010 Michigan Forum on Economic Regulatory Policy event and were involved in a discussion of public utilities and infrastructure. A representative of the BACB was invited to speak with staff at the Michigan Public Service Commission to share the Board's survey results.

### **COMCAST RELATED TOPICS**

Olivia Visperas, Comcast Affairs Manager, highlighted a notification in the Board's material regarding an upgrade to the onscreen cable guide for digital customers coming March 4. Customers will receive expanded capabilities including a hot link that will enable people to switch between standard definition and high definition channels. Comcast Internet customers who subscribe to Comcast cable television will have the ability to manage and schedule their DVR online. Visperas emphasized that customers will receive a message on the cable box about these upgrades as well as a phone call from Comcast advising people to reset some of their DVR settings.

Visperas reported that Comcast switched its Internet Security Suite for high speed internet customers from McAfee to Symantec's Norton Security. People who take advantage of this service should go to the Comcast.net and look for the security link.

McLain asked when Comcast will rebrand its TV, Internet and telephone services as Xfinity. Visperas explained that this is a rebranding of the Comcast product but not something that is being done in terms of the corporate name. Comcast will be doing national advertising, but the Xfinity rebranding has not reached the Michigan region at this time.

McLain commented that Comcast customers who cancelled their service may be contacted by Comcast with a message left on the door. If someone has a problem with this, they should call Comcast directly. McLain warned people that the digital economy service offered to those who wanted to move to digital without a high monthly bill is no longer available after a promotional period.

McLain referred to a January 31 Eccentric newspaper article that indicated that Bloomfield Township settled its Comcast lawsuit relative to moving PEG channels. Members of the Board attended a Comcast Community Connections awards program on February 4. It is worthwhile event where Comcast acknowledges its partnerships and outreach in the community.

McLain related that there was a question on a complaint form about a subscriber's social security number that was on file with Comcast as a means of identification. When he called to discuss his account, he found that the last four digits of the number associated with his account were incorrect. The Comcast escalation team discovered that those four number were recorded wrong a number of years ago. McLain suggested that people who call in with questions about their bill or service take the time to confirm which ID numbers are associated with their account.

**AT&T RELATED TOPICS**

The AT&T representative was not in attendance. McLain mentioned that the AT&T U-verse rebate to the Cable Board for \$7,790.00 is still in process.

**MLTV15/ PA 18 REPORT**

Rota presented the Bloomfield Community Television report on programming taped for Municipal Channel 15 (BAMA), PA Channel 18 (BAPA), and programming from BACB area organizations during the last month (information included in BCTV monthly report for January 21, 2010 – February 17, 2010).

Staff member Richard Green was invited to attend the Birmingham Historical Society Museum and Park Lecture at the Baldwin Library featuring speaker Balthazar Korab. The lecture highlighted the video produced and edited by Green.

A meeting occurred at Shain Park a few weeks ago that involved a walk through with vendors who were interested in running triax throughout the park. Two vendors attended, one from I.COMM and the other from Sound Planning Communications, Inc. The deadline for the bidding process is March 11 at noon.

Rota reported that he and Zack Florance have been in contact with ROSCOR, Bob Borgon and Elaine McLain relative to ongoing production truck issues. Problems are being addressed. Rota will report to the Board as soon as he receives further information from ROSCOR.

A Birmingham Presidents Council of Neighborhood Associations meeting will be taped on February 25 at the Baldwin Public Library. A special Franklin meeting will be taped in March to discuss their budget. There is a new show upcoming called “5 Star Cooking”. The next volunteer workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, April 13.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Lisa Martinico, technology director for Birmingham Schools, asked to be on the agenda for next month’s meeting to present a grant request from Birmingham Public Schools.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**BOARD COMMENTS**

McFadden stated that each member of the Board will receive a copy of the survey as it is finalized as well as a link to the survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.