

Present: Armitage, Decker, Heldt, Lurie, McLain, Thorsby, - Birmingham
Heyman, McFadden, Verdi-Hus, Woodard – Beverly Hills
Ettenson – Bingham Farms
Eads – Franklin

Absent: Urcan – Birmingham

Also Present: Borgon – Executive Director
Currier - Attorney for Cable Board
Rota - Bloomfield Community Television representative
Martinico - Director of Technology, Birmingham Schools
Clark - AT&T representative
Brogan – Comcast representative
Valentine and Glenn – Birmingham staff representatives
Briggs - Beverly Hills Council Liaison

Chairperson McLain called the meeting to order at 7:48 a.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR CABLE BOARD MEETING HELD MAY 19, 2010

Motion by Heldt, second by Ettenson, that the minutes of a regular Cable Board meeting held on May 19, 2010 be approved as submitted.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cable Action Committee

McFadden reported that Cable Action Committee members met with representatives from the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) last week to present the results of the Board's Resident Survey. The presentation was structured in a manner that presented the MPSC mission, goals and perceptions with respect to three key areas: competition, complaint process, and PEG issues.

Considering the mission of the MPSC video services division and the Cable Board, McFadden's overall perception was that there were areas with a high degree of correlation and similar concerns on the three key issues. The takeaway was that a solid relationship was developed with respect to competition, the complaint process, and PEG issues. The MPSC is another governmental agency on a different level but certainly with some of the same perceptions and philosophical underpinnings of the Cable Board. McFadden highlighted discussion with the MPSC on the desire for more competition and complaint resolution.

Decker added that the MPSC staff wanted the Cable Board to make its residents aware that they have a complaint process available if an individual does not find that their complaints are being

addressed either by the providers directly or the Cable Board. The MPSC is there as an avenue of last resort.

McLain said that she informed MPSC members that their contact information was on the Cable Board's website. The Cable Board is doing its best to partner with their organization considering that our goals are not always the same. Service to residents is the main focus of the Board.

Ettenson questioned MPSC statistics as to how many complaints were received to date. McFadden related that the MPSC received 1,030 complaints in 2008 and 1,025 in 2009. The Cable Board's survey results indicated that, within the four communities, only one percent of the people forwarded their complaints to the MPSC. McFadden added that the MPSC mentioned that the assistance provided by the Federal Communications Commission in terms of dealing with their complaints was less than satisfactory.

PEG Committee

Heldt reported that work is continuing on improving the infrastructure and connections at Groves and Seaholm High School pools and gymnasiums. There will be meetings to discuss the possibilities and parameters of athletic programming.

The PEG Committee has had discussions with Bloomfield Community Television staff about updated Access Policies and Procedures. Consideration of the document is on the agenda for today's meeting. Leslie Helwig has requested that the Board postpone action on this agenda item in order to make corrections in the draft.

Motion by Heldt, second by Ettenson, to postpone consideration of the BCTV Policies and Procedures manual until the next regular meeting of the Birmingham Area Cable Board.

Motion passed unanimously.

ADOPT BCTV POLICIES & PROCEDURES

This item was postponed to the next meeting.

GRANT REQUEST – VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS, BIRMINGHAM, FRANKLIN-BINGHAM FARMS PUBLIC SAFETY AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS

The Beverly Hills Public Safety Department, Birmingham Police Department, and Franklin-Bingham Police Departments have submitted requests to the Cable Board for a grant to cover the cost of monthly Comcast Internet access for their Department buildings. This would be a renewal of grants that were approved by the Board in June of 2009.

Motion by Heldt, second by Lurie, to approve grant requests from the Village of Beverly Hills Public Safety Department in the amount of \$720, the City of Birmingham Police Department in the amount of \$779.40, and the Franklin-Bingham Farms Police Department in the amount of \$830 for Internet access for the fiscal year to end June 30, 2011.

Motion passed unanimously.

McLain recalled that Wide Open West has offered to provide free cable drops in Beverly Hills when their system is established in that community.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Borgon reported that there were five new Comcast complaints since the last meeting. Four of the items have been resolved with one outstanding issue.

A confirmation letter was received from BCTV relative to extension of their contract for cable access management through June 30, 2011 at a rate of \$170,000 per year.

Borgon provided Board members with financial reports on the Fund Balance through May 31, 2010 and an income and expense report comparing the current budget with actual expenses. Letters were delivered to each municipality along with the 2010-2011 Cable Board budget.

The Board has received a new Freedom of Information Act request from Mr. Zimmerman with the comment that he did not receive a reply from a previous request for information. Borgon provided Mr. Zimmerman with the material requested and asked him to sign a document acknowledging the receipt of that information.

Borgon provided Board members with a copy of the NATOA Conference schedule for the annual conference to be held from September 30 through October 2 in Washington D.C. The Board will be selecting representatives to attend the conference at an upcoming meeting.

Borgon received a thank you letter from Doug Koschik from the Baldwin Library for a grant that will facilitate live broadcasting of Library Board meetings in the Rotary Room. Borgon has not received the AT&T credit this month. Plante & Moran will be preparing the Cable Board audit with the assistance of Borgon and Beverly Hills Finance Director Wiszowaty.

COMCAST RELATED TOPICS

Leslie Brogan, Senior Director of Government Affairs, stated that she will be the new Comcast liaison to the Cable Board. She referred to a communication sent to the Board with information regarding a change of name from Digital Classic to Digital Preferred, which will not impact pricing or the channels that customers currently receive. The letter notes a Late Fee charge increase from \$7 to \$8.

Brogon reported that 105 Michigan high school seniors were recipients of the 2010 Comcast Leaders & Achievers Scholarship awards. The ceremony was held on June 15 in Lansing. Brogon announced that Comcast invited the Board to attend a 3-D World Cup Soccer Game on Friday, June 25 at 9:30 a.m. at the Big Rock Chophouse in Birmingham.

McLain asked to meet with someone from Comcast to coordinate the complaint numbering system. She mentioned that she called two Comcast subscribers regarding their recent complaints to the company; they were both satisfied with the resolution from Comcast.

Ettenson referred to Complaint #5-23 regarding a question on the Eco-Bill procedure. He hoped that Comcast representatives understood that the Cable Board has nothing to do with the way a provider does business with their customers.

AT&T RELATED TOPICS

Greg Clark representing AT&T informed everyone that there are some new offers listed on the AT&T website. Clark reported on the National Network Disaster Recovery Exercise held in Dearborn on May 11, 2010.

Borgon questioned the status of the AT&T U-verse product rollout in the four consortium communities. He continues to hear from frustrated residents who live in close proximity to a AT&T box but cannot receive the service. Borgon asked if AT&T has plans to provide U-Verse to more residents in our communities.

Clark responded that the company's capital plan for this year has been announced. He related that there are new technologies under trial that will extend the reach to more homes in Michigan.

McLain asked questions regarding the number of HD streams AT&T subscribers can receive on their televisions. Clark will look into this and report back to the Board on the HD stream rollout.

WOW RELATED TOPICS

The Wide Open West representative was not present this month. Borgon observed that WOW cable installation trucks are beginning to appear in Beverly Hills.

BAMA/BAPA REPORT

Steve 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 May 20, 2010 – June 16, 2010).

Rota reported that he met with a WOW technician to take a look at the BCTV hub site in order to research their connection to Channels 15 and 18. The next volunteer camera workshop is scheduled for Thursday, July 15. There is a morning and evening session.

McLain thanked Rota for preparing a log documenting all of the problems experienced with the production truck since September of 2008. Due to careful documentation by BCTV staff, the Board has been able to negotiate repair issues and extended warranties. In answer to an inquiry, McLain related that the Board has not been charged for any of the repairs made to the truck.

OLD BUSINESS

Carol Woodard related that she was happy to have been part of the Cable Board for the last nine years. Today is her last meeting. When she started on the Board, there was one cable provider and a lot of control; now there are three providers and less control. Woodard said that she has witnessed the Cable Board becoming stronger through the years. Dorothy Pfeifer was appointed to take her place as Beverly Hills representative on the Cable Board.

On behalf of the Board, McLain stated that Carol Woodard would be missed.

NEW BUSINESS

Martinico announced that this will be her last meeting as she will be retiring from her position as Executive Director of Technology with the Birmingham Public Schools effective July 1. She has been sitting in on Cable Board meetings for 19 years. Martinico said that she started in this profession producing cable television with students as a teacher before cable came to our communities.

Martinico said that Birmingham Public Schools values its association with this Board and is grateful for the grant money issued to students in the four communities over the years. The Birmingham School Board will be replacing her and a successor will be named shortly. Martinico thanked the Board members and said that it was a pleasure to come to a meeting and see people who are dedicated and who serve their communities with good will.

McLain thanked Martinico for her years representing Birmingham Schools on the Cable Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.