

Present: Heldt, Kelly, McLain - Birmingham
Borgon, Heyman, Schneider, Verdi-Hus – Beverly Hills
Ettenson – Bingham Farms

Absent: McAlear - Birmingham
Stakhiv – Franklin

Also Present: White - Executive Director
Currier - Attorney for Cable Board
Kowalski - Bloomfield Community Television
Galbraith – Birmingham Schools representative
Thomas – Birmingham staff representative

McLain called the meeting to order at 7:45 a.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

APPROVE MINUTES OF CABLE BOARD MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 19, 2014

A change was made to correct the spelling of Michael Willner's name on page 3.

Motion by Heldt, second by Ettenson, that the minutes of a regular Cable Board meeting held on November 19, 2014 be approved as amended.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hildreth Buterbaugh on Dunblaine in Beverly Hills had comments and questions on the pending transfer of Comcast to new cable supplier. He hoped that subscriber services received under the current Comcast franchise agreement would not be lost with a new cable company.

Kathleen Berwick on Kennoway Court in Beverly Hills related chronic problems she has experienced with Comcast cable and phone service over a number of years. She thanked Elaine McLain for taking her call and escalating issues to the correct Comcast representatives, which led to the resolution of her problems.

MULTI-BANK SECURITIES, INC. PRESENTATION

McLain welcomed Charles Kipp, Vice President of Multi-Bank Securities Inc., an institutional fixed-income securities broker-dealer headquartered in Southfield, Michigan. Mr. Kipp presented an overview of MBS and how it serves the Cable Board to maximize the safety, liquidity and yield of its investments. Under Michigan Public Act 20, Multi-Bank Securities has provided FDIC insured CDs to keep all of the Cable Board funds insured at all times including the interest. Multi-Bank uses a ladder strategy, which means that they buy CDs with varying maturities to maximize interest rate earnings and ensure liquidity. Kipp distributed a Corporate Fact Sheet for Multi-Bank Securities, Inc.

Kipp informed the Board that the National Association of Counties (NACo) announced that the NACo Financial Services Center (FSC) has launched a new, exclusive partnership with Multi-Bank Securities, Inc. to help its members manage their fixed-income investment needs through a robust online platform, eConnectDirect Designed by MBS. McLain thanked Charles Kipp for his presentation.

APPROVAL OF BCTV TO FILM SEVEN SPORTING EVENTS

Heldt stated that Birmingham Public Schools has asked that seven winter sporting events be taped and broadcast by Bloomfield Community Television.

UPCOMING WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

Wrestling	- December 17
Boys Swim & Dive	- January 22
Girls Basketball	- January 27 and February 19
Boys Basketball	- February 3 & February 27
Hockey	- February 21

Motion by Ettenson, second by Borgon, that the Birmingham Area Cable Board authorize seven broadcasts of area High School sporting events by Bloomfield Community Television at a cost of \$2,500 per broadcast.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passed (8 – 0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cable Action Committee

Verdi-Hus reported that the Cable Action Committee met on December 4. The Committee discussed Chairman McLain's visits to the member municipalities to discuss the Transfer of Control Resolution. There was a follow up on the annual audit, the fund balance policy, and calculation of administrative grants to the municipalities. The next Cable Action Committee meeting will be on January 8, 2015 at 5:30 pm at Baldwin Public Library.

PEG Committee

The PEG Committee will meet following the regular Cable Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director White stated that four complaints were received since the date of her last report. All of the complaints involved service issues, three with Comcast and one with AT&T. All but one has been resolved. A complaint from a Franklin resident with Comcast Internet problems is pending. Financial information has been provided to Board members by email and is also included in the packet.

White noted that the date of the February Cable Board meeting has been changed from February 18, 2015 to **February 25** since the earlier date fell on Ash Wednesday. Pursuant to City Ordinance, Birmingham has no meetings on that date.

The City of Birmingham has provided the Board with a breakdown of the grant request approved by the Board in the 2013-14 fiscal year for cable and Internet related services and the amounts actually spent for these services. This grant reconciliation information is included in the meeting packet.

The National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) has forwarded a dues notice for 2015. Based on the population of the four member communities, the dues will be \$645.00; funds are available for this purpose in the 2014-15 Cable Board budget.

Motion by Heldt, second by Ettenson, that the Cable Board authorize the Executive Director to make a payment of \$645.00 to NATOA for its 2015 Cable Board dues.

McLain related that the Cable Board authorized an expenditure for the Board chairman to attend the 2014 NATOA Conference. Due to costs related to attending and the topics proposed for that conference, McLain did not attend. She conducted online research on the conference content. McLain would not recommend attending the 2015 NATOA conference unless they post an appropriate local agenda. She affirmed that membership to NATOA is valuable in terms of taking advantage of its resources, online programs, and contacts.

Roll Call Vote:
Motion passed (8 – 0).

Chairman Elaine McLain was interviewed by a reporter from Downtown Birmingham Bloomfield news regarding what to expect from the Comcast Time Warner merger and the impact on PEG access fees. The article is included in the meeting packet.

Questions from Borgon on the City of Birmingham grant request breakdown were addressed by Amanda Thomas. An inquiry on the Birmingham Ordinance that resulted in changing the February Cable Board meeting date was answered by Tim Currier.

PROVIDER RELATED ITEMS

Comcast

McLain reported that she attended Council and Commission meetings of all four communities to talk about the FCC Form 394 Transfer of Control process. Each of the consortium communities have adopted the Resolution Granting Consent to the Transfer of Control of the Cable Television System. Fred Eaton, Senior Manager for External Affairs for Comcast, attended the Franklin and Birmingham meetings with McLain. McLain thanked Tim Currier for his due diligence in addressing comments and questions on this topic.

Greg Kowalski commented that Bloomfield Township franchise renewal negotiations with Comcast are continuing.

AT&T

The representative was not present.

WOW

The representative was not present.

Borgon related that he had a discussion with Birmingham Commissioner Dilgard who asked if Aljazeera network news coverage is available through any of the cable providers in the consortium. Borgon asked Executive Director White to follow up on this.

BAPA/BAMA REPORT

Greg Kowalski highlighted programming outlined in the written report from Bloomfield Community Television 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 November 20, 2014 through December 17, 2014).

The next camera workshop has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 27, 2015 from 10:00 am to noon or 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Call 248-433-7790 to sign up. The upcoming winter sports schedule was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Borgon requested that holiday music be played when the billboards are running on PEG channels.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

McLain reported on her recent meeting with the Cris Braun, the new Executive Director of the Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council. BASCC President Bob Borgon commented that the Senior Center will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights beginning in January. Hours have been extended to 55 hours per week including Saturday hours and three evenings. Events include lectures, pickle ball, and exercise classes and more.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hildreth Buterbaugh from Beverly Hills talked about how residents do not have to subscribe to any of the cable services to receive digital television.

BOARD COMMENTS

Heyman responded to Borgon's query about Aljazeera network. It is available on the Comcast Digital Preferred Plan and up.

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