

CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD

APRIL 08, 2016 MINUTES

A meeting of the Cable Television Advisory Board was held Friday, April 8, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Members of Committee present: Andrew Cernota
Bruce Codagnone, IT
Steven Gallipeau, Fire Chief
Sally Hyland
Paul Johnson, Citizen Representative
Ed Lecius
Jennifer McCormack
Alderman David Schoneman
Alderman Lopez

Members of the Committee absent: Larry Artz, Citizen Representative
Dorothy Clarke, Esquire
Rick Farrenkopf
Brian Geraghty
Alderman Dan Moriarty

Also present: Jeff Poehnert
Pete Johnson

PUBLIC COMMENT

Andrew Cernota

Alderman Lopez you're as close to a member of the public as we have. Did you have something that you wanted to say to us at the beginning?

Alderman Lopez

No I'm just interested in finding out what this Committee does so I'm more well-rounded.

Andrew Cernota

Since there are no other members of the public present, we'll move on to acceptance of minutes from previous meetings.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

**MOTION BY ED LECUIS TO ACCEPT MINUTES FROM THE MEETINGS OF MARCH 11, 2016
MOTION CARRIED**

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - None

PEG MANAGER'S REPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Jeff Poehnert

Our current balance of the operating account 2505 is \$468,399.61. Our expenses for March 2016 including salaries and facility operations totaled \$22,594.79. We had 1,139 cablecasts total in March. Of this we had 30 live events and this broke out to be Education 99 - 14; Government 16 - 16. We had 1,109 playbacks and of this we had on Public 96 – 542; Education 99 – 366; and Government 16 - 201.

Also because I had reported this in previous meetings, we did get the new amplifier in here and the company came and reset the whole system. Hopefully we're good to fly now in here. The other thing is that I hadn't put in here that the fire alarms over on our side of the building over in DPW are not working so they're coming out probably next week to get everything fixed. Our alarms work but when you actually go to pull it, it goes to the Fired Department but the alarms don't go off in our studio so we have to get those fixed. That's something that will come up when we get the bill.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Education Channel 99

Pete Johnson

One other thing of interest as well. As of this week, we've gone to our 8,900th program that we've put onto the server. We've had that now about 7 years. A lot of programs that we've produced over the last 7 years. Some of those were the education channel for February and March. March included Eye on Education program that had the BG, North, and South Class Presidents on it. The 2nd we recorded Memorial at Nashua girls basketball. The 3rd we did Conant at South unified basketball. On the 5th we recorded Dover at Bishop Guertin girls' basketball. On the 8th, we recorded a new Seniors Count program on pain management. Also on the 8th we did the boys Jr. Bidy basketball final that was held at Amherst Street Elementary School. On the 9th we did the girls Jr. Bidy basketball final. That was also at Amherst Street School. On the 12th we recorded Trinity at Bishop Guertin hockey game at Skate 3. Also on the 12th, a busy day, we did Memorial at Nashua North boys' basketball. These were all part of the NHIAA State tournaments. All of these things were going on either right after another or in some cases simultaneously. On the 12th also we did the Memorial at Nashua North boys' basketball game and then later in the evening we did Bedford at Bishop Guertin girls' basketball. That was the State Championship game and that was held at Southern NH University. On the 15th we recorded a Nashua Historical Society program on the Civil War. On the 16th, we did live coverage of the Board of Education's public hearing on the 2016/2017 school budget. On the 19th, we recorded Bishop Guertin versus Bedford boys' hockey. That was also a State championship game at the Verizon Wireless arena. On the 21st we did the drug abuse prevention meeting at Ledge Street School. On the 31st we recorded the Bishop Guertin Red Bird Jazz Concert that was held over at BG High School.

Mr. Gagnon is on his way over. He should be here momentarily.

Andrew Cernota

Are there any questions of Mr. Johnson or Mr. Poehnert?

**MOTION BY ED LECIUS TO ACCEPT THE PEG MANAGER'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS PRESENTED
MOTION CARRIED**

- Access Nashua

Dick Gagnon

Good morning. Access Nashua is constantly expanding our new programming each month. In March, we were not able to add additional series and we have four new series in the pre-production cue. They are Living United with Nashua businesses which will be produced by United Way. Am Familia hosted by Jose Luna and it is in Spanish. Nashua Strong will be produced by Harvey Key and we are hoping to get them out of the cue and on the air this month.

We recorded the 2016 Groundhog breakfast and the 2016 Wild Irish Breakfast for the 5th year in a row. A music show that our producer has been working on for a few months now aired their first 2 episodes of the 9 that have been recorded. They will be coming out more regularly at this point.

We are still working with our 3 interns. We will be having a fourth intern start up this summer as well. For the month of March our producers produced 55 new episodes for the patrons of Access Nashua to view on Channel 96 and on our video on demand page of our website. I have taken a break in trying to recruit new shows. Well a little bit of a break and our people are still approaching us with their ideas for shows. The reason I take a little bit of a break is because Dan's at the max and we're 4 to 6 weeks out before we can really start working on a new show. That's all I have.

Andrew Cernota

Any questions? If not is there a motion?

**MOTION BY BRUCE CODAGNONE TO AND PLACE ON FILE ACCESS NASHUA'S REPORT
MOTION CARRIED**

- Education Committee

Ed Lecius

The committee will be meeting on April 12th. So nothing more to add to what Mr. Pete Johnson reported.

OLD BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS - NONE

REMARKS BY MEMBERS

Jeff Poehnert

Just something I wanted to ask and I'm not quite sure what avenue to pursue this in. Last night we had a meeting up in the auditorium and then the Planning Board had to go to Room 208 of which we're not "equipped" to do. We had to set it up like it's on a remote but over in DPW, and I realize DPW eventually is going to move, we had that conference room. It's all set up to do a meeting with 3 cameras. If Planning Board could have done it over at DPW and we could have just stepped in and recorded it. It was all right and we could do it but the room was much smaller than the conference room at DPW. I don't know what avenue to pursue on that but it would be nice if that's where something like that could occur now in that conference room and then we could cover it easily.

Andrew Cernota

I'm not sure who does the scheduling of where the meetings are located.

Bruce Codagnone

I think one of the constraints with that is if people don't get the message that the meeting has changed because normally they're in the auditorium for that meeting and because of a Mayor's meeting it got moved. They did put a sign outside the auditorium for them to go to 208. If they had to tell people to go to Riverside, that would be a real inconvenience for people that needed to attend that meeting. I think that's part of the reason why he stayed within the confines of City Hall.

The other thing we can do is fitting up 208 as a room. I doubt they'll be using the DPW conference room for that because now they've moved that to City Hall and eventually we'll have to fit up Burke Street for a video room.

Pete Johnson

Anything been thought when Comcast when negotiations went forward and looking for a place to – if the Education Department moves over there, we do meetings 3 times a week from Ledge Street office building now. Was any thought given that there will be another location or a move in location when the contract was negotiated?

Bruce Codagnone

Well none of these buildings were even thought of or even who's going to move into those buildings were thought of when the franchise agreement was going on. It is now discussion going on about putting in something in there because school is going to be there and Public Works will be there.

We should be building out a video room for meetings in the future over there. I think the big question is the cost and the funding in order to do that.

Jeff Poehnert

That was my thought so in 208 what is the cost to do it. I also was thinking the same thing as far as well it's all contained within City Hall. That in itself I just hate to see that sitting over there. We could cover it properly with 3 cameras. Our guy would just sit down and do it.

Pete Johnson

The other thing this room was not in use but I don't believe they can utilize this room other than for Aldermanic meetings.

Alderman Lopez

I'm not sure the answer to that question. I know they have other meetings here. I don't know if they're always chaired by an Alderman.

Alderman Schoneman

That I don't know because it's owned by the Board of Aldermen. I think it has to go through that.

Jeff Poehnert

I think there's some Ordinance that I remember somewhere along the line this came up and no you can't use it. Don't quote me on that. I'm not sure.

Sally Hyland

Just a quick question. I'm assuming all the equipment that's now at Riverside can be moved easily to Burke Street, right?

Jeff Poehnert

Not easily but it will cost.

Pete Johnson

It's all in the walls and everything.

Jeff Poehnert

It would have to be recabled but obviously yeah.

Pete Johnson

The last time it took about \$8,000 just to move it I believe upstairs from downstairs.

Bruce Codagnone

I think it would be not a good idea to move that equipment to Burke Street because that is the old equipment. That was actually pulled out of the auditorium. So I think if we fit up Burke Street, we should be looking at high def. and putting in more state of the art technology into Burke Street for the future and not taking the old leftovers and trying to move them over to Burke Street.

Jeff Poehnert

Yeah that equipment actually is the analog world. The old world. It worked fine for DPW for that meeting but I suppose yeah it's time has come.

Alderman Schoneman

Could that equipment then be used in 208?

Jeff Poehnert

It could be.

Alderman Schoneman

So it's suitable. It's functional and all that?

Jeff Poehnert

It's still functional. Correct.

Alderman Schoneman

That might be a solution then. Thanks.

Sally Hyland

Then someone should be speaking with the – I guess they're picking an architect soon for Burke Street and someone should be really clarifying to that firm what is going to be needed for a media center.

Pete Johnson

Did I see in the paper that there was some sort of a walk through for the public maybe tomorrow morning?

Sally Hyland

That was last Saturday.

Pete Johnson

Maybe we could find somebody that could bring us over and look at the space and see what would work and at least put that on somebody's radar.

Alderman Schoneman

Alderman David Deane is in charge of the committee that's taking a look at that building. If anyone needed a tour through there or a group get together to go and take a look at these things, I think he'd be the guy to contact and I'm sure he would arrange it for you.

Bruce Codagnone

I've also asked to be on the committee for the building because any technology needs over there has to be thought out ahead of time and not done after the fact. The building obviously has to be totally cabled and wired. We need to bring fiber to the building. There's a lot that has to be done. If those are left until after the fact, it will cost the city a lot more money. I've asked to make sure that I'm included in the meetings for that. I can bring up the needs of videography services over there as well. It has to be an appropriate room and not just a conference room. It has to be a little bit bigger in order to accommodate other various meetings.

Andrew Cernota

Just a question for you. You mentioned the fiber. In the past there's been discussion for us. When a lot of these rooms were originally set up for cable broadcast, the previous franchise agreement actually specified origination locations that Comcast wired their system to. Then we were able to distribute from that. Since then, the city put in its own fiber network and we've been able to broadcast from fiber locations that are on the city network without having Comcast dedicated drops at a particular building. I'm assuming this new building we won't have to pay Comcast to install a specific origination point and we'll be able to use the fiber?

Bruce Codagnone

We'll be able to use the fiber yes.

Pete Johnson

Currently we're still using analog drop points at North High School for their meetings, at Ledge Street for their meetings so all the old system is still in play for the education channel has not been moved to any sort of digital world.

Andrew Cernota

Well my question was whether we would actually have to have the old type thing installed in Burke Street as opposed to just use the fiber system...

Bruce Codagnone

We'd be able to use the fiber in Burke Street.

Pete Johnson

It's a matter of then getting it into Comcast somewhere then.

Bruce Codagnone

That's back at the head end.

Pete Johnson

Well the head end at the school or for the education channel is at the school. The only place you're broadcasting now via fiber is from this building.

Bruce Codagnone

We'll work with Comcast and make sure it all gets routed appropriately.

Ed Lecius

I would just like to get on the record that any of the costs incurred if this comes to be for the fit up for the new facility that it be included as part of the overall funding for that project given that – we have a limited amount of funds and obviously it's going to be somewhat costly. It was \$8,000 just to move it upstairs over Riverside. To fit it up for both Public Works and possibly the School Department, I'd just like to see that funding included in the funding mechanism the city puts in place for Burke Street if they go forward with it so as not to really impact our budget.

Andrew Cernota

Good point. Any other questions regarding this? Any other questions?

**MOTION BY ED LECIUS TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Committee Clerk