

MINUTES OF CABLE TV COMMISSION MEETING
March 6, 2013
CITY HALL ANNEX – 1st FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM #1

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Vincent, Chair, Pauline Maloney, (vice-chair), Jennifer Tigges, Sr. Carol Hoverman, Kathy McMullen, Ron Tigges, Kevin Stevens.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Nowack, City of Dubuque
Jim Barefoot, Mediacom
Jordan DeGree, Matter Creative

Vincent called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Acceptance of the Agenda

Upon a motion by Stevens, seconded by Hoverman, the agenda was accepted 7 - 0.

Approval of the Minutes of February 6, 2013

Upon a motion by Maloney, seconded by Hoverman, the Minutes were approved 7 - 0.

Public Notice

There was no public input.

PEG Grant Agreements

Mr. DeGree addressed the Commission regarding Matter Creative (formerly the Dubuque Art Center) not fulfilling the terms of the agreements it signed for PEG grant funding in recent years. Mr. DeGree noted that demand for the free video classes was less than anticipated. He also felt the sophistication of the equipment may have scared away some students from using it. He offered to return the equipment. The Commission discussed other options for the equipment, including offering it to some of the local public schools. Mr. Barefoot said he could use the editing systems to replace some existing machines at the public access studio. Nowack suggested the cameras go to the public access studio as well where they could be made available to the general access community for checkout.

Stevens moved to have DeGree return the equipment within two weeks' time. The motion was seconded by Maloney and approved 7 – 0.

PEG Channel Re-Location

Nowack provided an update on the re-location of the PEG channels to 85.2 through 85.6. The City Manager recently approved the planned re-location so now it is up to Mediacom to determine when the change will occur. Nowack was told that the change will most likely take place simultaneously with Channel 14 being re-located.

Access Equipment & Expenditures

Mr. Barefoot presented a request for up to \$200 to purchase a video demodulator to facilitate live broadcasts of the Mass from Mercy hospital each weekday afternoon. He explained that the current setup requires hospital personnel to flip a switch to activate the live feed and to flip that switch again to deactivate the live signal. Sometimes they forget to turn on the feed and the live broadcast does not occur. Other times they turn it on hours in advance, disrupting scheduled programming on access channel 80 to air a shot of the empty hospital chapel. Recently, they forgot to flip the switch at the end of the Mass and the chapel was on live for more than 24 hours. The demodulator would enable a continuous live signal to come into the public access router at Mediacom and let Mr. Barefoot

schedule when that feed goes on the air. Hoverman moved to allow up to \$200 for the demodulator. The motion was seconded by Maloney and approved 7 – 0.

Mediacom Cable Report

Barefoot reported that production activity at the public access studio has gotten much busier as warm weather approaches. He updated the Commission on some of the projects in production. When asked by the Commission, Barefoot discussed the accommodation of video recording in the new UD performing arts center and the Dalzell Field renovation.

Cable TV Report

Nowack reported that he gave his budget presentation to the City Council one week ago tonight, noting that commissioners RTigges and JTigges were in attendance. He provided an update and recently completed projects and some upcoming productions.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by RTigges, seconded by McMullen, the meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.