

MINUTES OF CABLE TV COMMISSION MEETING
March 4, 2015
CITY HALL ANNEX – 1st FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM #1

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy McMullen (Chair), Ron Tigges (Vice-Chair), Jennifer Tigges, Pauline Maloney, Sr. Carol Hoverman.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alan Vincent. One seat is vacant.

OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Nowack, City of Dubuque
Jim Barefoot, Mediacom
Craig Schaefer, Loras College
Mike Willis, University of Dubuque
Nathan Ripperger, University of Dubuque

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

Acceptance of the Agenda

Upon a motion by JTigges, seconded by Maloney, the Agenda was accepted 5 - 0.

Approval of the Minutes of January 7, 2015

Upon a motion by RTigges, seconded by Maloney, the Minutes were approved 5 - 0.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Request for Funding

Mr. Schaefer presented a request for \$15,893 for an HD video replay system and a portable HD recorder to use on the many sports broadcasts at Loras College. For years Loras has borrowed Mediacom's replay system, but it is SD only and currently does not work. Maloney moved to approve up to \$16,400 for the request. The motion was seconded by Hoverman and approved 5 - 0.

Digital PEG

Nowack informed the Commission of a project he's been looking into regarding replacing the analog modulation equipment at the four local access origination sites with digital equipment. Except for CityChannel Dubuque, which still has an analog channel, all other PEG channels are digital and it seems counterproductive to send analog signals only to have Mediacom convert them back to digital. Nowack has also made inquiries with Mediacom about getting an HD channel for CityChannel Dubuque. Mediacom is open to the idea but the City would like to wait until it can know better how many people might be adversely affected. Nowack says this discussion is very preliminary and at some point he will have a formal proposal for them.

PEG Programming Reports

The Commission discussed the annual programming reports received by local groups that have received funding for equipment. One aspect discussed was how long should programming requirements be in place. Nothing concrete was decided. Mike Willis from University of Dubuque informed the Commission that UD simply forgot to submit programming to the shared educational channel. As soon as it was brought to his attention UD made several submissions.

Mediacom Cable Report

Barefoot reported that he has conducted tours of the public access facilities recently for students at NICC and UD. He has also received some recently discovered programming from a local access producer. He told the Commission that Mediacom has been getting reports of low audio during Mercy

Mass, but those reporting the problem are not providing a location. Mediacom would like to look into the problem but they need to know where it is.

Cable TV Report

Nowack discussed some upcoming productions in the works and showed the Cable TV Division's video for its FY2016 budget presentation.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by JTigges, seconded by RTigges, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.