

MINUTES OF CABLE TV COMMISSION MEETING
December 7, 2016
CITY HALL ANNEX – 1st FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM #1

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Dolson.

OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Nowack, City of Dubuque
Jim Barefoot, Mediacom

JTigges called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Acceptance of the Agenda

Upon a motion by Hoverman, seconded by Vincent, the agenda was approved 6 - 0.

Approval of the Minutes of November 2, 2016

Upon a motion by Maloney, seconded by RTigges, minutes of the November 2, 2016, meeting were approved 6 - 0.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Mediacom Rate Increase

Nowack presented a letter from Mediacom informing the City of a rate increase for both cable and Internet service scheduled to take effect in early January. JTigges noted that the Commission and City no longer have any control of cable rates.

PEG Grant Letter

Nowack proposed a draft of the annual letter to be sent to PEG grant recipients asking for a list of programs produced in calendar year 2016 which aired on the local access channels per PEG grant agreements. JTigges asked that the deadline for a response be extended until February 15, 2017, to give recipients more time to respond. Hoverman moved to accept the letter with that change. The motion was seconded by McMullen and approved 6 – 0.

Mediacom Cable Report

Barefoot related an interaction with a local cable subscriber who complained about the technical quality of his cable service. After considering the issue, Mediacom determined that it was the subscriber's problem, not a system issue for Mediacom. Barefoot also reported that activity is light at the public access studio, although a Hempstead student involved with St. Peter's Church was in for training.

Cable TV Report

Nowack reported that he and Video Producer Erich Moeller have been working on a couple of lingering issues with the HD upgrade at the Historic Federal Building. Prior to this Monday's City Council meeting, they re-mapped the new production switcher to get the camera inputs closer to the producer's position and that has greatly improved the switching of a meeting. Nowack also reported that he is close to finishing this year's "Yulelog" program to premiere on Christmas day. It will be a one-hour special featuring bands playing in Dubuque parades. He also informed the Commission that he officially requested an HD channel and that Don DeMay, the regional head of Mediacom, seemed open to the idea.

JTigges mentioned that City Clerk Kevin Firnstahl recently spoke to the Park & Recreation Commission about agendas and minutes and rules relating to boards and commissions. She wondered if he would be available to address this commission. Nowack said he would discuss it with the City Clerk. The consensus was that a meeting scheduled well in advance and during nicer weather would allow commissioners to plan to attend.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Vincent, seconded by RTigges, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.