

MGAT

Milford Government Access Television Committee Regular Meeting

Tuesday Mar. 26, 2012. 7:00 PM

Parsons Government Complex, Employee Lounge, 70 West River Street, Milford, Ct. 06460

Minutes

The meeting had a late start due to a scheduling conflict in the usual meeting space, which represented the second double-booking in as many months. A suggestion was made to use the city's employee lounge, which is down the corridor from the Board of Ed conference room.

Members attending: Phil Kearney (ch); Barbara Genovese, Paula Patterson

Staff attending: Meg Greene (sec)

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kearney at 7:09PM.

New recording secretary and city employee Meg Greene was asked to see if it is feasible to use the room for future meetings or if another meeting room might be available. She will also contact the city's website administrator to change the current erroneous posted information about the location of the meeting being at Platt Tech.

Previous meeting minutes

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2013, meeting.

Chair's Report

Mr. Kearney said he spoke with City Management Information Systems Coordinator Jean Lasczak about adding internet connectivity to the Master Control Room in City Hall to provide web streaming and support AT&T U-verse fiber service. Ms. Lasczak said she would talk to the mayor about it. Mr. Kearney offered to put Ms. Lasczak in touch with Cable Advisory Council member and Fairfield MIS Department Director Donald Leslie to review Fairfield's experience with these services. Mr. Kearney indicated that additional funds would have to be budgeted and more bandwidth would be required as well.

Line Producer Report

None due to Mr. Rogoff's absence.

GATA (Government Access Television Alliance, A Subcommittee of Cable Advisory Council Area 2)

Mr. Kearney advised that Sound View Community Media, LLC, is in litigation with the State of Connecticut and that the towns of Woodbridge and Orange, as well as the City of Milford, would probably be involved in the suit.

He also shared that in April, Cablevision will add a \$2.98 surcharge to subscribers because of bundling that places the access channels into sports programming packages. He added that Cablevision is challenging this move with an anti-trust lawsuit that will probably be joined by Verizon.

Budget

There were no expenditures last month. Ms. Genovese agreed to take on management of monthly financial tracking and review the same with mayoral assistant Linda Michel.

Old Business

Ms. Patterson advised that she is working on a database of equipment and inventory. She is researching acquisition dates with Ms. Michel. She said she will work with Mr. Rogoff to establish the age of various items and that she received all the necessary paperwork from Mike Manentes.

Public comment

None.

New Business

Mr. Kearney noted that the due date for Cable Advisory Council grant applications is April 15. There was general agreement that the funds should be earmarked for personnel expenses and a laptop with a video card for dedicated MGAT use. Mr. Kearney said he had researched going rates for line producers in the area and it appears to be approximately \$25 per hour.

Ms. Patterson moved that the grant be applied as recommended by Mr. Kearney. Ms. Genovese seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kearney also reported that he has located a backup camera person—a Gateway College student now covering Orange government meetings part-time, using similar equipment. Mr. Chris Kelly comes recommended by his supervisor there. Mr. Kearney invited him to visit the Milford studio. The hope is that Mr. Kelly could provide backup to Mr. Rogoff.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Greene
Recording Secretary