

MGAT

Milford Government Access Television

Regular Meeting Minutes.

Tuesday May 22, 2012

Meeting called to order 7:02 pm

Present members, Michael Manente, Chad Bedell, Barbara Genovese, Paula Paterson. Also in attendance Line Producer Arney Rogoff

Chairman Manente reported that Soundview Community Media, the third party provider of P, E, and G access, has given notice, and begun recording Milford's city board meetings with the intent to rebroadcast to their regional viewers and AT&T uverse viewers. He explained that since our meetings are public, anyone can record them.

He also reported that he has been in contact with AT&T officials, and will be meeting with them on Thursday May 24, to discuss an interconnection agreement.

He also reported permission was given to Cablevision and Fairfield University to preempt Milford's programming on Sunday May 20, to cablecast Fairfield Us commencement ceremonies. He informed the new members that MGAT has granted permission for this the last few years.

There was no public comment.

Chairman Manente reported that our GATA grant applications have been approved. Paula added that they have been approved at a slight lower amount. Paula also asked if the high schools have made a request. Chairman Manente reported that the high schools asked for a small amount for some equipment. Paula added that Platt had not made any request this year.

Chairman Manente reported on the budget and that all MGAT accounts are on track.

Line Producer Arney Rogoff reported on the recordings for the month.

During old business, Uverse was brought up and discussed. Chairman Manente explained how very important it is to come to an interconnection agreement with AT&T at this time. Paula asked, if we make an agreement with them, will we get any funding. Chairman Manente explained that to get funding from AT&T would take a change in the law. However with AT&T offering to equip our sites at no cost, it would be in Milford's best interest to reach an agreement. Paula added she still feels we should not give them our programming without funding. Chairman Manente added, he also held this opinion in the past, but feels now is the time to consider all options and reach an agreement that services all the residents of Milford.

He reported he would inform the Committee of any developments.

During new business Soundview Media was briefly discussed. Chairman Manente explained that since Milford's meetings are opened to the public, anyone can record them. However it's the sole discretion of the City of Milford where any and all recording equipment is to be set up.

Adjournment 7:46 pm.