

**City of Ann Arbor  
CABLE COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

**January 27, 2009  
Regular Session**

**MINUTES**

Call To Order and Roll Call: Chair B. Clarke called the Cable Commission Regular Session to order at 7:05 p.m. Upon roll call, the following were present:

CCC: B. Clarke, J. Meyers, T. Ramirez, B. Fritz.

CC: S. Smith

CTN Staff: L. Wondrash, R. Salmeron

Approval of Agenda: Chair B. Clarke asked for approval of the agenda. Motion was made by T. Ramirez and seconded by J. Meyers.

Approval of Minutes: B. Clarke made a motion to approve the November 25, 2008 Regular Session minutes as presented. The motion was made by J. Meyers and seconded by B. Fritz.

Public Comment: None provided.

Communications Report: L. Wondrash reported that CTN received nine Comcast complaints during the month of December directly related to the increase in rates. L. Wondrash noted that there has been an increased frequency in the number of customers calling the City of Ann Arbor asking what the City can do to control this issue. She noted that the City does not have now nor has it ever had oversight over cable providers' rates.

Per an AT&T inquiring in the fall of 2008 regarding CTN channels being offered on its U-Verse product, L. Wondrash requested a technical meeting be scheduled with AT&T staff to discuss the U-Verse product and connection costs. Once that meeting has been held, then L. Wondrash will bring the issue back to the Commission before proceeding with connecting any channels as there is a cost associated. J. Meyers asked what the process is for CTN to connect with AT&T? L. Wondrash explained that there is no set process or procedure. R. Salmeron stated that per the state franchise agreement CTN must incur all connection costs and CTN also objects to AT&T's PEG Solution, which means that CTN channels would be moved to 99; customers would have to go to channel 99 then drill down on an alphabetic menu to access CTN's channels; and channel load time could take 30 to 90 seconds.

L. Wondrash also shared that the Ann Arbor District Library applied for a \$60,000 grant through ICMA titled "*Untold Ann Arbor*". The Library is in partnership with the Neutral Zone, A26 Michigan, City of Ann Arbor and the Legacy Project. This program is designed to bring teens and seniors together by having seniors share oral history about Ann Arbor. This will hopefully help to engage teens in civic activities and history. The Library will have the program information on their website. They are also asking for CTN's help in distributing this information. B. Clarke asked to keep the Grey Panthers in mind for possible mentors in this program.

CTN Report: R. Salmeron stated that CTN's government meetings coverage "Video on Demand" became available for online viewing in December 2008 and had more than 150 hits in the first week alone. CTN is working to make the meetings more accessible by loading keywords and tagging content to make the content more searchable. J. Meyers inquired about feedback regarding the implementation of a format like Google or U-Tube and stated that uploading the meetings to a multiple formats could be a no cost archival system for CTN. R. Salmeron explained that he surveyed Michigan facilities, primarily governments and found that no one else is offering multiple formats at this time. L. Wondrash added that since CTN has never before had this request, then CTN should first identify a need for multiple formats before it expends resources to deliver. She also added that the County only offers one format for its online meeting coverage and does not intend to expand to other formats. She then offered J. Meyers and those with similar requests to forward them to her or R. Salmeron for further consideration.

The Michigan Chapter of NATOA met January 26, 2009, a week after they met with the MPSC for answers in how the MPSC was moving along with their Video Services Division. The Dispute Resolution Process, created by MPSC was started in late 2007 and is still sitting in House and Senate. This impedes progression in the Video Services Division. J. Meyers inquired about the hold-up and R. Salmeron explained he has touched base every 2 months with Representatives for action to get it moving forward again. Also, the FCC and the Courts, at least at the level of the MPSC, were asked if they came to a decision on the compliance of AT&T PEG Solution to the spirit of the law and to the Comcast digital repositioning of the PEG channels. The promise of the Public Act 480 is to provide competition in smaller areas to lower the rates which would provide customers with greater choices in providers and content.

Old Business: L. Wondrash stated that per a request from the last meeting regarding airing the Ann Arbor District Library Board meetings, she contacted AADL Executive Director Josie Parker who responded that the Library is familiar with what CTN provides and will contact CTN if the Library is interested.

R. Salmeron reported that at the Downtown Development Authority's January meeting it approved a PO for vendor and equipment for video coverage in their board meeting room. CTN will carry meeting replays on channel 16 and online via Video on Demand.

New Business: B. Clarke stated it is time for new Chairperson election but since R. Sutton is interested in the position but not in attendance then she would like to hold the discussion until the next meeting. There was no objection.

L. Wondrash submitted the preliminary two year budget plan recommendation for the 2010, fiscal years. L. Wondrash described each line item and explained any variation between the recommended 2010, 2011 budgets and the current FY 2009 budget. B. Clarke asked for a motion to approve the preliminary budget which was made by T. Ramierz and seconded by J. Meyers.

Commission/Staff Comments: S. Smith suggested that we as citizens should contact our Representatives in Lansing and ask to push forward the Dispute Resolution Process.

Adjournment: B. Fritz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by J. Meyers. With no further discussion Chair B. Clarke closed the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Submitted by: Lisa Wondrash, Communications Unit Manager  
Date Approved: