

Present: Brower, Devereaux, Kuhne, Laidlaw and Spivak - Birmingham
Borgon and Lacroix - Beverly Hills
Leckie - Bingham Farms
DiSessa - Franklin

Absent: Lowmaster - Beverly Hills

Also present: Currier - Attorney for Cablecasting Board
Colgan - Municipal/Library Access Channel
Martinico - Director of Technology, Birmingham Schools
Pfeifer - Beverly Hills Council representative

Kuhne called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m. in the meeting room of the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. 13 Mile Road. A special meeting was scheduled because the board did not have the seven members necessary for a quorum on the regular meeting date of July 19, 2000.

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF REGULAR CABLECASTING BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 21, 2000

MOTION by Spivak, supported by Leckie, that the minutes of a regular Cablecasting Board meeting held on June 21, 2000 be approved as submitted.

Borgon referred to the paragraph on page 2 under "Franchise Renewal" that states: "Currier reported that the four communities have approved the franchise renewal agreement and cable ordinance. All documents will be signed by the next meeting."

Borgon stated that the new franchise agreement requires the cable company to provide public access programming for six months from the date that the consortium communities sign the franchise renewal documents. He asked if that date should be specified for the record.

Kuhne stated that the understanding of this board is that the six month period would begin from the date that the last community approved the franchise agreement, which would be Franklin. There is no MediaOne representative present at this meeting to confirm this. Kuhne added that he hopes that the consortium has a PEG provider before the end of the six month period.

Motion passes unanimously.

RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION

Kuhne read a resolution recognizing John Abbot for his contributions to the Cablecasting Board as a representative of the City of Birmingham from June, 1997 to June, 2000.

MOTION by Spivak, supported by Devereaux, to adopt a resolution recognizing the contributions of John Abbot to the Cablecasting Board.

Motion passes unanimously.

APPROVE MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CABLECASTING BOARD HELD ON JULY 19, 2000

MOTION by Laidlaw, supported by Borgon, that the minutes of a regular meeting of the Cablecasting Board held on July 19, 2000 be approved as submitted.

Motion passes unanimously.

MEDIA ONE RELATED TOPICS

This agenda item was deferred due to the absence of a MediaOne representative.

Kuhne welcomed newly appointed board members Ken Brower representing Birmingham and Ray Lacroix from Beverly Hills.

PEG ACCESS

Kuhne reviewed that MediaOne will not be providing public access service beyond a six month transitional period following the approval of the new franchise agreement by the consortium communities. The Cablecasting Board on behalf of the four member communities will arrive at a recommendation for the operation of PEG (public, educational and government) access programming.

The PEG Access committee met since the June meeting and drafted a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Cable Access Management. The committee consists of Devereaux as chair, Borgon, Laidlaw, Leckie and Spivak. The RFP document was distributed to the board for consideration at this meeting.

The board members conducted a comprehensive review of the Request for Proposal and attachments and arrived at a consensus on a number of changes that will be incorporated in a revised document.

MOTION by Laidlaw, supported by Borgon, that the Cablecasting Board approve the Request for Proposal for Cable Access Management as amended.

Motion passes unanimously.

The RFP will be revised and available to PEG providers by Monday of next week. The proposal form must be returned to the Birmingham City Clerk's office by 2:00 p.m. on August 28, 2000. The board will consider the proposals at its regular September 20, 2000 meeting.

MLAC 15 REPORT

Colgan presented highlights of the July production report.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION by Laidlaw, supported by Borgon, that the Cablecasting Board establish a Bylaws Committee.

Motion passes unanimously.

Members volunteered to sit on a committee to draft bylaws for the Cablecasting Board. The committee will consist of Borgon, Brower, DiSessa, Kuhne and Laidlaw.

Currier will furnish committee members with examples of bylaws used in other consortiums. A committee meeting will be scheduled in August.

Laidlaw requested that a special meeting be held to discuss the duties and responsibilities of the Cablecasting Board administrator.

Kuhne proposed distributing a copy of the cable administrator's contract to board members prior to this discussion. Questions on the document should be directed to Kuhne. A meeting will be called if needed.

Laidlaw questioned whether the MediaOne public access studio at Eton Street will be closed by August 1. A MediaOne representative was not present to respond to this inquiry.

Borgon commented that it does not matter if MediaOne closes that studio as long as the consortium has convenient access to one of their other studios. Public access is being covered by MediaOne at the Southfield studio.

BOARD COMMENTS

Borgon commented that he recently served on the PEG Access Committee. He thanked Kathy Hagaman for her assistance and remarked that she makes the job of being a board member easier.

Kuhne thanked members of the board for offering their time and expertise to this body. He mentioned that there are two positions on the board to be filled by Birmingham.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 a.m.