

MINUTES
THE NEWBERG AREA CABLE COMMISSION
Tuesday, November 18, 1997
7:00 p.m.
Waste Water Treatment Plant (Training Room)
2301 Wynooski Road
Newberg, OR 97132

Members Present:

Jack Eichhorn
Harry Morter
Roy Larson
Warren Koch
Scott Headley

Members Absent:

Jim Morrison

Others Present:

Katherine McEneaney, TCI
Thomas Coulter, TCI
Charles Cox
Terrence D. Mahr (TM), City Attorney

Call To Order:

The Newberg Area Cable Commission Meeting was called to order on the evening of November 18, at 7:15 p.m. in the training room of the Waste Water Treatment Plant at 2301 Wynooski Road, Newberg, OR 97132.

I. Approval of Minutes:

At this time (TM) asked if any changes need to be made to the minutes of the meetings of September 23rd 1997 and October 4th 1997. Scott Headley motioned to approve minutes. The motion was seconded. Minutes were approved.

II. Report on Renewal of Franchise

(TM) informed the committee that Steve Jolin had previously requested financial information from TCI and has received the information but has yet to report to the commission as to his findings.

In regards to the representation from Lafayette, TM has contacted Bob Willoughby of Lafayette, and will be contacting him again in the near future.

In regards to the representation from Dundee, TM spoke with an official from Dundee who had attended the workshop and is interested in being a part of the Cable Commission.

At this time Harry Morter raised the issue of cooperation with other cities on the renewal of franchise, his question being, are the cities planning on working collectively or individually? TM's response was that we need to gain cooperation from other cities to establish the non-profit organization.

At this time McMinnville's involvement was discussed, with the consensus that McMinnville would prefer to work individually in converting their community access station to a non-profit organization. At this time there are two community access stations, there was some discussion in combining them but McMinnville would decided to retain their own. Therefore, Newberg has decided to work collectively with the other neighboring communities, such as Dundee and Lafayette, excluding McMinnville.

Scott Headley questioned where we stand on our target date for renewal of franchise. TM informed the commission that we were planning for the end of the year, but that is now a long shot. We have been focusing hard on the community access station while Steve Jolin has been doing his research, which as put

us slightly behind schedule. Several of the members requested to meet with Steve Jolin to discuss his progress and set a new time schedule. TM agreed to make arrangements with Steve Jolin so that the commission can bring all of their questions to the table at that time.

In regards to setting a new time schedule, TM believes The Newberg Cable Commission and the McMinnville Cable Commission should both be in attendance for such a meeting. McMinnville is considering exploring another option at this time, which could create a delay if they do decide to explore that in further detail. Therefore, it may be beneficial to have the McMinnville's Cable Commission in attendance at any meeting with Steve Jolin.

Scott Headley brought the issue of how constantly changing technology to the table for discussion. His concern was how such technology would be handled through the franchise agreement with TCI. Harry Morter also questioned our responsibilities in obtaining that new technology. Katherine McEneaney response was that the commission simply needs to come to TCI and discuss any new technological options as they come up and a decision will be made from there. TM contributed, "The bottom line is, TCI is a business, and implementation of any new technology would be based on the marketability of that technology."

Roy Larson wondered why the past franchise agreement was a fifteen year agreement, and would that be a problem in this time of ever changing technology. Katherine McEneaney informed the commission that fifteen years was the standard at the time, but that is changing. TM said that the longer franchise agreements give security, but can be modified to have openness so that future technologies are open for negotiations. It's all up for discussion now.

Scott Headley reaffirmed that these question are a good reason to have Steve Jolin attend a meeting so that he can address these concerns and questions and let the commission know what is out of line to request from TCI. Roy Larson asked Katherine McEneaney what she thought. Katherine McEneaney believes that the City is paying Steve Jolin , therefore, they should use him in any way they can.

III. Local Community Access

Capital Budget Update

At this time, Thomas Coulter informed the commission that they are still working on the capital budget. Thomas Coulter thanked the commission for the new mixer, which was proposed in the capital budget, and informed the commission that he was able to purchased the mixer for less than was proposed.

New Location

The idea of using Central School is not totally out of the question, but the Chehalem Park and Rec. is still talking about structural issues on the Fire Marshall's report. Chehalem Park and Rec. said that the Local Access studio could move into the first floor at this time if so desired, but Thomas Coulter would prefer to move to the second floor. Scott Headley asked how much square footage was needed for the studio. Thomas Coulter said that they need it to be a little wider with higher ceilings. TM asked Thomas Coulter, "is this your first choice for a new location?" Thomas believes that by being located at Central School he will be able to pull volunteers from the youth programs.

Programming Updates

Thomas Coulter distributed a handout on local programming, explaining how many hours they have been airing and the types of programs they have been airing. TM asked about canned programs. Thomas Coulter read short list of the canned programs they have used in the past, however he is trying to use more locally produced programs rather than canned programs.

TM asked what local show is most popular. Thomas Coulter's response was the church programs. People call in requesting information and copies of those programs the most.

The City Council has decided to film the council meetings and deliver those tapes to Thomas Coulter. The Community Access Channel currently has two tapes in their possession and will be airing them on Wednesday nights.

IV. Continued Business

TM passed out surveys from the workshop and asked the commission members to complete the surveys and return them.

V. New Business

Again the filming of the City Council Meetings was brought into discussion. The Council has unanimously voted to begin filming the meetings once again and is willing to finance it.

Harry Morter provided a handout listing items which need to be discussed throughout the process of forming the non profit organization. Harry Morter believes that since the community access station will become a completely new entity, new bylaws need to be in affect which address issues such as that of the filming local events. Scott Headley agreed to obtain a copy of Salem's bylaws, which the commission could use as a guideline. Some discussion was held about the handout but no decisions were made.

Charles Cox asked if the council needs to keep track of paying the volunteer doing the filming or will he/she be paid by TCI. Katherine McEneaney informed Charles Cox, that the council needs to pay the volunteer directly. The franchise doesn't allow the community access station to handle those transactions. Charles Cox was a little concerned as to the council's role in finding the volunteers to film the meetings. Thomas informed the commission that there are currently two volunteers, so at this time it isn't something that needs to be finalized but as the bylaws are formed that will defiantly be an issued to address.

Harry Morter asked the commission to begin thinking of a new name for the community access station once the transition is made. Some ideas were thrown out for discussion but no decisions were made at this time.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.