

Minutes September 18, 2014

Members present: Vince Fini, Jackie Carlino, Sue Horton, Byron Campbell, Kate Donahue, Roy Fuchs, John Annick, Dana Christos, Peg Perillie, Jim Lang, Donna Girot, Shawn Tait, Bill Chin, Donna Cassidy

Meeting called to order by Kate at 7:50am

New member Dana Christos introduced to members. Motion to accept new St. Joseph's High School TCT reps Dana Christos and Jessica Morales, having one vote for SJHS and total committee participation, made by John, seconded by Roy. No discussion. All members in favor.

Minutes: Previously distributed minutes from March 20, June 12, and July 24 reviewed by members. Motion to approve all minutes made by John, seconded by Roy. No discussion. All members in favor.

Motion to amend agenda to move agenda item, Charter Channel Change, up to next agenda item made by John, seconded by Roy. No discussion. All members in favor.

Charter Channel Change: Charter Cable has moved Trumbull's channel 17 to channel 194. Donna G. Stated she has informed public of channel change in local paper and any media form. She also distributed flyers alerting public of channel changes. John suggested videographers inform Boards & Commissions of channel change. Donna spoke with clerks of all Boards and Commissions to share with members channel change. Donna would like to put sign with channel logo and channel number on the door of the Council Chambers. Jim gave brief description of channel change reasons. Jim also distributed list of state politicians for members of public to contact them regarding channel change and lack of notice Charter gave to towns and subscribers. Kate stated Trumbull was given no notice from Charter regarding channel change. Kate requested Jim prepare letter with key points to address issue. Jim stated letter might not make any difference but will prepare a draft letter. John believes this issue should be made aware of to our state legislators. Jim and John will create letter to the Fair Trade Commission and DEEP regarding the importance of PEG channels. Donna stated DEEP and the Office of Policy Management are aware of PEG channels. She stated the CT. Alliance for Community Media sent letter to voice their concern of fair practices in the industry and the lack of respect between cable companies and public access channels. Sue stated the Library no longer gets channel 194 and must pay for it to view it. Sue will check on the cost of getting the channel. Sue will put a rolling slide on the Library TVs informing the public of the channel change. Jim asked the committee if it's charge is to question what the public is charged for cable service. Is it TCTs responsibility to use its platform to represent the concerns of Trumbull citizens (i.e.: increase cost, lack of funding for PEG channels)? Kate suggested TCT members discuss these issues in a strategic planning meeting to help develop and discuss what resources the committee can deploy. Sue suggested the committee have a 2nd meeting to only discuss PEG channel issues. Donna C. agreed and suggested strategic planning meeting be after 2nd PEG discussion meeting. Motion to table Charter Channel Change discussion to separate meeting and strategic planning meeting made by Roy, seconded by John. Brief discussion ensued. All members in favor.

Updates:

Administrative;

Budget status- Kate stated budget is on target.

Membership Committee- Sue stated her potential member has backed out and is still looking for potential members. John will contact Rotarians for potential members. John requested Donna C. send updated membership list to committee.

Committee Leadership update- Kate has made progress with representation of THS on committee. Todd Manuel will join committee in advisory position with voting rights. Todd will hopefully relieve committee of day-to-day detail work enabling committee to focus on other areas.

Programming update;

Donna G. is hopeful Todd's presence on committee will also bring in new student interns. Donna has been speaking to videography classes. Madison MS program will be having professionals speak to the students. Donna requested funding from the Superintendent for a bus to transport Madison MS students to the THS studio. Donna participated in Madison MS Career Night and Trumbull Arts Festival. Boosters Club has requested taping of all home games. Soccer Booster club has paid for taping of 24 games. Brief discussion ensued. Shawn stated there is no Internet in THS press box making live feed impossible. Donna is concerned that frequent taping outside can decrease the life of the cameras. Shawn has covers for cameras.

Technical update;

Grant Application- Byron will meet with St. Joseph's HS and Christian Heritage.

Studio- Shawn stated the installation is almost complete. DNR will be training staff on new studio equipment. Donna spoke with DNR about lack of smooth transition from show to show. Donna has found a piece of equipment that will help this. DNR stated they will provide this equipment for free if Trumbull signs a maintenance contract with them. Byron offered to give Donna needed equipment and will work with Donna to get proper piece needed.

AT&T UVERSE- no changes.

Charter Feed for teacher access- VOD system for teachers keeps shutting down. Signal may not be strong enough. Charter tech will be coming Tuesday to check signal.

Resolution of computer issues- Shawn will download content instead of THS.

Auditorium line- DNR will be providing converter.

Council Chambers/wireless microphones- Shawn ordered amp, which will be installed to help audio level/one feed input with multiple outputs. Bill Chin stated hand mikes and cord has been replaced. Chamber microphones are now tied down and can't be moved.

Miscellaneous:

THS sign-sign has not been installed. Channel number needs to be changed on sign.

Alliance for Community Media- Donna attended national conference. The media arts and channel organizations will be working together on national issues. FCC chairman was keynote speaker. Commissioner told attendees how issues are proposed is the key to communicate with the FCC and the importance of knowing your FCC commissioners and whom they work for. \$3.5 million dollar grant has been approved for PEG/PETIA grants. Monies still need to be bonded on next DEEP agenda. PEG/PETIA said the heads of the Library and school systems should follow the progress of the funding.

Charter Advisory Council- public access channel has also moved to channel 192 and is now on UVerse under "Community Vision 'Newtown based'". Trumbull has 4 openings on Charter Advisory Council. Sue asked Jim to send her a letter of request to help seek out members. Peg volunteered to join Charter Advisory Council. Due to members leaving meeting and lack of a quorum at this point of the meeting, Byron will authorize an email vote to accept Peg Perillie's membership on the Charter Advisory Council.

Other business:

John feels he hasn't been kept up to date with TCT business and would like members to be included on updates. Kate agreed and will copy committee in discussions. Kate will also work with Donna G. regarding this.

Kate will send potential dates for strategic planning meetings to members.

Donna G. would like assistance from student to help manage TCTs social media programs. Dana will assist Donna with this.

October 30th meeting is changed to October 29th, 7:45am in Library Conference Room.

Meeting adjourned 9:20am