

Access Tucson
Board of Directors
May 10, 2007

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Access Tucson was called to order at 5:03 p.m. on May 10, 2007 by, Chair, J. Lisa Jones.

Present

Sandee Brooke
Elizabeth Burden
Cynthia Dickstein
Dan Dougherty
Jerry Freund
Gerald Harwood
Ben Jacobs

J. Lisa Jones
Martha McGrath
Michael Mulcahy
Karla Ronquillo
Rueben Roqueñi
Francine Shacter

Absent

Elaine Schramm

Introduction of Board Members: Lisa J., welcomed new board members- Dan Dougherty, Martha McGrath, and Francine Shacter. Each board member introduced themselves.

Others present:

Sam Behrend, Vikki Dempsey, Daniela Ontiveros, Carol Romano, Ann Strine, and La Monte Ward.

Call to the Audience: None.

Minutes - Approval of the minutes for March 8, 2007 - discussion/action

Sandee Brooke moved to approve the minutes for March 8, 2007. Liz Burden seconded the motion. The motion passed 11-2. Lisa Jones requested a friendly amendment to be noted on meeting minutes for March 8, top of page 2- "hiring of [Joe] Van Eaton..."

City of Tucson report/update -

Ann Strine reported on the cable license renewal deal stating that it has been signed sealed and delivered, adding that even though it wasn't everything hoped for or feared some things still need to be organized. A discussion with City Council will happen in regards to channel distribution, Ann's recommendation for channel 12, K12, and Access Tucson; each have an analog channel, 2 digital go to Access Tucson, and find out a way to divide up to 2000 Video-on-Demand hours.

Cox Communications report/update- No report

Comcast report/update- No report.

Executive Director –

Sam Behrend reported on the following:

HB 2069 passed, signed by the governor last Friday, May, 4. The Arizona Daily Star will do a feature report on Access Tucson; look for it in the Caliente next Thursday, May, 17. Change in allocation amount, currently each year members receive \$8500, the amount will increase by \$1500 bringing the new amount up to \$10,000. City Council approved cable license. Council Member Karin Ulich made a motion for future agenda, her office intends to work closely with staff to do a study of PEG and PEG services. Steve Leal Back to Basics award had a good turn out at press conference. The city issued Access Tucson a purchase order to move forward on the Community Media Center study, Corky Poster will conduct a study to see if the facility can be useful.

Discussion was followed by questions regarding the Community Media Center- Sandee Brooke commented that choosing Corky Poster and team was a good option because he is very informed on the historical use of the building. Lisa Jones thanked Martha McGrath for preparing the food for the Back to Basics press conference. Liz suggested that a vision in strategic planning is necessary in the development of the Community Media Center. Both Lisa Jones and Sam Behrend agreed that it is time to do so. Lisa Jones added that the battle has been won but not the war.

La Monte Ward reported that a new procedure is being implemented which will notify members when they have \$1,000 left in their allocation.

Executive Committee report –

Lisa Jones reported on the following:

The Executive Committee discussed possibilities of a retreat and proposed an on going committee “think-tank”. FYI all committees are open to everybody. The next Executive Committee meeting will be Monday, May, 21 at 9:30a.m. Lisa Jones announced to new board members that they can take classes for free and also encouraged board members to take the orientation class. She requested that board members fill out the schedule planner and turn it in to Daniela Ontiveros, as well as making sure to sign in the volunteer book when they are here and added that the volunteer hours are tallied and used for reports. Lisa Jones discussed that board members never have dues however Sandee Brooke added that every board member should be a contributing member and suggested that cash/check should be made to the organization they love, keeping in mind that when Access Tucson is applying for a grant the funding organization want to know how many are contributing members. Lisa Jones informed the board that Carole Marlow has resigned from the Access Tucson board, Lisa Jones will follow up. Lisa Jones also announced the following; Bill Bowler, the longest known Access Tucson producer passed away. Please visit the website for a tribute. Included in your board packet is the DVD which was submitted to the Hometown Video Best of Show; Lisa Jones suggested you view it.

Channel changes for next season – report/discussion/action

Lisa Jones asked Vikki Dempsey to clarify the decision process in which she briefly discussed the following:

On July 30th 1 channel will go digital. Sam Behrend added that it is important to think about the future when we will only have 1 analog channel. Channel 72 will become digital on July 30th. One incentive will be that producers will receive a replay on the analog channel.

Discussion and questions were asked by the board regarding the memo - Lisa Jones stated that a Programming and Public Relations Ad-Hoc committee has been organized consisting of board members and staff to answer questions based on the changes happening to the channels as well as the lottery. Lisa Jones added that with all of the changes happening and with the

summer time imperative with so many board members being out of town that a second board meeting was slated for the month of May on the 24th, it is very important to get to work.

Martha McGrath suggested that Vikki's memo be approved for the time being and agree to look at it at the end of 6 months, Lisa Jones added that 6 months will give the Ad-Hoc committee enough time to roll their sleeves up and get to work. Francine Schacter moved to approve the proposal made by Vikki Dempsey and to look at it again in 6 months motion seconded by Liz Burden, passed unanimously.

Lisa Jones added that if anyone wanted to participate in the committee to please notify her.
(see attachment: A)

Master Operating Agreement with City – report/discussion/action

Sam Behrend informed the board that included in the board packet is the redline MAO document. Ann Strine will meet with City Attorney and has already met with Mike Letcher. (see attachment: B)

FY 2008 Budget- report/discussion/action

Sam Behrend and Ben Jacobs discussed the FY2008 budget moved by the Fiscal Affairs Committee. The motion passed unanimously. (see attachment: C)

Date, time and agenda items for the next meeting – Thursday, May 24, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment – Francine Schacter moved to adjourn the motion was seconded by Martha McGrath, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.