

Urbana Public Television Commission
March 13, 2006

Attendance: Barbara Gladney, Durl Kruse, Carol Inskeep, Greg Boozell, Pete Resnick, Dana Mancuso, Kathy Wallig

Absent: Danielle Chynoweth

Approval of Minutes

Durl Kruse's name is spelled with a "K".
Approved as printed except for the change.

Additions to Agenda

None

Correspondence

-Barbara Gladney read a letter from Bruce Walden thanking the committee for the resolution supporting one of the recommendation of the franchise report which involved the researching a consultant.

Staff Reports

- Chris Foster provided a copy of the franchise and a copy of the UPTV rules.
- Introductions were made for the benefit of a new member, Carol Inskeep.
- Kali Boyden presented a report involving current UPTV outreach efforts.
- Chair Gladney asked about members who wanted something taped outside of the studio shows.
- Chris Foster responded that we would train them to film it themselves since we don't have the manpower to cover everything.
- Barbara asked if there was a possibility more camera operators could be paid to film events.
- Commissioner Kruse asked that community requests be recorded by staff and asked a question about the editing of the Friday Forum and Smoke Free Forum. Who decides which shows staff will film?
- Chris replied that we only do minimal editing of the Friday Forum program. The City Council directed that the Smoke free forum be filmed

Audience Participation

None

Budget

-Chris Foster stated that if anyone has any questions Ron Eldridge is available via e-mail. He explained that 5% cable franchise fee from insight that goes into the general fund throughout the city forecasted at \$290,500. Additionally there is a 2% PEG fee used to completely fund UPTV. Staff salaries, camera operators, insurance, supplies, equipment maintenance is all funded through that. Each year Mr. Foster provides a budget of what UPTV will need.

- Chair Gladney asked if UPTV would get the benefit of any of the 5%.
- Chris replied that we do for example the pieces of equipment listed on the last page.
- Commissioner Kruse asked if the UPTV budget was written at a \$1400 deficit at least as their projected.
- Mr. Foster replied that it was assumed that
- Commissioner Resnick asked when the budget year ends?
- Mr. Foster replied July 1st.
- Chair Gladney asked how and when we could have input into the budget.
- Mr. Foster replied that this is the time.
- She asked if Chris had prepared anything for the budget.
- Mr. Foster replied he would be working on that soon and he also stated that he is working on procuring digital HI-8 cameras formerly used by the police department.
- Commissioner Boozell asked when we expected the online hard drive system to be available.
- Mr. Foster replied by the middle of next month.
- Commissioner Kruse suggested that it is important to make UPTV accessible to the community. He stated would like to see the library connected in regards to links to public places which is in the agreement.
- Mr. Foster stated that the when the library was constructed the plans included wiring the forum room for live broadcasts, but it has not yet happened. To fulfill Insight's requirement, they just have to put 2-way cable in the building.
- Commissioner Boozell asked if there was an Institutional data Network connecting city buildings for computer data.
- Mr. Foster replied that we are not connected to the library. It goes to Insight and they force the signal onto our channel.
- Commissioner Boozell also asked if the library wanted this.
- Commissioner Inskeep replied yes, she thinks so.
- Commissioner Boozell further stated that the auditorium should be equipped so it could be run by as few as people as possible.
- Mr. Foster replied if the cameras in the chambers were replaced, then perhaps the school board or library could get the old ones.
- Commissioner Inskeep will check on the capability at the library and send Chris an e-mail.

Public Access Report and Implementation Planning

-Chair Gladney presented a report. On December 12th, a resolution was sent to the Mayor and Bruce Walden supporting the public access committee's recommendation to hire a consultant. January 18th JCC approved the public access report. Feb 27th Rick Atterberry made a presentation to Urbana City Council. On Feb 28th, response received from Bruce Walden. On March 6th Urbana City Council approved Public Access Committee recommendations. On March 28th, Rick will be giving a presentation to the Champaign City Council study session. January 26th, Barb was featured on Focus 580. March 4th, Rick's presentation and the resolution was highlighted in the News Gazette.

-Chair Gladney suggested that members go back to represented bodies to explain possibilities and involvement with public access.

-Mr. Foster asked if the library and school board were considered public access or governmental.

-Chair Gladney and Commissioner Resnick concurred that it depended on the event.

-Commissioner Kruse stated that it is important for members to become versed in the potential for PEG through this process in order to spread information.

-Commissioner Boozell suggested that staff note the services that are working and which ones are not.

UPTV Goals

-Mr. Foster presented a list of goals for UPTV.

-Commissioner Resnick asked about tele/videoconferencing capabilities as a goal.

- Commissioner Resnick offered to work with Kali on a new public access web page.

- Commissioner Inskeep offered to get an idea of the libraries interest in public access

- Commissioners Mancuso and Wallig are going to talk to there counterparts in Champaign about their interest in public access.

-Commissioner Kruse suggested that the goals be prioritized and volunteered to work with staff to organize them.

- It was suggested that Chair Gladney send a letter on behalf of the Commission to the city council thanking them for their supportive vote.

Next Meeting

Chair Gladney suggested that we have a special meeting to discuss UPTV Goals and Budget issues on Monday, April 10th at 12:00pm.

Commissioner's Comments

None

Meeting Adjourned