

**URBANA PUBLIC TELEVISION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: September 11, 2009
12:00 p.m.

PLACE: Urbana City Council Chambers
400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Durl Kruse Carol Inskeep
Peter Resnick Mark Schultz

MEMBERS ABSENT: David Gehrig Barbara Gladney
Dana Mancuso

STAFF PRESENT: Kate Gorman

I. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Durl Kruse called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioner Kruse asked Kate Gorman to note the attendance.

III. MODIFICATION TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 12, 2009 meeting were approved as presented.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no new correspondence for the Commission to review.

VI. STAFF REPORT

Ms. Gorman stated she has begun purchasing the fiscal year 2009-10 budgeted equipment for the public access studio set. On September 8th, AT&T installed the necessary equipment for UPTV to air on U-verse. The expected go-live date will be September 28th.

A. ACM Conference

Ms. Gorman attended the Alliance for Community Media Conference July 14th – 17th in Portland, OR. She helped lead an advanced workshop panel discussion on Community Media Centers and Drupal, with John Montgomery from Denver, and spoke about UPTV's experience with the Open Media Project. All six beta stations made presentations at the main panel discussion on the Open Media Project, and later that evening the stations hosted a mixer for a more informal continuation of the topics. Also during the conference, Ms. Gorman and several other members of the OMP met to discuss the status of playback server compatibility with the ACM Executive Director, Helen Soule. After these initial meetings, a call was set up for after the conference to begin a more in-depth discussion.

B. Open Media Project

While in Portland, Ms. Gorman was interviewed by Adrienne Russell, the professor conducting an

assessment of the OMP for the Knight Foundation. They discussed the installation process and the subsequent months of implementing the OMP at UPTV, and Ms. Gorman provided copies of the report to the Commission members. The Open Media Project has a new website with up-to-date information about the project <http://www.openmediaproject.org>. All current UPTV members have created accounts on the new UPTV website. Over the next few weeks, regular submitters of programming will be trained on how to use the Project module on the site. After the regular submitters have tested Projects, all the members will be asked to create a Project page for their programs. The next step will be to introduce MERCI, the equipment reservation module of the OMP. Once all the features are working, members will be able to reserve equipment online and staff will be able to track reservations more efficiently.

Commissioner Peter Resnick asked if the Open Media Project would make web streaming and video on demand of the channel possible, and how would the permissions for the programming be handled. Ms. Gorman stated that web streaming and VOD were limited by the bandwidth and storage the City had available for UPTV. The permissions would limit the ability to distribute some of the non-local programming, but the Commission would need to decide in the future about the use of Creative Commons licensing for the locally produced programs.

Commissioner Kruse asked about the status of purchasing computers for ingest kiosks at other community locations. Ms. Gorman stated those plans had been put on hold while the website is completed and community locations determine their standing with the UC2B Broadband Project.

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was no participation from the audience.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. UPTV Budget/ VEF Report

Commissioner Kruse stated since Commissioner David Gehrig was not present to give his report, the UPTV Budget would be addressed at the next quarterly meeting.

B. Franchise Negotiations Update

Commissioner Kruse stated there was no new information about the franchise negotiations with Comcast. The City of Urbana and Comcast are in formal proceedings, and new information will be given when it is provided by the negotiation team.

C. Fifth Channel Discussion

Commissioner Mark Schultz and Commissioner Resnick recommended waiting until the outcome of the negotiations is known before deciding any actions the UPTV Commission would take.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Kruse opened a discussion on the reinstatement of membership fees at UPTV beginning in January 2010 at the completion of the franchise negotiations. He stated that he felt that members should have adequate notice before the introduction of fees. It was agreed that the fee discussion should be discussed at the next meeting.

XI. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting date was set for December 11th, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. in the Urbana City Council Chambers. The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.