



GREATER WEST BLOOMFIELD
**CABLE COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION**

KEEGO HARBOR • ORCHARD LAKE • SYLVAN LAKE • WEST BLOOMFIELD

MINUTES

January 11, 2018

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Harvey Gersin, at 7:31PM at West Bloomfield Town Hall.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Representing Keego Harbor: Michael Grogan

Representing Orchard Lake: Anne Dziuba, Dan Krause

Representing Sylvan Lake: Matthew Benavides, Sharon Miller

Representing West Bloomfield: Harvey Gersin, Nada Jamoua, Mark Kowalsky,
Suzanne Levine, Deborah Macon (arrived at 7:40PM),
Jonathan Warshay

Members Absent:

Others in Attendance:

David Barash, David Albery (Executive Director, GWBCCC)

The Chairperson welcomed Ms. Miller to the Commission and congratulated her on her appointment by the Sylvan Lake City Council. At his invitation, she introduced herself to other commissioners, and they introduced themselves to her.

3. Election of Officers

The Chairperson noted the provisions of the Commission's bylaws regarding the annual election and a summary of responses from commissioners regarding their interest in serving as an officer. He added that those responses indicate re-election of the Commission's 2017 officers. He asked Mr. Kowalsky for a motion to that effect.

Motion by Mr. Kowalsky, support from Ms. Levine:

"That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission elect its officers for 2018 as follows: Chairperson, Harvey Gersin (West Bloomfield), Vice-Chairperson, Matthew Benavides (Sylvan Lake), Secretary, Anne Dziuba (Orchard Lake), Treasurer, Michael Grogan (Keego Harbor)."

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Voting YES: Benavides, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Miller,
Macon, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

The Chairperson, speaking on behalf of all the officers, thanked the Commission for its support and stated that they look forward to another great year.

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Warshay, support from Mr. Krause:

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the agenda as revised for the January 11, 2018 meeting.”

Voting YES: Benavides, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Miller,
Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

Mrs. Macon arrived at 7:40PM.

5. Public Forum

The Chairperson stated that the forum provides an opportunity for residents to address the Commission regarding cable-related issues at the beginning and the end of each meeting. Those unable to attend should contact the Commission at gwbcable.org.

No member of the public rose to address the Commission.

6. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Warshay, support from Ms. Levine:

“That the Minutes of the November 30, 2017 meeting and the December 14, 2017 joint meeting be approved as presented.”

Voting YES: Benavides, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Miller,
Macon, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

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7. Acceptance of Financial Report

The report was summarized by Mr. Grogan, the Commission's Treasurer. The Executive Director added that the report is not the final report for 2017 because there will be a few 2017 expenditures processed in January and perhaps February.

Mr. Warshay noted that the summary of Cable Joint Venture Fund balances should read "December 31, 2017".

Motion by Mrs. Dziuba, support from Mr. Krause:

"That the Financial Report be accepted as revised."

Voting YES: Benavides, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Miller, Macon, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

8. Commission Reports

The Chairperson stated that this portion of the agenda provides an opportunity for committees to report to the Commission.

Report of the Community Programming Committee

Commissioners were provided a written report which was presented by Mrs. Dziuba, the committee chairperson.

Report of the Finance Committee

Commissioners were provided a written report which was summarized by Mr. Grogan, the committee chairperson.

Report of the Commission Operations and Strategic Planning Committee

Commissioners were provided a written report which was summarized by Mr. Kowalsky, the committee chairperson.

Committee Recommendation:

"That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the Third Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement and recommend that each of the four communities adopt the joint resolution approving that amendment."

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Motion by Mr. Warshay, support from Ms. Levine:

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission accept the reports of the Community Programming, Finance, and Commission Operations and Strategic Planning committees and consider a committee recommendation under New Business later in this meeting.”

Voting YES: Benavides, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Miller, Macon, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

9. Executive Director's Report

Civic Center TV

Commissioners were provided a written report of programming produced for Civic Center TV in December of 2017 and January of 2018.

Cable Operators

No information was received from Comcast or AT&T.

Semi-Annual Report to the Communities

The Executive Director stated that the report would be provided to the four communities in the next week and to the Commission in February.

Periodical Review

A new survey from TIVO reports a decrease in the amount of pay TV subscribers changing providers. 7.5 percent switched in the past three months, the lowest since 2014.

Pay TV providers, both cable and satellite, have increased prices for 2018, generally one to five dollars a month, but up to 15 percent for some packages. Companies cite increased programming costs and technological upgrades as the reasons for higher rates.

The Federal Communications Commission voted in mid-December to repeal net neutrality rules adopted in 2015. Comcast announced that it will maintain an open internet service, with no paid prioritization and no fast and slow lanes. Mr. Warshay stated that several states are planning to enact their own net neutrality rules.

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Communication

No communications were received.

Preview

The Executive Director presented his agenda for the time period between this meeting and the next meeting on February 8.

10. Unfinished Business

No items of Unfinished Business were presented.

11. New Business

Sunshine Week 2018

At the Chairperson's invitation, the Executive Director presented the resolution proposed for adoption by the Commission.

Motion by Mrs. Macon, support from Ms. Jamoua:

"That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission adopt the resolution in support of Sunshine Week 2018".

Voting YES: Benavides, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Miller, Macon, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

Mrs. Macon stated that annual support of Sunshine Week is a Cable Commission tradition which defines the work of public service and asked that a press release be disseminated regarding the resolution and that a Splash segment focus on Sunshine Week.

Recommendation of the Commission Operations and Strategic Planning Committee – Third Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement

The Chairperson presented the recommendation.

"That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the Third Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement and recommend that each of the four communities adopt the joint resolution approving that amendment."

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Motion by Mr. Kowalsky, support from Mr. Krause:

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the Third Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement and recommend that each of the four communities adopt the joint resolution approving that amendment.”

The Executive Director summarized documents provided to the Commission in support of the amendment, including a cover letter from Attorney Michael Salhaney, the original 1984 intergovernmental agreement, a red-lined version of that agreement including two previous amendments and the proposed third amendment, and a joint resolution by which the communities can approve the amendment.

Voting YES: Benavides, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Miller, Macon, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

12. Public Forum

The Chairperson stated that the forum provides an opportunity for residents to address the Commission regarding cable-related issues at the beginning and the end of each meeting.

No member of the public rose to address the Commission.

Mr. Krause stated that two amateur radio clubs in the area are working together to promote their activities.

Ms. Levine asked for nominations for the Chamber of Commerce awards to be presented on May 15. Mrs. Macon asked that all commissioners attend the awards dinner in May.

Mrs. Macon reported several community events celebrating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a march at Roosevelt Elementary school on January 12, United We Walk at West Bloomfield High School on January 14, programs at the West Bloomfield Township Public Library on January 15, and a dinner and musical program on January 15 in Walled Lake. She added that other events will occur throughout the year and thanked Civic Center TV for its support of United We Walk and Michigan Week in the spring.

Mr. Grogan announced that Comcast has increased internet speed for all subscribers and offered a free modem upgrade. Mrs. Macon stated that the increase is a major development and should be publicized.

Mr. Krause stated that AT&T is improving its internet service, offering speeds from 10 mbps to 50 mbps.

Mr. Warshay stated that there is an opportunity to donate to United We Walk through its web site.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 8:22PM.

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The next meeting of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission is **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2018**, at **7:30PM** at **WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWN HALL**, 4550 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield, Michigan.