



GREATER WEST BLOOMFIELD
**CABLE COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION**

KEEGO HARBOR • ORCHARD LAKE • SYLVAN LAKE • WEST BLOOMFIELD

MINUTES

June 14, 2018

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Harvey Gersin, at 7:30PM at West Bloomfield Town Hall.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Representing Keego Harbor: Ronnie Dahl

Representing Orchard Lake: Anne Dziuba, Dan Krause

Representing Sylvan Lake: Matthew Benavides, Sharon Miller

Representing West Bloomfield: Harvey Gersin, Nada Jamoua (arrived at 7:32PM),
Mark Kowalsky, Suzanne Levine, Deborah Macon,
Jonathan Warshay

Members Absent:

Representing Keego Harbor: Michael Grogan

Others in Attendance:

David Albery (Executive Director, GWBCCC)

The Executive Director stated that Mr. Grogan had communicated his inability to attend the meeting. He added that material in addition to that delivered earlier in the week had been provided for commissioners at the dais.

3. Approval of Agenda

The Chairperson noted that Items 7-B and 7-C should be reversed.

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

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the agenda as revised for the June 14, 2018 meeting.”

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

Ms. Jamoua arrived at 7:32PM.

4. Public Comment

The Chairperson stated that residents are provided an opportunity 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.

5. Approval of Minutes

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

“That the Minutes of the May 10, 2018 meeting be approved as presented.”

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

6. Acceptance of Financial Reports

In the absence of Commission Treasurer Michael Grogan, Mr. Warshay presented the report for January through May of 2018 and the Executive Director presented the summary of first quarter payments from cable operators.

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

“That the Financial Reports be accepted.”

Mrs. Macon stated that she had met with several community leaders who were unaware of declining cable revenues.

Mr. Krause stated that the Commission needs to educate the four communities regarding its role and financial support, and the Executive Director stated his belief that the responsibility to provide that information belongs to each community's representatives and that he stands ready to provide support and documentation at any time.

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

7. Committee Reports

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

Report of the Finance Committee

Commissioners were provided a written report which was presented by Mr. Warshay, the committee's vice-chairperson.

Report of the Commission Operations and Strategic Planning Committee

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

Report of the Community Programming Committee

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

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

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission accept the reports of the Finance, Commission Operations and Strategic Planning, and Community Programming committees.”

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

8. Executive Director's Report

Civic Center TV

Commissioners were provided a written report of programming produced for Civic Center TV in May. The Executive Director noted the contributions of the Commission's programming contractor, Motown Digital, to the success of the Food Truck Rally at Orchard Mall on June 8,

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and Mrs. Macon stated that the event will undoubtedly be the first of many annual rallies, and she applauded the visibility of Civic Center TV and Motown Digital at the event and the community partnerships that made it such a success.

Ms. Levine mentioned that number of young families in attendance, and the Chairperson noted the size of the crowd and the WBLD live broadcast from Orchard Mall.

Ms. Jamoua stated that she arrived in the middle of the amazing event and that people were still hanging around after it was over.

Commissioners agreed that the success of the event means that it will occur again in 2019, and Mr. Warshay added that the event provided an opportunity for Greater West Bloomfield residents to gather together and to show off the community to residents of neighboring communities.

The Executive Director thanked Motown Digital for providing the staging and audio for the event.

Cable Operators

Commissioners were provided copies of a communication from Comcast regarding channel line-up changes.

GWBCCC Directory

Members were provided an updated directory of Commission membership, contractors, and committee assignments.

Cable Industry News

Despite the movement toward streaming video, traditional television, both live and time-shifted, is still dominant in the U.S. On a typical day, 93 percent of streamers watched traditional TV while only 7 percent streamed exclusively.

Pay TV (cable, satellite, telephone companies) lost 305 thousand subscribers in the first quarter of 2018 compared to 515 thousand a year earlier.

A federal judge approved the AT&T purchase of Time-Warner on June 12. The next big purchase in the telecom field will be either Comcast or Disney purchasing 21st Century Fox, including its production studios, FX, FXX, and regional sports networks, but not its broadcast or cable news network.

Comcast, through its Internet Essentials program, is working with state Attorneys General in Arizona, New Mexico, and Pennsylvania, as well as several non-profits, to promote internet safety and try to alleviate the fear among many senior citizens of on-line exploitation.

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Communication

No communication was received.

Commission Assistance to Residents

A resident contacted the Commission because he was being charged for equipment he did not have. The Commission referred the issue to Comcast, which cleared up the matter and credited his account.

The Commission also let Comcast know that its technicians, replacing infrastructure in the Stonebridge subdivision in West Bloomfield, had failed to bury new cable and replace covers on pedestals. A few days later, the work was completed.

Preview

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

Ms. Dahl asked whether demographic information is available regarding those who drop cable service and move to streaming and those who retain cable, information which would assist the Commission in reaching those who are no longer cable subscribers. The Executive Director pointed out that all Civic Center TV programming, including meetings, is available on-line, although that distribution does not provide revenue to fund its activities.

9. Unfinished Business

No items of Unfinished Business were presented.

10. New Business

No items of New Business were presented.

11. Public Comment

The Chairperson stated that residents are provided an opportunity 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.

12. Commissioner Comments

Ms. Levine invited all commissioners to attend the Health and Wellness Fair on June 28 at West Bloomfield Town Hall. West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation and the Greater West Bloomfield

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Chamber of Commerce are the co-sponsors.

Mrs. Macon stated her belief that with the success of the Food Truck Rally on June 8, other community organizations will want to join Youth Assistance in that effort in 2019.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 8:05PM.

The next meeting of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission is **THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2018**, at **7:30PM** at **WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWN HALL**, 4550 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield, Michigan.