



GREATER WEST BLOOMFIELD CABLE COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

KEEGO HARBOR • ORCHARD LAKE • SYLVAN LAKE • WEST BLOOMFIELD

MINUTES

September 13, 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: Dan Krause
Representing Sylvan Lake: Matthew Benavides, Sharon Miller
Representing West Bloomfield: Harvey Gersin, Nada Jamoua,
Mark Kowalsky (left at 7:53PM),
Suzanne Levine, Deborah Macon (left at 8:05PM),
Jonathan Warshay

Members Absent:

Representing Keego Harbor: Michael Grogan
Representing Orchard Lake: Anne Dziuba

Others in Attendance:

Dave Scott (General Manager, Civic Center TV & WBLD), David Albery (Executive Director, GWBCCC)

The Executive Director stated that Mr. Grogan and Mrs. Dziuba had communicated their 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

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

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the agenda as provided for the September 13, 2018 meeting.”

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

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

Mr. Warshay stated that the Minutes of the July 12, 2018 Commission meeting should reflect his comment that wiring modifications necessary for some AT&T subscribers are exterior, not, interior, changes.

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

“That the Minutes of the July 12, 2018 meeting be approved as corrected.”

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

6. Acceptance of Financial Reports

The Executive Director presented the report for January through August 2018 and the report of second quarter payments from cable operators.

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

“That the Financial Reports be accepted.”

Voting YES: Benavides, Dahl, 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 Community Programming Committee

Commissioners were provided a written report which was presented by Mrs. Macon, vice-chairperson of the committee.

Report of the Commission Operations and Strategic Planning Committee

Commissioners were provided a written report which was summarized by Mr. Kowalsky, chairperson of the committee. He stated that Attorney Michael Salhaney of Secrest Wardle should be added to the report of those in attendance at the meeting, and the Chairperson added that an ad-hoc group consisting of Mrs. Macon, the Executive Director, and himself are working on revisions to the Commission's bylaws.

Committee Recommendation:

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve revisions to the 2018 Cable Television Local Programming Services Independent Contractor Agreement and associated documents as presented.”

Report of the Finance Committee

Commissioners were provided a written report which was summarized by Mr. Warshay, vice-chairperson of the committee. Mrs. Macon stated that the report should be corrected to reflect her attendance at the meeting.

Committee Recommendation:

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission adopt its 2019 budget as presented by the Finance Committee and recommend its approval by the four communities”.

In response to a question from Mr. Kowalsky, the Executive Director stated that the Commission's budget for 2018 is \$628,280 and that the Finance Committee projects expenditures for the year at \$585,000.

Motion by Mr. Warshay, support from Mrs. Macon:

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

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

Mr. Kowalsky left at 7:53PM.

8. Executive Director's Report

Civic Center TV

Mr. Scott addressed the Commission regarding the operation of Civic Center TV and WBLD, focusing on Sheena Monnin, who is leaving CCT after anchoring “The Splash” for the past year, WBLD broadcasts of West Bloomfield High School football games, radio presence at Family Fun Night on September 8 at the high school, upcoming coverage of the Fire Department Open House on October 7, League of Women Voters candidate forums in advance of the November 6 general election, the upgrade of streaming servers for all the Commission’s media outlets, and the Commission’s technical presence at the high school to facilitate the cablecast of West Bloomfield Board of Education meetings.

He presented designs for Civic Center and WBLD yard signs and magnets and decals for cars, items which will be available for distribution in the near future.

Mrs. Macon left at 8:05PM.

Cable Operators

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

Cable Industry News

The Executive Director thanked Mr. Kowalsky for an article regarding comments communicated to the Federal Communications Commission during its consideration of net neutrality earlier this year, reporting the fact that about 5 percent of the comments, mostly in favor of the repeal of net neutrality rules, were submitted from stolen identities.

A telecommunications analyst believes that losses of pay TV subscribers will stabilize until Generation Z enters the work force in the next several years.

The Comcast Internet Essentials program has added 2 million subscribers in the past year and is now at 6 million nationwide. The program has added low-income veterans to those eligible to sign up.

A report has concluded that 71 percent of homes in the U.S. are pay TV customers and plan to stay that way, citing familiarity and the advantages of bundled services as the major reasons.

The August issue of Consumer Reports includes an article entitled “Take Control of Cable TV”, the latest in a series of CR stories on cable dating back to 1987. The recent article focuses on cord cutting and cord shaving.

Communication

No communication was received.

Commission Assistance to Residents

The Commission assisted two residents with infrastructure issues, one an unburied cable laying across the property and interfering with landscaping work and the other damage to landscaping caused by the extension of service across the home-owners lawn to reach another home down the street.

Preview

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

9. Unfinished Business

No items of Unfinished Business were presented.

10. New Business

Recommendation of the Commission Operations and Strategic Planning Committee – Supplemental Revenue Project

The Chairperson presented the committee’s recommendation.

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve revisions to the 2018 Cable Television Local Programming Services Independent Contractor Agreement and associated documents as presented.”

At the request of the Chairperson, the Executive Director presented those revisions and the associated documents, focusing primarily on the addition of a new Section 7, outlining the contractor’s role in the Commission’s supplemental revenue project.

In response to a question from Mr. Warshay, the Executive Director stated that should the Commission approve this recommendation, the Commission and Motown Digital will execute

the amended agreement, replacing the current agreement in place for 2018. In response to a question from Ms. Dahl, he stated that the rates for use of the Commission's studio at Green Media Center include all studio-related equipment, including cameras, lights, teleprompter, and audio.

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

"That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve revisions to the 2018 Cable Television Local Programming Services Independent Contractor Agreement and associated documents as presented."

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

Recommendation of the Finance Committee – 2019 GWBCCC Budget

The Chairperson presented the committee's recommendation.

"That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission adopt its 2019 budget as presented by the Finance Committee and recommend its approval by the four communities".

At the request of the Chairperson, the Executive Director summarized the budget presentation, focusing on past years' budgets, revenue, and expenditures and the proposed budget for 2019.

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

"That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission adopt its 2019 budget as presented by the Finance Committee and recommend its approval by the four communities".

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

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 announced a "Fun, Fashion, and Fitness" event on September 27 at Orchard Mall.

She also announced on behalf of Mrs. Macon several community events, including “Comedy for a Cause” on October 4, the Fire Department Open House on October 7, dedication of the new Youth Services Room at the Westacres branch of the West Bloomfield Township Public Library on October 7, and the Friends of the Library used book sale on October 12 through 14.

Mr. Warshay announced the household hazardous waste event at Town Hall on September 29 and a sharps disposal at Beaumont Medical Center on September 28.

Ms. Dahl announced Skate Night in Keego Harbor on September 14.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 8:27PM.

The next meeting of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission is **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013**, at **7:30PM** at **WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWN HALL**, 4550 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield, Michigan.