



GREATER WEST BLOOMFIELD CABLE COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

KEEGO HARBOR • ORCHARD LAKE • SYLVAN LAKE • WEST BLOOMFIELD

MINUTES

October 11, 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, Michael Grogan

Representing Orchard Lake: Anne Dziuba, Dan Krause

Representing West Bloomfield: Harvey Gersin, Nada Jamoua, Mark Kowalsky,
Suzanne Levine, Deborah Macon, Jonathan Warshay

Members Absent:

Representing Sylvan Lake: Matthew Benavides, Sharon Miller

Others in Attendance:

David Albery (Executive Director, GWBCCC)

The Executive Director stated that Mr. Benavides and Ms. Miller had communicated their inability to attend the meeting. He added that material in addition to that delivered earlier in the week, including a revised Enclosure 10-A, had been provided for commissioners at the dais.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Kowalsky, support from Ms. Levine:

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

Voting YES: Dahl, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Macon,
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

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

“That the Minutes of the September 13, 2018 meeting be approved as presented.”

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

6. Acceptance of Financial Report

The report was summarized by Mr. Grogan, the Commission’s Treasurer.

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

“That the Financial Report be accepted.”

Voting YES: Dahl, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Macon,
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 summarized by Mrs. Dziuba, the committee chairperson.

The Commission Chairperson thanked the members of the Cable Community Panel for their participation.

Mr. Warshay stated that Supervisor Steve Kaplan is aware of procedures that will need to be instituted in order to pilot the simulcasting of Township Board meetings.

Report of the Commission Operations and Strategic Planning Committee

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

In response to a question from Mrs. Macon, the Chairperson stated that the next meeting of the ad-hoc group working on the revision of the bylaws has not yet been scheduled.

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

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

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

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

8. Executive Director's Report

Civic Center TV

Commissioners were provided a report of programming produced for Civic Center TV in September. The Executive Director stated that future programming will include interviews conducted at the Fire Department Open House on October 7.

Cable Operators

No communication was received from Comcast or AT&T.

Cable Industry News

The revenue of streaming companies increased 26 percent from 2017 to 2018. Research indicates that streaming is predominantly a supplement to cable service, not a substitute, and that both cable and streaming are price-sensitive. The quality of the streaming signal, especially live programming, is a negative for many consumers.

An industry analyst warns that the streaming bubble could burst because all the major providers are currently losing money, charging an amount that only pays for programming and not for other costs, including marketing and billing.

AT&T and Verizon are aggressively pursuing 5G technology, leaving analysts wondering whether the future of internet and cable service will be wired or wireless.

Communication

No communication was received.

Commission Assistance to Residents

The Commission has assisted a West Bloomfield resident involved in the construction of a new Jewish school and the demolition of an old building in Oak Park. The school is having difficulty in working with Comcast to disconnect the service from the old building and connect the new one.

Within the past two years, Comcast transitioned to a new customer service software platform, and in the process, some subscriber social security numbers did not transfer correctly. The Commission worked with a resident who was managing his father's Comcast account and being told that the number he was providing was incorrect and that his 89-year old father would need to appear in-person at an Xfinity store. The company eventually accepted proof of identity without the store visit.

Preview

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

Mrs. Macon stated that each member of the Sylvan Lake City Council thanks viewers at home during Council meetings, and she added that she appreciated the opportunity to attend the meeting on October 10 and learn more about the city.

Mr. Warshay stated that the West Bloomfield Township Board recently passed a resolution opposing proposed state legislation and FCC action which would allow companies to install 5G antennas in public rights-of-way without local oversight and for minimal compensation.

9. Unfinished Business

No items of Unfinished Business were presented.

10. New Business

GWBCCC 2019 Meeting Schedule

The Chairperson stated that the schedule under consideration is the revised version provided to commissioners, and the Executive Director provided one additional revision, the corrected date for the final Commission meeting of 2019, December 5.

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

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve its meeting schedules for 2019 as provided and subsequently revised.”

Voting YES: Dahl, Dziuba, Gersin, Grogan, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Krause, Levine, Macon,
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

Mr. Grogan mentioned the recent boil-water advisory in Keego Harbor and the need for better transmission of emergency information to residents, including text and email alerts from local public safety, the county, and state agencies.

Mrs. Macon stated that Sylvan Lake has included a portal for emergency information on its city web site. She also mentioned the very successful “Comedy for a Cause” event on October 4, which benefitted the West Bloomfield Police Foundation. She mentioned two upcoming community events, Parks and Recreation’s Heroes Appreciation for veterans on November 9 and next spring’s Michigan Week Breakfast on May 10, 2019.

Mr. Krause mentioned Parks and Recreation field trips and the great opportunities available.

Ms. Levine stated that many of those field trips are sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce Senior Resource group. She added that there are many new businesses opening in the area and that the Chamber is sponsoring its annual Leadership Luncheon on November 15.

Mr. Warshay stated that he is helping out with the veterans’ recognition event on November 9 and added that one of the members of the Commission’s Cable Community Panel, David Barash, has been appointed to fill a vacancy on the West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation Commission.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 8:12PM.

The next meeting of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission is **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018, at 7:30PM** at **WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWN HALL**, 4550 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield, Michigan.