



GREATER WEST BLOOMFIELD CABLE COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

KEEGO HARBOR • ORCHARD LAKE • SYLVAN LAKE • WEST BLOOMFIELD

MINUTES

April 8, 2021

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Harvey Gersin, at 6:32PM via ZOOM teleconference. He stated that the meeting is held virtually pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act and Oakland County Health Department orders.

2. Roll Call

Members Present

Representing Keego Harbor:

Ashley Attisha (attending in the City of Keego Harbor, Oakland County, Michigan)

Representing Orchard Lake:

Anne Dziuba (attending in the City of Orchard Lake, Oakland County, Michigan)

Representing Sylvan Lake:

Phil Ross (attending in the City of Sylvan Lake, Oakland County, Michigan)

Representing West Bloomfield:

Harvey Gersin (attending in West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, Michigan)

Nada Jamoua (attending in West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, Michigan)

Mark Kowalsky (attending in West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, Michigan)

Suzanne Levine (attending in West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, Michigan)

Deborah Macon (attending in West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, Michigan)

Jonathan Warshay (attending in West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, Michigan)

Members Absent

Representing Orchard Lake:

Dan Krause

Others in Attendance

Ms. Mosby, Dave Scott (General Manager, Civic Center TV/Lakes FM), David Albery (Executive Director, GWBCCC)

3. Approval of Agenda

The Chairperson noted that Item 5-B should be deleted, Item 5-C becoming 5-B.

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

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the agenda as revised for the April 8, 2021 meeting.”

Voting YES: Attisha, Dziuba, Gersin, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Ross, 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.

Ms. Mosby requested the opportunity to address the Commission later in the meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes

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

“That the Minutes of the March 11, 2021 meeting and the April 6, 2021 joint meeting be approved as presented.”

Voting YES: Attisha, Dziuba, Gersin, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Ross, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

6. Acceptance of Financial Report

The report was summarized by the Executive Director.

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

“That the Financial Report be accepted.”

Voting YES: Attisha, Dziuba, Gersin, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Ross, 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 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 document ‘Governance of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission’ ”.

Report of the Community Programming Committee

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

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

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

Voting YES: Attisha, Dziuba, Gersin, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Ross, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

8. Executive Director's Report

Civic Center TV/Lakes FM

Commissioners were provided a written report of programming cablecast on Civic Center TV in March.

Mr. Scott addressed the Commission regarding the operation of Civic Center TV and Lakes FM, focusing on a search conducted by the Commission’s broadcast engineer to find a new frequency for Lakes FM which would allow more power and wider coverage. Unfortunately, that search did not find anything available for which the Commission could apply during an upcoming FCC filing window.

He also reported the involvement of the Commission’s programming resources in the West Bloomfield High School Football championship banner ceremony, the return of the Splash to Civic Center TV in late May, the virtual State of the Communities in late March, the programs which will be submitted for NATOA Government Programming Awards, and Motown Digital’s involvement in the virtual 2021 NATOA Annual Conference. He also mentioned that the discontinuation of the Comcast fiber-optic network has necessitated changes in the technology used to cablecast proceedings of the Keego Harbor and Sylvan Lake city councils when those

bodies return to in-person meetings.

Cable Operators

No communication was received from Comcast or AT&T.

Cable Industry News

The 6th Circuit Court of Appeals denied the FCC's request for a 120-day abeyance of the appeal of its 2019 franchise fee order, and oral arguments will be presented on April 15 as originally scheduled.

Comcast has pledged over one billion dollars over the next ten years to support digital equity, including expansion of Internet Essentials, additional Lift Zones in community centers and other public locations, donations of computers, and grants to community non-profit organizations to create opportunities for low-income Americans, particularly in media, technology, and entrepreneurship. Internet Essentials has connected 10 million people to the internet in the last decade, and the company's new commitment for the next decade will impact an estimated 50 million.

Communication

No communication was received.

Commission Assistance to Residents

A pedestal in the back yard of a residence in West Bloomfield has been straightened up and closed after the Commission referred the situation to Comcast.

A resident contacted the Commission after the interface box fell off the exterior wall of her home. The matter was referred to Comcast, and the company re-attached the box.

The Commission worked with a resident who was confused regarding customer-owned equipment and items leased from the Comcast. The company contacted her, cleared up the confusion, and credited the account for the misunderstanding.

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 – Amendment of GWBCCC Bylaws

The Chairperson presented the committee recommendation, submitted to the Commission and given first reading at the March 11, 2021 meeting.

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission amend Article VII, Section 1 of its bylaws as proposed.”

Motion by Mr. Kowalsky:

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission amend Article VII, Section 1 of its bylaws as proposed.”

The Chairperson noted that as a committee recommendation, the motion does not require support.

Voting YES: Attisha, Dziuba, Gersin, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Ross, Warshay

Voting NO:

The Executive Director noted that the required 2/3 of the Commission voting in the affirmative, the amendment was approved.

Committee Appointments

The Chairperson stated that as a result of the amendment of the Commission bylaws just approved, he is moving to fill two committee vacancies by appointing Ashley Attisha of Keego Harbor to the Finance Committee and Phil Ross of Sylvan Lake to the Commission Operations and Strategic Committee.

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

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the Chairperson’s appointments of Ashley Attisha to the Finance Committee and Phil Ross to the Commission Operations and Strategic Planning Committee.”

Voting YES: Attisha, Dziuba, Gersin, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Ross, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

Recommendation of the Commission Operations and Strategic Planning Committee - Approval of "Governance of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission"

The Chairperson presented the committee recommendation.

"That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the document 'Governance of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission'".

At the request of the Chairperson, the Executive Director summarized the revisions to the current governance document.

Motion by Mr. Kowalsky:

"That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the document 'Governance of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission'".

The Chairperson noted that as a committee recommendation, the motion does not require support.

Voting YES: Attisha, Dziuba, Gersin, Jamoua, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Ross, Warshay

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

In response to a question from Mrs. Macon, the Chairperson stated that the decision of the Community Programming Committee regarding the submission of Civic Center TV programming for recognition by NATOA is sufficient and that no Commission action is required.

In response to a question from Mrs. Macon, the Executive Director stated that the benefits of Comcast's planned investment in Internet Essentials over the next decade will occur through the efforts of school districts, which administer the National School Lunch Program, community organizations, such as WB Parks, and the Commission, through the use of its programming resources to publicize the opportunities. He added that he will ask Comcast if the company has established Lift Zones in Oakland County.

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.

Ms. Mosby stated that she was addressing the Commission on behalf of three Oakland County social justice organizations regarding content posted on You Tube by Civic Center TV. She stated that the content is in violation of You Tube's Child Safety Policies and requested that it be removed. She added that the content in question is an Oakland County Circuit Court proceeding involving a minor and that an email regarding the situation had been sent to each commissioner.

12. Commissioner Comments

Mrs. Macon asked how the Commission will respond to the concerns presented by Ms. Mosby, and the Chairperson stated that he and Executive Director will formulate a response.

Mr. Warshay reported that shredding and household hazardous waste are two separate events this spring, with the former scheduled for Saturday, April 17 and the latter for Friday, April 30 and Saturday, May 1, the Friday evening event open only to seniors 60 years and older. Both events are open to all Greater West Bloomfield residents.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 7:25PM.

The next meeting of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission is **THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021**, at **6:30PM** via **ZOOM** teleconference.