



GREATER WEST BLOOMFIELD CABLE COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

KEEGO HARBOR • ORCHARD LAKE • SYLVAN LAKE • WEST BLOOMFIELD

MINUTES

July 13, 2023

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairperson, Anne Dziuba, at 7:00PM at West Bloomfield Town Hall.

2. Roll Call

Members Present

Representing Orchard Lake:

Jackie Beach

Anne Dziuba

Representing Sylvan Lake:

Pat Riney

Representing West Bloomfield:

Stuart Dorf

Harvey Gersin

Mark Kowalsky (arrived at 7:07PM)

Suzanne Levine

Deborah Macon

Members Absent

Representing West Bloomfield:

Jennifer Boykins

Representing Sylvan Lake:

Phil Ross

Others in Attendance

David Albery (Executive Director, GWBCCC)

The Executive Director stated that Ms. Boykins and Mr. Ross had indicated their inability to attend the meeting. Mr. Kowalsky stated that he was running late.

The Vice-Chairperson welcomed a new commissioner, Mrs. Beach, representing the city of Orchard Lake. At the Vice-Chairperson's invitation, Mrs. Beach introduced herself to the Commission, and other commissioners introduced themselves to her.

Mr. Kowalsky arrived at 7:07PM.

3. Approval of Agenda

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

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the agenda as provided for the July 13, 2023 meeting.”

Voting YES: Beach, Dorf, Dziuba, Gersin, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Riney

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. Those unable to attend should contact the Commission via the Comment tab at gwbcable.org.

No member of the public rose to address the Commission.

5. Approval of Minutes

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

“That the Minutes of the June 8, 2023 meeting, the June 12, 2023 joint meeting, and the July 10, 2023 joint meeting be approved as presented.”

Voting YES: Dorf, Dziuba, Gersin, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Riney

Voting NO:

Abstaining: Beach

The motion carried.

Mrs. Beach stated that she is abstaining because she was not in attendance at the June 8 and June 12 meetings, and Mrs. Macon stated that the abstention is allowed but not required.

6. Acceptance of Financial Report

The report of expenditures from January through June was summarized by the Executive Director.

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

“That the Financial Report be accepted.”

Voting YES: Beach, Dorf, Dziuba, Gersin, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Riney

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.

Report of the Community Programming Committee

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

Strategic Plan Implementation 2023

Commissioners were provided a written update regarding implementation of the Commission's strategic plan.

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

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission accept the reports of the Commission Operations and Strategic Planning and Community Programming committees, as well as the strategic plan implementation update.”

Voting YES: Beach, Dorf, Dziuba, Gersin, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Riney

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 June and early July. The Executive Director noted the final episode of the Megacast on July 5 and the debut on July 6 of The Splash Live as the morning and early afternoon programming on CCT.

Mrs. Macon suggested a friendly challenge among commissioners to watch two or three episodes of The Splash Live each week.

Cable Operators

Commissioners were provided copies of a written communication from Comcast regarding price changes.

GWBCCC Directory

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

Cable Industry News

The Leichtman Research Group reports that 74 percent of U.S. households now own at least one smart TV.

A report from the accounting firm PwC, focusing on long-term trends in telecommunications, forecasts traditional television (broadcast, pay TV) revenue dropping 2 percent from 2022 to 2027 while streaming revenue will increase 16 percent during the same time period.

22 percent of adults in the U.S. have canceled a streaming service in the past three months, citing insufficient use as the reason. As a result, Americans are spending more on streaming but using fewer streaming services.

The Senate Commerce Committee has approved FCC nominees Anne Gomez, Geoffrey Starks, and Brendan Carr and sent the nominations to the full Senate. Approval of all three would bring the Commission to a full complement of five members for the first time in nearly three years.

The FCC is seeking comments regarding a proposal to require comprehensive bottom-line pricing for all video services. One of the sticking points is how to label taxes and fees and differentiate them from programming costs.

Communication

No communication was received.

Commission Assistance to Residents

The Commission has worked with cable operators to have two cables buried.

The Commission also referred two billing issues to Comcast on behalf of subscribers, one involving the expiration of a promotional rate and the other new bank account information for autopay after a previous bank account was hacked.

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

Committee Appointment

The Vice-Chairperson stated that Chairperson Jennifer Boykins has communicated her appointment of Jackie Beach to the Finance Committee.

Motion by Mrs. Dziuba, support from Mrs. Macon:

“That the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission approve the appointment of Jackie Beach to the Finance Committee.”

Voting YES: Beach, Dorf, Dziuba, Gersin, Kowalsky, Levine, Macon, Riney

Voting NO:

The motion carried.

11. Commissioner Comments

Mrs. Macon stated that she will be asking the Chairperson, Ms. Boykins, to place a presentation regarding the Affordable Connectivity Program and its benefit to Greater West Bloomfield residents on a future Commission agenda.

Mrs. Macon stated that she will be providing the Commission’s weekly update to the West Bloomfield Township Board at its July 17 meeting. She also mentioned the Orchard Lake Fine Art Show on the last weekend of the month and a Blue Avocado workshop on July 27 regarding the IRS Form 990 for small and mid-size non-profit organizations.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 7:43PM.

The next meeting of the Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission is **TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2023, at 5:00PM** at **SYLVAN LAKE COMMUNITY CENTER**, 2456 Pontiac Drive, Sylvan Lake, Michigan.