

Minutes of 2/22/12 Metuchen TV & Technology Advisory Committee

The regular meeting of the Metuchen TV & Technology Advisory Committee was called to order at 8:12pm on February 22, 2012 in Borough Hall. In attendance were the following members:

Ken Kim	Michael Scheller	Chris Thumann	Tom Rockerfeller	Jim LLoyd
Beatrice Moskowitz, Chairperson	Mike Guarino, Secretary	Ira Grubman	Bob Goldy	

Administrative

-Mike circulated copies of the Minutes of the January 26, 2012 meeting for review and approval. They were approved with no corrections;

Correspondence

-Mike noted that the Borough Clerk had received **no** new complaints since the prior meeting;

New Business/On-Going Matters

Cablevision

-Beatrice inquired as to whether we had received any additional information from Stacy Lazarus of Cablevision, who had agreed to provide the following based on her attendance at our January meeting:

-a Fee Schedule for the programs offered under their *Optimum Business*, including such services as *Enhanced Traffic Technology, Municipal Solutions* and a security camera program.

-a list of several local towns that we could contact regarding their use of some of the municipal services available to towns like Metuchen through their *Optimum Business* program, which the Committee would then review and consider any recommendations;

-feedback as to the need to have full WiFi service inside Borough Hall. The Committee agreed that such service is important and several members confirmed that a user needed to be a Cablevision subscriber and have a password;

- the schools needed more robust bandwidth capabilities between the buildings in order to fully support the number of computers required for the respective schools. Stacy had also agreed to follow up on that need;

Mike advised that he had not received any feedback from Stacy and sent a followup e-mail request.

Survey/METV Programming/Municipal Website Issues

-Mike noted that that he, Ken, Tom and Michael had met with Rich DeSimone in mid-February to discuss the Survey results in order to address the following concerns raised by a number of responses from the public.:

-inadequate communication as to nature/purpose of PEG channel and program scheduling on METV;

-lack of a sufficient variety of local programming on METV; and

-lower quality picture/reception on METV;

Ken, Tom, Mike. S. and Mike G. advised that their meeting with Rich was not able to resolve the major issues, with Rich noting that his reduced programming options were in part due to his inability to acquire new lighting and a limited staff to cover numerous events, resulting in the need to share programs from other towns (e.g., Woodbridge).

The one positive suggestion was to add a feature to the municipal website (on which there is a link to METV's program schedule, whereby each week several new shows would be 'spotlighted' by listing with the home page link; Mike had drafted a summary report of the Survey Findings and provided copies to the Committee for review and discussion at the next meeting, highlighting the above and the following additional points:

-86% satisfied/very satisfied in ability to obtain information on website;

-still high level of complaints re cable service;

There being no further business, due to the upcoming holidays it was agreed to hold our next meeting on 3/22/12 and Ira moved that we adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Ken at 9:20pm. Submitted by Michael Guarino, 3/21/12.