

Minutes of 6/28/12 Metuchen TV & Technology Advisory Committee

The

regular meeting of the Metuchen TV & Technology Advisory Committee was called to order at 8:12pm on June 28, 2012 in Borough Hall. In attendance were the following members:

Michael Scheller

Tom Rockafeller

Ken Kim

Chris Thuman

Jim Lloyd

Beatrice Moskowitz, Chairperson

Mike Guarino, Secretary

Ron Grayzel, Council Liaison

Guest: Dan Lebar

Administrative

-Mike had circulated copies of the Minutes of the April 24, 2012 meeting via e-mail 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. He also indicated receipt of an article in the 6/3/12 Courier News regarding the recent trend by subscribers away from Cable TV providers and watching more streaming of TV Programs over the internet. All agreed this could be an indicator of future shift in viewing mode.

New Business/On-Going Matters

-Beatrice welcomed our guest, Dan, who was Chairman of the Cable TV Advisory Committee for many years back in the late Eighties/early Nineties. Dan initiated a discussion regarding the concept of working with the Board of Education to start a local radio station through the schools, utilizing Metuchen's current access to an AM station, which is only available to broadcast at night. He thought it could be beneficial to students interested in the media as a learning ground to gain useful experience in program planning, scheduling, etc. All agreed it would be an interesting idea, but may be an issue due to the need for a teacher/moderator with experience, as well as a budget for equipment. However the Committee thanked Dan for his input and continuing interest in our Committee;

Cablevision

Beatrice then noted that she had attempted to contact Don Viapre at Cablevision to have him follow up with Stacy Lazarus of Cablevision, who had agreed to provide the following after her attendance at our January meeting on the costs breakdown on the various municipal services: under *Optimum Business*. Beatrice suggested she follow up with Don Viapre, our Government Affairs liaison at Cablevision for further information on the on-going open matters (fees for the Municipal *Optimum Business* services and a list of local towns using those services to contact, the limited WiFi access in Borough Hall and the bandwidth issues in our schools);

Survey/METV Programming/Municipal Website Issues

-Mike advised that he was contacting Rich DeSiimone to follow up on adding 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 them on the home page as "Coming Attractions";

-Ron agreed to pursue the idea with the Mayor and Borough Administrator to develop procedures for the municipal staff to update information directly onto the website, rather than always depending on the webmaster;

-Chris noted that he had spoken to the Curriculum Coordinator for the schools, who agreed to attend one of our upcoming meetings to discuss the potential for the Board of Education to have more involvement with METV to allow more use of the channel for school activities and programming;

There being no further business, it was moved to adjourn at 9:05pm, with next meeting on 7/26/12. M. Guarino, July, 2012

AGENDA FOR 7/26/12 MEETING OF METUCHEN TV & TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

-Review Minutes of 6/28/12 Committee meeting;

-Review of any Correspondence and/or Complaints;

-Review status of follow-up fees relating to the presentation by Cablevision re *Optimum Business* services to be used by the Borough;

- Follow-up on recommendations from Presentation/Report to Council on Survey results and work group discussion session with Rich DeSimone of METV;

-Use of booth at fall Country Fair

-Any other new business;