

Present: Heldt, McAlear, McLain - Birmingham  
Verdi-Hus – Beverly Hills  
Stakhiv – Franklin  
Ettenson – Bingham Farms  
Borgon - Beverly Hills  
Heyman – Beverly Hills

Absent: Schneider – Beverly Hills

Also Present: White - Executive Director  
Gary M. Gemmell, IT Manager for the City of Birmingham  
Leslie Pielack, Historical Museum and Park Director for the City of Birmingham  
Cris Braun, Executive Director of NEXT

McLain called the meeting to order at 7:48 a.m. in the Village of Beverly Hills municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

### **APPROVE MINUTES OF CABLE BOARD MEETING HELD July 15, 2015**

Motion by Heldt, second by Ettenson, that the minutes of the regular Cable Board meeting held on July 15, 2015 be approved, as revised to correct the spelling of Bob Borgon on page 2.

Motion passed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **GRANT REQUEST – CITY OF BIRMINGHAM**

Mr. Gemmell presented the request from the City of Birmingham for a grant in an amount not to exceed \$31,488.18 for the upgrade and expansion of wireless services designated as Phases 2 through 4 of the Museum and Park Connectivity Enhancements as set forth in a memorandum dated August 13, 2015. The Board previously authorized a grant in October, 2013, to fund upgrading five obsolete wireless access points within the Birmingham Historical Museum and Park, Main Building (Allen House). This project designated as Phase 1 was completed and has created the needed wifi infrastructure for content delivery inside the main museum building. More recently, Phase 2 has been completed, which consisted of an expanded extension of the wifi infrastructure for a secondary museum historical site building, the Historical Hunter House. The cost of Phase 2 was also funded by the Board. The City of Birmingham now desires to additional expand wireless coverage to the park grounds, that is, outside of the two museum buildings directly to the grounds areas within the park.

Motion by Borgon, second by Heldt to approve a PEG grant to the City of Birmingham in an amount not to exceed \$31,488.18. for the upgrade and expansion of wireless services designated as Phases 2 through 4 of Museum and Park connectivity enhancement.

Roll call vote  
Motion passed (8-0)

**GRANT REQUEST – VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS**

The Village of Beverly Hills is requesting a Municipal Support Services grant to fund internet services provided by WOW! at the Village Offices at a cost of \$100.75 per month for FY 2015-16.

Motion by Stakhiv, second by Heyman, to approve a Municipal Support Services grant in the amount of \$100.75 per month for FY 2015-16 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016) in an amount not to exceed \$1,209.00 to cover internet services for the Village Offices.

Roll call vote  
Motion passed (8-0)

**GRANT REQUEST – VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS**

The Village of Beverly Hills is requesting a Municipal Support Services grant to fund the cost of internet services provided by Comcast to the Department of Public Safety at a cost of \$82.90 per month (\$994.80 per year) for FY 2015-16.

Motion by Heldt, second by Ettenson, to approve a Municipal Support Services grant in the amount of \$994.80 for FY 2015-16 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016) to cover internet services for the Beverly Hills Department of Public Safety.

Roll call vote  
Motion passed (8-0)

**GRANT REQUEST – VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS**

The Village of Beverly Hills is requesting a Municipal Support Services grant to fund the costs of web streaming bimonthly Village cable meetings and monthly cable board meetings at a cost of \$205.43 per month for a total cost of \$2,465.00 for FY 2015-16. A question was raised as to why the costs have doubled this year.

Motion by Heyman, second by Ettenson, to table this matter until the next meeting so that the Village of Beverly Hills can provide an answer to the question raised.

Motion passed (8-0)

**GRANT REQUEST – NEXT (FORMERLY BASCC)**

Cris Braun, Executive Director of NEXT, presented a request on behalf of NEXT for a PEG grant to fund the cost of a redevelopment and upgrade of their web site. Their current

website is very limited and outdated. It is difficult to navigate, difficult to edit and does not allow for class registrations or making online payments for classes. In addition, their large newsletter uploads are weighing down the system and the current calendar does not have the capacity to accommodate their growing schedule of activities. After comparing several web developers, NEXT has chosen to use Drw Design L.L.C., which has provided a quote to perform the redesign, development and upgrades of the website at a cost not to exceed \$8,197.95. Mr. Ettenson had questions regarding the organization's speaker series and inquired as to whether the speakers are paid. The Board requested that any donations received from BACB be mentioned in the organization's newsletter.

Motion by Heldt, second by Stakhiv, to approve a PEG grant in the amount not to exceed \$8,197.95 to cover the cost of the redevelopment and upgrade of the NEXT website

Motion passed (8-0)

### **BCTV REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASES**

Greg Black from BCTV presented a request for the Board to cover the cost of new equipment for BCTV in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00.

Motion by Heldt, second by McAlear, to approve the request from BCTV for the purchase of new equipment in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00.

Motion passed (7-0)

Mr. Borgon stepped out of the meeting while the vote was taken.

### **CABLE ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Ms. Verdi-Hus summarized the meeting which was held on August 6, 2015. Along with Ms. Verdi-Hus, Ms. McLain and Ms. White were present. Discussion included the monthly financial information, the FY 2015-16 Budget and the national NATOA conference coming up in September. Ms. McLain stated that due to the cost of attendance and the fact that much of the information from the conference sessions will be available on-line, she will not be attending the conference this year. The next Cable Action Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, September 3, 2015 at 6:00 pm at the Baldwin Public Library.

### **PEG COMMITTEE**

It was mentioned that BCTV would be filming six fall sporting events for the upcoming sports season.

Motion by McAlear, second by Borgon, to approve payment to BCTV in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 for filming six fall sporting events.

Motion passed (7-0)

Mr. Heyman abstained from voting.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

White indicated that a complaint that had been pending last month regarding cable lines dangling over a Beverly Hills resident's property has been resolved. The lines were determined to belong to WOW! and the company has been contacted to remove or repair these lines. Seven complaints have been received since the date of our last meeting. Four of the complaints involved dangling wires or unburied lines. Those complaints have all been resolved. A complaint was submitted by a Franklin resident experiencing slow internet speed in connection with his Comcast service. Comcast did not honor the scheduled appointment time that a technician was supposed to come out to fix the faulty internet connection. The technical problem has been resolved and the subscriber's account was credited \$40.00 for the missed appointment. A complaint was received from a Franklin resident whose Comcast phone service had been out for several days. A Comcast technician did not appear on the scheduled appointment date. A Comcast technician has since been to the residence and determined that it was a Comcast coding problem. He connected it correctly to resolve the issue. Finally, a complaint was submitted by a Birmingham resident who had faulty Comcast boxes and an intermittent internet connection. A Comcast technician replaced her aerial drop and inside wire to restore service. This complaint is closed.

Financial information for the MBS, BBCU and Beverly Hills accounts as well as budget-to-actual figures will be provided at next month's meeting due to a minor discrepancy between the BACB's information and that provided by Beverly Hills.

The Executive Director also informed the Board regarding the checks that have been written on behalf of the Board in the past month. She noted that the AT&T/DirecTV deal has been approved. She also informed the Board that the FCC is seeking comment on the competitive strategy of the cable companies in adding video-related fees as opposed to raising monthly subscription prices. The FCC is interested in finding out whether video-related fees cause consumers to pay prices higher than the advertised rate for video service. In addition, the FCC wants to know if such fees are disclosed to consumers in a transparent manner. Cable operators have until September 21, 2015 to make their case to the FCC. The Executive Director distributed a copy of the Board's second amended FY 2014-15 Budget, which incorporates the changes adopted by the Board at the June 17, 2015 meeting.

## **PROVIDER RELATED TOPICS.**

Fred Eaton was present on behalf of Comcast. He discussed the benefits of the X-1 Platform and mentioned that since the functionality is now in the cloud, making upgrades to the boxes is much easier. He informed the Board that Comcast now provides a new remote control device that is voice-activated. He also indicated that many of the fees on customer's bills are collected on behalf of others and are not kept by Comcast. These include franchise fees, FCC fees, the Universal Service Fund, government taxes and broadcast fees. In response to a question from Ms. McLain, Mr. Eaton explained that the Universal Service Fund was created so that rural areas can get a subsidy from the federal government to get phone service extended to those areas.

There were no representatives present from AT&T or WOW!.

**BAPA/BAMA REPORT**

Steve Rota indicated that for the period July 16, 2015 through August 19, 2015, BCTV completed seven regularly scheduled municipal meetings, two Baldwin Public Library Board meetings, the Multi-Modal Transportation Board meeting, the Advisory Parking Committee meeting, and the BACB meeting. BCTV also filmed in studio “County Corner” hosted by Marcia Gershenson. With respect to BACB programs, BCTV taped 27 programs. The next Volunteer Producer camera workshop has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 27, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to noon or 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**BOARD COMMENTS**

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.