

Statewide Video Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2015

The SVAC meeting was held on May 27, 2015 at the BACI Grill. Merja Lehtinen, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. In attendance were Stephen Mindera, Bob Leroux, Alex Fraser, Mike Mainz, Tad Weinstein, Paul Batterson, Gerard Speno, Merja Lehtinen, Ken Mason, Doug Poger, Michael Cicchetti, Jim Cameron, Gregory Davis, Paul A. Tontini, Sr. and Lori Weinstein.

There was no correspondence. Mike Mainz made a motion which was seconded by Alex Fraser to accept the minutes with a correction to the spelling of Paul Batterson's name. The motion was accepted.

Treasurers Report:

Tad Weinstein gave the Treasurer's Report which included the Frontier payment and he said that the Cable vision check is on the way. The current total is \$24,529.15 before the recording secretary's invoice of \$125.00 and the evening's dinner. Mike Mainz made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Doug Poger seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

The Bylaws Committee gave out the draft which included changes to the Election Date – that the elections will now take place on July 1st; a Quorum is to be 75% (5 members). Jim Cameron made a motion to adjust the funding amount of \$2,000.00 to be removed and say State Statute instead of Pura. Paul Batterson made a motion to approve the Bylaws with the adjustments and this was seconded by Doug Poger. After the motion passed, Gregory Davis claimed that the Bylaws have some inconsistencies and that Tad should choose two additional members to work along with him and his committee and he requested a 30 day review period. Lori Weinstein mentioned that she had been out of state and did not bring the paperwork with her, therefore the short period of time to review the Bylaws Draft.

Providers Report:

Frontier Representatives Ken Mason and Mike Cicchetti introduced themselves and opened the floor to a question and answer period which was extremely informative. Lori Weinstein thanked them for bringing back the Hallmark Channel that AT&T could not negotiate. They said that was their big win and Merja Lehtinen said that it should be advertised as she received many letters requesting this. There was some discussion about not bundling packages.

Legislative Report – Old Business:

Gregory Davis spoke about an internet subscriber fee and declining funding for public access. Three bills died again this year. Pegpetia funds were pushed aside and put in the general fund so it did not make it to the house again this year. Merja Lehtinen has a major concern as people in her area truly can't afford to be taxed more and are dropping cable due to the expense. Alex Fraser asked Mike Cicchetti if there is something that he could do to help with Pegpetia as he is a lobbyist for Frontier.

Jim Cameron made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.