

Albany PEGAOB Minutes 1-14-16
Approved 2-11-16

Present:

Mark Barth, Joe Bonilla, Mario Chiarello, Joe Cunniff, Marc Gronich, Elizabeth Richards, Cathy Taylor, Chris Sagaas, Ocasio Willson

Absent:

Ron Lesko.

Albany Community Development Association representative.

An additional Common Council representative to be appointed.

Public Comment

- Dennis Karius (Guilderland) was previously doing a show in the studio, now asks “how can shows continue?”
- Joe Colon produces many installments of “On the Spot” in Albany and hopes the studio will continue to provide broadcast its content.

- Keith Irish

- attended Alliance for Community Media Trade Show/Conference and provided materials to PEG Board chairman.

- sees a funding opportunity to the City from the County should the Albany County Legislature expand video coverage, distribution & archiving of its meetings. The PEGAOB could enable 'live streaming' of meetings and archiving for video on demand which is not all covered by Cable-TV or by Community Access systems.

-also mentioned content available, online and DVDs, regarding pedestrian access, see pedestrians.org.

OLD BUSINESS:

The 2011–2015 Report to the Common Council remains overdue. Joe C. is looking for electronic copy to share.

Regarding the need for new equipment in Common Council Chambers, Joe C. will post on ACM message board a request for recommendations.

Assembly member grant program – Pat Fahy is awaiting revised application from her office to be delivered to City Hall for further processing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Joe C. and Cathy Taylor thanked Keith Irish for his email alert regarding channels that were not on the air. The power backup stopped working and is now resolved.

-Joe C. reported that he and Assistant Corporation Counsel Valerie A. Lubanko interviewed the two applicants to replace Joe Alindato as studio coordinator. Jake Sardos, a former volunteer with Open Stage Media was hired.

Mr. Sardos has been invited to attend the PEGAOB meeting on February 11.

-Chris Sagaas clarified the role Albany public library [APL] wishes to play in the newly managed television studio. Managing the studio is not an option for APL without a source of additional funding. However APL will remain active as a landlord and on the PEG board, and will continue to provide in-kind services like promoting APL programs for broadcast.

Establishing committees:

An ad hoc PEGAOB committee in 2015 edited and contributed to finalizing the draft of the 2011–2015 Report to the Common Council which will be reviewed by the full board.

Additional committees proposed:

Fund raising – Identify a list of necessary purchases and donors:

Marc Gronich, Mario Chiarello

Technology – Inventory and report on the condition of current technology:

Liz Richards, Tom Brownlie, Mario Chiarello, Joe C.

Outreach – Recruit volunteers and identify interns.

Liz Richards, Ocasio Willson, Mario Chiarello

Election of officers:

1. PEG Access Oversight Board elections – The following positions were filled:
 - a. Chairperson – Joe Cunniff: 1st motion Liz Richards, 2nd Marc Gronich – vote was unanimous
 - b. Vice Chairperson – Joe Bonilla: 1st motion Liz Richards, 2nd Marc Gronich – vote was unanimous
 - c. Recording Secretary – Mark Barth: 1st Motion Chris Sagass, 2nd Mario Chiarello, vote was unanimous
 - d. Treasurer – Marc Gronich and Chris Sagaas were both nominated, discussion ensued, followed by a vote. Chris 7; Marc 1; abstained 1.

The Board voted to return to monthly meetings instead of bimonthly, starting February 2016.

Dennis Gaffney Dec. 8 Meeting with Mayor

- Mayor Sheehan is very interested in building Albany's capacity to make public meetings, e.g., CC, BOE, etc., accessible on public access channels, Internet, etc.

Mayor Sheehan will approach Time Warner cable to renegotiate terms of its agreement with Albany if she has an "ASK" from the PEG Access Oversight Board.

Dennis distributed a draft proposal to Time Warner Cable Corp of \$100K based on earlier pricing from Proctor's/OSM's proposal:

\$10K management cost for 3 stations

\$75K at least one full time employee

\$5K to pay \$50 for videographer at city meetings (2 per week)

\$10K annual equipment outlay

Questions and comments that followed:

What does Albany receive annually from TWC?

\$1.2 million which the mayor has authority to place into the general fund

Joe C. says that the franchise money goes directly to public access TV.

Who sets the franchise fee?

The public service commission

Can that rate be renegotiated?

Valerie Lubanko explained phase 1 and phase 2 dollars went to APL, Albany school district, College of St. Rose, and the New School of Radio and Television.

PEGAOB reply to the Mayor's representative Dennis Gaffney:

The Board asked for \$150,000 to jumpstart Open Stage Media and the APL Studio.

Suggestion is made to assess these needs regularly and formally "ASK" the Mayor annually.

REMINDER a joint meeting of the Common Council PEG Access Ad Hoc committee and PEG Access Oversight Board has been scheduled January 26, 2016. Both the library and Proctors/OSM will present their proposals for supporting PEG Access in Albany.

Next PEGAOB meeting February 11