

Catamount Access Television Corporation

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 28, 2023

- 1. Alex Burke convened the meeting via video conference at 4:03 pm with the following members present; Greg Van Houten, Dave LaChance, Asa Morin, Dan Cross, and William Gardner – Operations Manager. Tim Scoggins and Sarah Krinsky were absent.**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Alex Burke asked for approval of the Board Minutes of June 26, 2023.

MOTION: DAVE LACHANCE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 26, 2023, BOARD MEETING. DAN CROSS SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION PASSED.

- 3. DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSAL:** Lisa Byer introduced the draft budget discussion and explained that the budget will be formally approved at the September Board meeting. William Gardner reviewed the budget and answered questions from the Board. The board was encouraged to let William and Lisa know if they had questions before the next board meeting. Greg Van Houten asked about the consideration of energy efficient alternatives to heating with oil. William will look into that as we consider replacing the furnace.
- 4. FINANCE REPORT:** Lisa reviewed the financial reports for the month of July 2023 and answered questions from the board with the help of William Gardner.
- 5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:** The Director's report was distributed to the board prior to the meeting for their review. Lisa highlighted the work of the staff. Li has taken over for Tony and is now included in the staff updates.

Lisa met with Lauren-Glenn Davitian regarding the legislative work being done by VAN. VAN was included in the Governor's budget, and they should be seeing funds from that soon. VAN will be asking each Access Center to participate in outreach to legislators as the funding bill is reintroduced this session. Lisa provided an update on the ACM conference held in Brooklyn in June. She felt that the venue wasn't the best in terms of accommodating large crowds, however she was able to have valuable conversations and takeaways as did the staff.

Lisa plans to spend time with the new employee, Li to review big picture topics and set goals since it was such a busy time when she started. After having difficulty finding candidates for the board election, Lisa is pleased to announce that Jack Rossiter-Munley and Frank Barnes were elected to the board and will join for the September meeting.

Lisa reported that the return of old equipment paired with a change in phone and internet providers has resulted in a \$0 bill from Comcast. She updated the process on the issues with CASTUS as has been previously reported. The live streaming issues have been largely resolved but Mike is following up with some remaining trouble spots. The Closed Captioning is also working but they are working to figure out a significant delay the captioning. The direct output of data for the Interactive Program Guide seems to also be resolved but Lisa will be following up with Tony for details.

The Town of Pownal has renewed its agreement for CAT-TV to cover their Select Board Meetings. Lisa will be working to ensure that the Pownal Annual Town Meeting will be covered live in March as part of that agreement. She explained that they would need to purchase equipment to make that happen.

The most recent Comcast quarterly payment came in and is slightly less than the same time last year. Lisa noted that it requires attention but is not a cause for concern at this time. She also mentioned that the state gap funding they have received is designed for exactly this scenario.

6. NEW BUSINESS: Alex Burke noted that officers will need to be elected at the September meeting.

7. MOTION: GREG VAN HOUTEN MOVED TO ADJORN THE MEETING. DAN CROSS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MEETING ADJORNED AT 4:46PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Sarah Krinsky, Secretary