

Missoula Civic Television Advisory Commission

Minutes ~ April 20, 2010

Commission Members in Attendance: Jean Curtiss, Jen Sauer, Ed Childers, Ginny Merriam, John Rettenmayer, Link Starbureiy, Jason Wiener, Carol Bellin

Commission Members Absent: Antonio Guglielmo, Lesli Brassfield

Others in Attendance: Melani Coyle (Commission Secretary), Geoff Badenoch (MCAT Board Liaison), Joel Baird (MCAT)

John Rettenmayer called the meeting to order.

Minutes were approved as distributed

Old Business

- ❖ Review current programming schedule that has been recorded/is being recorded
 - The current programming schedule was handed out.

- ❖ Programming ideas from the commission
 - City Club – Karen Orzec will be talking about DUI Court. Jean said they are applying for a grant to establish a DUI court.
 - Missoula Bar Camp – will be discussing civic engagement. Joel said they are recording the event.
 - School board elections
 - MDT public hearing on giant trucks coming through Missoula
 - What's Up Missoula – petitions and what's on them. Can be found on Secretary of State website.
 - School levy

Joel said the school district is paying for the school board committee meetings, which will allow more programming.

Jean said the county is looking at funding for at least the commissioner meetings, which will free up those hours.

Geoff spoke about the Nielsen Report, which is a survey about the television viewing market. He asked if the Commission would be interested in the report if it contained information about civic channels.

Ginny said it would be good to know the stats. She also said the UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research does good surveys. They contact 425 random citizens, including cell phones.

Ed said it would be helpful with franchise discussions for the 2017 renewal.

Geoff said he would take it back to the MCAT board for discussion. It would be interesting to have data every three years taken at different times of the year.

New Business

- ❖ Changes in bylaws regarding meeting requirements

John said the agendas have been fairly empty and asked the Commission their thoughts on changing the regular number of meetings in the bylaws from eight times a year. If there are no agenda items, should the Commission meet? It has been difficult to get people to the meetings.

Jason said he trusts John to cancel the meeting if there are no agenda items.

Geoff said it helps MCAT to hear ideas.

Ed said maybe members would attend if there were meetings that something important to discuss was on the agenda. John said it took several months to get a quorum when the bylaws were being changed.

Ginny said it is important to meeting. It is once a month she is in favor of keeping it the way it is.

MCAT Board Comment

No Comment

Additional Comments

Carol Bellin said her term ends in December, 2010, but she will be stepping down as a City Council appointed member in June. Her son got accepted into a school in Boston, and they will be moving.

John said according to the bylaws, *Article IV (Membership), Section 6 (Determination of vacancy)* "An appointed MCTAC member's position becomes vacant if any of the following events occurs before the expiration of the term of the incumbent", *Number 3* "his or her removal from office by a majority vote of the City Council for one or more of the following causes" *B* "his or her unnoticed absence from three consecutive regular MCTAC meetings except when prevented by illness". Antonio has not been to the last five meetings, and has not contacted John or the staff support. The Commission asked John to contact Antonio regarding this and report back to the Commission. John will let Melani know so she can refer it to Council.

Date of next meeting:

May 18, 2010
Mayor's Conference Room
3-4 pm