

DCAT Governance Committee Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2004
4:00 PM
Council Chambers – Town Hall

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Members in attendance were Peter Brown, Paul Gasowski, Kathy Kentner, and Erika Mantz.

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Also attending were DCAT supervisor Craig Stevens and Tom Merrick.

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Pete updated the group on the Outreach letter. He has compiled a list based on member input and will distribute the list to all members before sending out the letters.

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Michael Bicks withdrew his name from serving on the DCAT GC and so the Town Council will be asked to approve Tom Merrick as a member instead of as an alternate.

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Craig Stevens handed out a proposal for a DCAT police series. The ensuing discussion covered budget and funding questions such as who would pay for this and how much would it cost. What would other town departments expect from DCAT and as an aside, what are the liability concerns for video crews. It was decided that the proposal be tabled but that Craig continue to look at the possibility of a program showing assorted town departments at work and to figure costs/liabilities for such a project and where the funds would come from.

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Craig continues to update the website, using staff to make changes and taking input/coordinating with Paul G. The Candidate Forum is tentatively planned to be filmed in the council meeting room and Craig has received favorable response to his ad for work/study students.

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Discussion turned to policy. This has been a continuing concern and the committee needs to review, update and get approval of policy. For example, if Craig wants to go ahead with a program can the DCAT GC stop him? Does the GC only serve to make policy and approve applications? Can the GC or should the GC make a push for any program? The members present agreed that the committee needs to meet and discuss policy outside the constraints of a regular meeting, possibly breaking into smaller groups and coming up with "what if" questions and forming policy to cover concerns. Pete said he would review policy again and try to figure a way to get it "wrapped tighter."

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The Community Bulletin Board was discussed. Who should be allowed to post? What restrictions do we want? Durham residents and organizations should have priority but what about groups serving Durham, such as Lamprey Health bus service? United Way? Other national charitable organizations?

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Paul presented a workshop draft for video training. He intends to have a demonstration of what the courses offer and would like to have a date for such included in the Outreach letter. If people see what is available and what they could be capable of doing perhaps more people would sign up.

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The meeting adjourned around 5:45pm. The next meeting is scheduled for March 1st at 4pm at the council meeting room.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Peter Brown

