

MEETING MINUTES
DCAT GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
April 25, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Erika Mantz, David Langley, Tom Merrick, Craig Stevens, Henry Smith

EXCUSED: Carol Camp, Paul Gasowski, George Kachadorian

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Tom Merrick called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.
- II. **AGENDA APPROVAL:** Tabled, no quorum
 - **IIA. Election of officers (chair, vice chair, secretary)** – Tabled, no quorum
 - **IIB. Visit from Comcast representative Bryan Christiansen** – Technology reviews unusual because cable systems are so similar (wasn't the case years ago) Sixty analog, 250 digital, 19 high def channels, spectrum for phone and high-speed Internet. Broadcast issues from Oyster River HS. Franchise agreement says have to meet specific threshold to get additional channel for school district. Craig said he thought town should be part of any expansion (based on a conversation he had with Todd Selig, Durham town administrator). BC: Durham franchising authority is the Town Council-they decide how channels are divided. Brian said he checked with design and maintenance guys; system was state-of-the-art, shouldn't be issues. If studio was moved and system wasn't balanced, there will be problems. Studio at ORHS was moved. Tech people at Comcast said in response to an October service call about audio that the audio problem was the school's doing. BC said he would send some people to look at balancing, but wouldn't invest too much time. Tom raised issue of different channel volumes; BC will have someone look into it. Dave said he has noticed color fluctuations. When is contract up? 2012. TM: is HD going to be only option and my TV won't work? BC: will be digital, not HD; federal govt. still grappling with what to do. Discussion ensued about rates, a la carte programming.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Tabled, no quorum.
- IV. **DCAT SUPERVISOR REPORT:** Between Sunday and Thursday, the schedule has been beefed up, 7:30 a.m.-12 a.m.; 5 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Henry asked about programming about programming on avian flu/West Nile Virus; Craig said he has looked for some. Erika said she will look into whether the university has access to any video. Craig was contacted by Dale Valena about taping a June 21 meeting of the IWMC at the high school.
- V. **REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF MEMBERS:** None.
- VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS:** Membership: Pete said he knew someone who was interested in joining.
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**
- IX. **NEXT MEETING:** May 23, 2006, 7 p.m.
- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** 8:47 p.m.

