

DCAT Governance Committee Minutes
Wednesday, March 10, 2010, 7:00 PM
Durham Police Department Meeting Room

Members Present: Craig Stevens, Dianne Thompson (chair), Ed Valena, Kathleen Young
Todd Ziemek

Members Absent: Diana Carroll, Dave Langley, Erika Mantz, Chip Neal,

- I. Call to order at 7:00; agenda approved
- II. Approval of Minutes from meeting of February 10, 2010 – Minutes approved
- III. Public Concerns – Ed noted that the podium microphone kept cutting out during a recent ZBA meeting. Craig said he would look into it.
- IV. DCAT Supervisor's Report – Craig reported the past month had been busy with two candidates forums on the town side. He said that the upcoming month should also be busy given the number of regular meetings and the addition of the Historic District Commission monthly meetings to the regular schedule.

Craig noted opportunities to download quality New Hampshire made video produced for the public access market; however, in order to take advantage of this programming the existing system would need increased bandwidth and additional equipment would need to be procured. There was discussion on how these matters could play into the upcoming Comcast negotiations.

- V. ORCSD Report - Kathleen reported on a number of new initiatives. These included:
 - 1) producing scripted peer mediation videos with the middle school, 2) creating video offshoots of the Mouth of the River and the Bobcat Times, 3) offering a Video II class in the high school, and 4) involving parents in taping sporting events for later airing on DCAT.

There was general discussion of the upcoming Comcast negotiations and the possibility of establishing a second channel devoted totally to the school system. There was talk about the amount of original programming currently produced and the amount required to justify a second channel. Craig suggested that the Town talk with Rob Ciandella (town attorney for the negotiations) and Jay Summers (Comcast representative) about the second channel issue sooner than later so as to avoid a lot of unnecessary recordkeeping. On the school side, Kathleen will check with Blaine Cox to see if there would be any unintended cost increase associated with a second channel.

Old Business – A) UNH Rep. There was discussion about the role UNH plays or could play with DCAT and it was generally agreed that there might be some original local programming that could benefit the channel. Dianne offered to talk to Erica about her role and whether a different conduit might be better suited for the job. B) Two Channels. This item was covered pretty thoroughly in earlier parts of the meeting. C) Comcast Negotiations. The negotiations are up in the air and on hold. Committee representatives for the negotiations will be Dianne, Craig, and Chip.

VI. New Business – Dianne reported meeting with Library representatives who had expressed interest in installing one of the old robotic cameras at the library for taping live programming. There was discussion on how such an installation would require additional equipment and how the Library's needs might be better served through the use of a flip camera and a DVD burner. It was suggested that the Library Friends group might be interested in financing this initiative. It was also suggested that the Library might seek out volunteers to do this taping through established media (their own weekly newsletter and Todd's Friday Updates).

VII. Next meeting date: April 14, 2010