



CITY OF GERMANTOWN TENNESSEE

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Telecommunications Commission Meeting

Wednesday, March 9, 2011 – 6:00 pm
Administrative Conference Room, 1930 S Germantown Road

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Abel, Bill Brody, Rik Ditter, Chairman Tony Fischer, Ken Ketcham, Rodney McKelroy, Jack Parnell, and Kurt Weil

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ald. Ernest Chism and Danish Siddiqui

PRESENT STAFF LIASON: Stephanie Logan, Technical Services Coordinator, F&GS

PRESENT NON MEMBERS: Frank Bluestein, GHS-TV Executive Director
Taylor Williams, GHS-TV Co-Director
Matt Sloan, GHS-TV Co-Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Fischer called the March 9, 2011, Telecommunications Commission to order at 6:01 p.m. Stephanie Logan conducted a roll call and it was noted that a quorum had been established.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Fischer called for the approval of the January 12, 2011 Telecommunications Commission Minutes.

****MOTION****

Sandra Abel made a motion, seconded by Rodney McKelroy, to approve the January 12, 2011 Telecommunications Commission Minutes with amendments. The motion passed unanimously.

COMCAST REPORT

Otha Brandon was not present at the meeting and there were no reports to be handed out.

GHS-TV REPORT

Frank Bluestein stated the February 2011 monthly statistics for GHS-TV: Germantown Community Television cablecast 672 hours of programming during the month of December 2010. The total number of non-repeat local and national television shows by show title cablecast is 71. The total number of local and national television shows by number of airings per month cablecast is 224. The total number of television shows/taped reports/special projects produced locally is 40. The total number of television shows/taped reports/special projects produced locally for the 2010-2011 season is 241. The total number of programs produced for the Access Together Project for 2010-2011 seasons is 80 (this will exceed to 100 as per contract with City)

Frank noted that the checking account balance for the Foundation is \$70,003.74, and also stated that there would be a new Foundation financial report at the next meeting.

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GHS-TV REPORT (Cont'd)

Concerns

COMCAST is no longer listing the Station ID on the lower third listing, stating that it just reads PEG 1. Otha Brandon has stated that COMCAST can no longer customize the channel. Frank stated that something needs to be done about this.

A discussion ensued amongst members regarding the COMCAST offices and the agreement that was being prepared. Chairman Fischer stated that he wanted to make sure that Kristen Geiger was aware of the issues being discussed and Stephanie Logan stated Kristen Geiger was aware.

Frank stated that he wanted to reflect in the minutes regarding the digital conversion that COMCAST are giving the schools in the area 2 DTA's and that GHS has asked for 2 to the school and at least 2 in the TV studio.

Channel One (national news channel) will be lost without a DTA. This is a grave concern for GHS. A discussion ensued amongst members regarding this issue.

ATT Report. A meeting was held at the end of January and ATT are proposing a second D mark point at Germantown, right next door to the GHS-TV studio. Shelby County Schools will have to pay for cabling to the point, approximately a 20ft run.

Frank stated that he also disagreed with ATT on the encoder issue and that he would like to be in sync with the City's view on the issue.

IT REPORT

The February and March IT reports were reviewed by Stephanie Logan.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

****MOTION****

Chairman Fischer called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sandra Abel made a motion, seconded by Rick Ditter. The motion passed unanimously.