

Minutes of the New Gloucester Cable Television Committee Meeting - April 11, 2012

Those in attendance:

Committee members: Bob MacGregor (Chair), Richard Erwin (Vice-Chair),
Patti Mikkelsen, Steve Brissette

Call to order:

Bob MacGregor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes:

The Jan. 11, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as written (Steve/Richard). Motion carried 4-0.
(Note that there were no meetings held in February or March.)

Technical Report:

- Richard presented his 4/11/2012 technical report, available as a separate document.
- Bob proposed discontinuing making a VHS tape when covering a live meeting, leaving only two DVDs to record. This proposal was agreed upon.
- Richard said that he and Bob plan to record the next Historical Society presentation pertaining to the Masons in New Gloucester.

Next Meeting:

The next Cable TV Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 9, 7 p.m. at The Meetinghouse.

Public Participation:

None

Annual Town Meeting May 7:

Bob, Richard and Patti each said they can meet at the Meetinghouse at 4 pm on Monday, May 7 to gather equipment for transport to Memorial School in preparation of recording the annual town meeting. Bob said that he had contacted Mark Bowie to ask for his help and had obtained an affirmative answer. Steve said that he could help, too, but will be arriving after 6 pm.

Equipment:

- Richard proposed the purchase of a Canon consumer-level mini-DV camcorder available in the \$600-700 range. Steve stated an opposition to such a purchase since the cost is significant for a camcorder using old technology. Patti and Bob agreed.
- Richard said that we may need to acquire a Blu-ray recorder if we want to shoot in high definition, and the cost would be approximately \$100. All were in favor of such a purchase.
- The ASUS editing computer's hard disk drive is running low on free space. Media to back up the large file sizes was discussed. Richard said that Blu-ray data disks that can hold 25 GB each are a possibility. Steve suggested contacting Great Falls TV to find out the back up media it uses.
- Bob suggested revisiting the subject of equipment purchases in the fall. Patti issued a reminder that capital grants provided by the franchise agreement offer a viable revenue source for equipment.
- Richard reported that he obtained another DVD player via eBay as a backup for \$18.95.

Candidates' Forum:

All committee members expressed interest in producing a candidates' forum for local offices again this year. Possibilities for moderators include Harold Bartlett who served in this capacity last year and Evans Capps who interviewed the state house candidates in Fall 2010.

Other:

- Bob said that he would get in touch with Joe Moran about possibly producing a GNGHS drama club publicity video.
- Bob said that he has been uploading several NGTV community programs for VOD streaming and plans to post all of them.
- Town Manager Sumner Field sent an email to Bob yesterday expressing his concerns with the Channel 3 Bulletin Board. Bob said that he would set up a meeting with Sumner to discuss the issues and hopefully Town Clerks Kim Getchell and Sharlene Myers who use the Aavelin composer could attend as well.
- Bob reported that he has contacted Eric Spenlinhauer of Town Hall Streams regarding some unusual usage statistics. Eric will check them out.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:38 p.m. (Patti/Richard). Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes were submitted by Patti Mikkelsen (recorder).