

Committee Attendance: Rob Andreoli, Kelly Cameron, Paul Goldberg, Bing Kung, Jose Zegarra Holder, Theola Poole, Mike Reiter, Ashley Simmons, Suzanne Weiss, Richard Wells, Noreene Wells. *Absent:* Michael Gelman, Mona Hall McKenzie, Ben Wu. *Cable Office Staff:* Mitsuko Herrera, Keith Watkins *Other Guests:* Cathy Drzyzgula, Josh Bokee

Call to Order

- Richard Wells called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm, with the absence of a quorum, and introduced new member Ashley Simmons and proposed MML representative Cathy Drzyzgula. Keith will follow up to finalize Cathy's appointment to the CCAC. A conference call was set up to allow the public to dial in to the meeting through the access information that had been provided by the Cable Office on the web. There was no indication that any callers were on the line.

Comcast

Josh Bokee, Comcast Director of Government Affairs for Montgomery and Frederick Counties

- Josh presented information to the Committee about the low cost internet Comcast will be offering to specific low income families, as a public condition of the merger with NBC. The program will be rolled out in the Fall as "Internet Essentials" for families with at least one child that receives free school lunches through NSLP, along with other criteria. The service will carry the same benefits as other Comcast internet programs and will include the ability to purchase computer equipment at a reduced cost, along with other opportunities to facilitate usage. The program offering will span three years, and will cover these families through completion of high school. Some of the specifics are still being finalized. Josh will report back to the CCAC through Richard over the summer.
- Mitsi asked Josh about recent personnel changes at Comcast.
- Paul asked about recent issues with the mobile app for Comcast, and related his interaction with the technical people working to resolve it.
- Suzanne asked again about the onscreen and online guides that do not include channel designations for some of the PEGs. The designation is simply "Local" and the program guide says only "To Be Announced" while other channels include the channel name designation next to the channel number, as well in the guide, and some have full program listings. Richard indicated that some PEGs have been told a charge will apply if they wish to be listed, and that it is possible that not all PEG channels that are now listed do pay fees. Josh will follow up on this shortly to finally resolve it for all PEG listings.

Approval of Agenda/Minutes of May meeting

- A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mike and passed unanimously.
- A motion to approve the May minutes was made by Paul and also approved without dissent.

New Business

- A discussion of whether to permit telephone participation in meetings, whether to restrict to members and whether to permit voting telephonically. Richard had

received information on this process from a County meetings on Boards, Committees and Commissions. Suzanne expressed concern about members not being present for meetings, and felt that the current system did not permit this type of absent voting. Mitsi will provide a written statement from the County attorney that Montgomery County permits voting in this manner. A motion was made by Kelly to permit CCAC members to participate in a meeting by telephone, but not open the call to public participation. A subsequent motion allowed for telephonic voting for CCAC members. Both motions passed by a majority of those present.

- Ownership of Issues: Richard sent out a draft document of possible topics that CCAC members would research and report on, and asked that members review the suggested topics and see what they would be interested in working on, alone or in groups. Discussion followed of the types of topics and possible actions the CCAC could then initiate. CCAC will follow up through email over the summer. It was also decided that the specific representatives should be prepared to present the issues, questions, concerns of the entities they represent. Bing will participate in working on CCAC utilizing Facebook, and any logistical concerns, Mike will explore a blog. Mitsi suggested that the Cable Office could provide support on some of the areas, including an option to have the Cable Office assist in administrating ventures to alleviate transferring ownership with the rotation cycle of CCAC members.
- Richard indicated that he had done some research on a movement underway in Congress regarding allocation of fees from franchises, maintaining direction of funds for cable-related purposes, and even the possibility of restoring funds used for other purposes. Mitsi confirmed that the County was following this as well.

Old Business

- Items covered under Cable Office report

Cable Office Report

- Keith had sent out the Complaint reports prior to the meeting; they appear to hold steady.
- Mitsi indicated that the Cable Office had hired a contractor to work on some of the web information, and that the Committee page will be updated to reflect the cancelled July and August meetings, new members and positions, and accompanying approved meeting materials. Mitsi was reminded to share the link she had mentioned at a previous meeting to the social media policy being developed for the County.
- Mitsi also reported on the FIOS Metadata IPG listing indicating that the Cable Office was working with engineers on this, as well as for Comcast.

Public Comments

none

Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

Submitted by: Suzanne Weiss, CCAC Secretary