

Minutes for CMBC Board Meeting
December 6, 2007
MOCC Offices, 6-8:30 pm
Open meeting: 6:15

Attending: Paul Taylor, Jayfus Doswell, Maresa Gold, LaNette Davis, V.Lee Brady, Sandra Long, Denise Lowery, Troy Johnson, David Johnson, Bonnie Raindrop
Absent: Mike Gray, Helen Holton (voted by absentee ballot)
Consultant: Bunnie Riedel; Mayor's Office: Rebecca Jessop
Public: Mike Shea

- 1) Welcome, agenda review, November minutes approved
 - a) Paul Taylor moved to approve November minutes; Troy Johnson seconded; motion carried unanimously.
- 2) Organizational Learning
 - a) Each Board member shared skills and how they hoped to contribute to the Board.
- 3) Committee Reports
 - a) Finance – LaNette Davis, Chair, reported
 - i) Kara King received the packet and will have our 501c3 filed in 7-10 days
 - ii) Insurance – Motion raised by Bonnie Raindrop to empower LaNette to complete application to Driver Aliant for E&O policy and bring completed application and pricing to ExCom call, 12/17, for approval; Policy to be purchased before January meeting. Paul Taylor seconded the motion, the motion carried
 - iii) Move forward with buying web based single user MS Project – cost for MS Project is \$500 approx. Jayfus will determine cost of multiple licenses. It will be a capital expense. Jayfus Doswell will prepare a requisition and send to LaNette Davis.
 - iv) Jayfus Doswell will put together budget for Quickbooks software and laptop computer and present to executive committee at December conference call, 12/17 for decision.
 - v) Board will need to draft a financial policy at later date.
 - b) Site - Paul Taylor, Chair reported
 - i) Presented project plan with goal to draft a letter of intent in 60 days.

- ii) Paul Taylor spoke to Dr. Simmons of Sojourner Douglas College (SDC), learned of their new architect, a new development plan and proposed option of 1st floor site rather than 4th floor site for public access center.
 - iii) Sandra Long raised issue of letter of intent obligating CMBC. Paul Taylor says not necessarily, that it would state that we are exploring.
 - iv) Regarding SDC's 12/31 deadline, Paul Taylor says pressure is off; SDC has indicated they have obligated their funds without our commitment.
 - v) Two dates on table for next meeting and Paul will come back to committee for their availability.
 - vi) Sandra Long asked Paul to bring a draft of letter of intent to next meeting.
 - vii) Paul Taylor has spoken with 2 attorneys, Karen Scott & Marty King, (real estate and biz attorney also CPA) about joining the Board. He will provide their names to Mike Gray, Nominating Chair if discussions move forward.
- c) Strategic Planning – Jayfus Doswell, Chair, reported
- i) The draft 2007 strategic plan was discussed.
 - ii) Sandra Long requested “Proposed Draft” be added to all printed and e-copies. (watermark)
 - iii) Sandra Long asked how to get cohesive buy-in when Board has not worked through a process on this? Discussion among board on question and plan. Jayfus Doswell suggests we use it as a starting point.
 - iv) A date was proposed by Bonnie Raindrop for a strategic planning process for Saturday, January 26. Vote carries 6 to 4. Location to be 101 E. 33rd St. Time: 9:00 a.m., Jayfus will send details. Jayfus requested suggestions for facilitation.
- d) Executive Committee
- i) How to get mindshare among the Board was discussed.
- e) Nominating – no actions to report.
- f) New FCC ruling - Bunnie Riedel reported re
- i) Changes in FCC ruling may impact CMBC funding.
 - ii) Essentially the change would allow anything using operational funds to be counted against 5% operators gross receipts. This means Balto. City will see

\$40k less on franchise fees. Is the city going to be willing to let it go or fight for keeping it. City makes \$9 million on fees (\$80 a subscription) they may decide this \$40k is unimportant but it would impact CMBC very negatively to lose that portion of its budget.

- iii) Digital Transition in 2/09 means no more analog broadcasts. Starting to see cable operators tell towns they will put PEG in the digital tier, like channel 900. Bunnie Riedel thinks this is a consumer rights issue since consumers without digital boxes can't access the PEG stations in digital. Prepare for Comcast to bump us to digital and to plan how to defend against it.
 - iv) Paul Taylor asked how we can be proactive about this? Bunnie Riedel pointed out that decisions come from Comcast HQ in Philadelphia. Will have to wait until they make that move and then organize. Bunnie Riedel will send the info from Michigan case, one of first to fight with lawsuit to Paul Taylor, Bonnie Raindrop, Jayfus Doswell.
 - v) Bunnie Riedel says Board needs to be clear with City how we view channel change, now. Bunnie Riedel has contacts at NATOA and Alliance for Community Media, two strong orgs working against.
 - vi) This changes our prospective plan to loosen restriction on use of monies from capital fund to operational fund negatively.
 - vii) Board would like Sandra Long to talk to Marilyn Harris-Davis about this issue and our concerns very soon.
 - viii) Paul Taylor pointed out that Channel 75 has a weak signal, worse than others. Is it the server or Comcast? We need to follow up with changing that.
 - ix) Court order takes effect 12/25/07, unless a stay is gotten from court.
 - x) Bunnie Riedel will send more info and links and referred Board members to her for more information.
 - xi) Bunnie Riedel will update at Executive Committee Conference Call
- 4) By-Laws Amendment Vote
- a) Notice to amend bylaws was sent in compliance with current bylaws procedure.
 - b) The Bylaws change was read aloud and votes taken.

By-Laws Amendment Changes:

1. To amend Article III, Section 2 to reflect the following:

The number of directors shall be fifteen (15). Within the limits prescribed by the By-Laws, the number of Directors shall be such as may be fixed from time to time. A Director must be a resident of the City of Baltimore and must become a member of the organization prior to appointment to the Board of Directors. One seat on the Board of Directors will be reserved for a sitting member of the Baltimore City Council or their designee.

Unanimous YES vote, including 2 votes by absentee ballot.

2. To amend Section 1 E. of the CMBC By-Laws to reflect the following separation:

Section 1 E. Assistant Secretary

The Assistant Secretary supports the Secretary in all the Secretary's duties and assumes all the duties of the office in the absence of the Secretary.

Section 1 F. Ombudsman

The Ombudsman of the organization will present to the Board issues of concern raised by the Media Production Advisory Committee and the general public. This position is the liaison to the Producer's community.

Eleven YES votes, Mike Gray abstained.

- 5) Producers' Event - Troy Johnson, Ombudsman, reported.
 - a) Troy Johnson talked to Marilyn Harris-Davis and got list of 25 producers on list. Who else should be contacted who are not on list?
 - b) Mike Shea, producer and member of Baltimore Grassroots Media said he has a list of 1000 potential producers on their email list. Mike Shea will send out email to 1000 name list of producers or will get word out to list, if asked. Troy will communicate with Mike Shea once details are solidified.
 - c) Troy is looking into locations, i.e. MD Art Place, dates and costs. Bonnie Raindrop will talk to AVAM re: cost and dates.
 - d) Mike Shea asked for purpose of producers event and told it is to meet producers, solicit info from them, and give a progress report.

