



Hudson Cable Television Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 20, 2011.

Meeting Location: HCTV Studios, Hudson High School.

In attendance: Gary Dixon, A.J. Stokes, Brian Suntken, Interim Chair Nick Zaklanovich. Ex Officio: Kerry Paluscsak, Barbara VanBlarcum.

Not in attendance: Susan Terkel.

Meeting called to order by Interim Chair Nick Zaklanovich at 6:37 P.M. Notes taken by Nick Zaklanovich.

I. Approval of Minutes (September 23, 2010 and November 18, 2010 Meetings)

Brian Suntken made a motion to approve the minutes from the two previous committee meetings, September 23, 2010 and November 18, 2010. A.J. Stokes seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

II. Station Manager's Report: Kerry Paluscsak

Kerry reported that the basketball season coverage is going well, with the Lady Explorers team doing exceptionally well. The high school Broadcast Journalism class is also going well. The students will start producing in-depth, magazine-style programs in mid-April. The produced programs may air on HCTV channel 25. Kerry said that many of the Journalism class students are very technically astute. One of the current Journalism class students has already been hired to work for HCTV.

Kerry reported that the proposed new football stadium at the high school may be delayed, and that delay may impact the football schedule and the first few games of the 2011 season, and perhaps the first half of the season may have to be played at Lavelli Field. Regardless, the station will move forward with work on a permanent control room, making the control room equipment no longer movable. This means that the equipment will not be able to be transported to Lavelli Field for any football games that take place there in the 2011 season. As an alternative, Classic Teleproductions, or a local television production company named Hudson Studios could be a source of equipment that we may use to record the 2011 games at Lavelli. Hopefully, any alternative equipment arrangement for the coming season will be needed for only two or three games.

II. Station Manager's Report: Kerry Paluscsak, continued

The control room construction project will be carried out over the summer. The new control room will be a custom-made and functional system of wooden racks that will securely hold the sensitive electronic equipment in the control room. The new control room configuration will be available to the Broadcast Journalism class.

All signs are pointing towards the broadcast journalism class continuing to be funded next school year and there is a good possibility that the class may be expanded to two units in the coming year.

III. Public Access Coordinator's Report – Barbara VanBlarcum

Barb reported that the Kratos Youth Wrestling organization is producing more programming. Abby Boysel of the Holy Trinity Anglican Church recorded and edited “Joy on the Journey”. The Western Reserve Academy provided a lecture by author and North Canton native Ted Gump. Both Book Chat with Mary McDonald and Good Medicine with Mary Sheehan have produced new programs. Brian Suntken produced the first in a series of Opera programs. The Community Chapel of Hudson has resumed program production.

The First Congregational Church continues to produce a second weekly program called 11:59 which is their Noon Sunday service. Hudson Community Education & Recreation (HCER) produced a dog training program with student dogs actually brought into the studio. Hudson Heritage Association taped some historical programs.

From the HCTV archives, a 2001 interview by Frank Youngwerth of Cleveland Indians pitcher Bob Feller was aired along with an excellent production that Kerry Paluscsak made a few years ago about League Park, the original professional baseball stadium in Cleveland. Also aired was “Visit with Minnie and Rich”, an interview of Minnie Wagner of the Reserve Inn and Rich Merino of Merino's, hosted by Frank Youngwerth. Ed Sogan produced an interview show with Roland Winzer relating to Hudson's sister city, Landsberg Germany.

IV. Community Liaison Report – Brian Suntken

Nothing to report. Brian asked that the Community Liaison responsibility be better defined for him before the next meeting.

V. Fundraising & Programming – Susan Terkel

No report.

VI. Volunteer Report - Barbara VanBlarcum

Many volunteers continue to devote their time and efforts to HCTV: Brian Suntken continues to record Music from the Western Reserve along with Dan Gerbracht and Annie Greer; Yusef Graham is back and may help out at the basketball games; Ginny Frazier is involved with the Board of Education; Nick Zaklanovich and Alex Mathews continue to assist with the basketball broadcasts.

VII. Committee Meeting Schedule

We have had previous discussions about going to a bi-monthly meeting schedule, but had never acted on that proposal, due to a lack of a quorum at the meetings. With four voting members present at this meeting, the proposal was again brought forward and acted upon. Gary Dixon added that we should stay in touch during the time gaps between meetings, and update everyone as issues come up.

Gary also said that even with a different schedule, special meetings can be called as needed. Kerry added that 48 hours previous notice is needed for a special meeting, which may be necessary during the grant writing process and the submittal of grant applications, during which it will be important that committee members are kept up to date. Kerry mentioned that there is nothing in the City by-laws or the charter of the committee that sets the meeting interval.

Nick Zaklanovich made the motion to approve the change, A.J. Stokes seconded the motion and the change was approved by voice vote. The City administration will be advised of the change in the meeting schedule. With the new bi-monthly schedule, Thursday, March 17, 2011 will be the next committee meeting.

VIII. Committee Membership Update

The terms of Gary Dixon, Brian Suntken and A.J. Stokes all expire on January 24, 2011. Gary has decided to not be re-appointed to another term, but both Brian and A.J. would like to continue on the committee. Kerry will let Council know about the re-appointments.

Nick mentioned that invitation letters have been sent out to four prospective new candidates. It is hoped that the personal contact of a mailed invitation will inspire the prospective candidates to apply for membership. Brian Suntken brought forward the names of two more potential candidates. Invitation letters will be sent to these citizens shortly and Brian will contact these individuals personally about applying.

Both Kerry & Nick are scheduled to appear at the City Council Workshop scheduled for January 25, 2011 to discuss an adjustment to the configuration of the committee. It is hoped that the restriction on the presence of a quorum will be removed, in order to improve the effectiveness of the committee. Gary Dixon added that is important to note that whatever adjustment is made in the configuration of the committee, the group must continue to survive as a viable organization. Nick agreed with Gary's comments and will mention the continued viability of the committee at the Workshop.

At this point, Barbara had to leave the meeting to record a function at the Hudson Garden Club. She bade farewell to Gary as a member and asked him to stay in touch.

IX. New Program Ideas

Brian Suntken asked about any possible interface with Kent State University and asked if that would be something that we would like to do, as long as we could get the needed permissions. He mentioned that many of the lectures that take place at KSU may also be a valuable asset to our community outreach efforts. Kerry said that an alliance with KSU would be an attractive addition to HCTV.

Brian also mentioned that he may have an “in” at the University of Akron Music department that could also turn into an alliance. It is also possible that Frank Youngwerth, through his alumnus involvement, may have a connection at Ohio State University. Brian said that he would e-mail Frank asking about a possible link to OSU.

Brian and Dan Gerbracht are still thinking about doing programs on “The Color of Hudson” which will focus on the inner workings of the city – diverse subjects about anything from the sewers to the hanging of the holiday lighting on the Green.

Nick Zaklanovich mentioned the upcoming Hudson Community Expo, scheduled to occur on April 2, 2011. Nick thought that perhaps that event would be an opportunity for doing some recording at the event. It also could be an opportunity for the committee to share in the City display in order to promote HCTV. Kerry said that he would check with Elizabeth Slagle at City hall to inquire about coordination at the Community Expo event.

Nick also said that the Preschool Parents Association is having another event on April 16, 2011. Brian and Susan produced a program from the last event held by this organization.

Nick still has plans to produce a program related to the Hudson Public Power electric service and has almost completed a storyboard related to that program. Kerry said that both Priscilla Blanchard and Scott Schroyer of Public Works would be good contacts for the electric system program.

Nick also suggested that the Youth Development Center (YDC) would be a good subject for a current topical subject program. Kerry suggested that the YDC committee chair be contacted to see if we could shoot some video at the site, so that HCTV can provide information to the community about the developments on the YDC utilization proposals.

Finally, Nick suggested that the Veteran’s Way Park project may be a good subject for an update program. Eric Hutchinson, City Parks Superintendent, will be contacted about the possibility of a program project about the new park.

Brian Suntken asked about the new Football stadium that is proposed for the area south of the High School. Brian asked about the possibility of having a time lapse camera on the roof to record the construction phase of the project that could lead to a background program on the new stadium construction story. Kerry said that he has been in contact with Ray Ebersole, athletic director of Hudson City Schools, about HCTV getting information out to the community about the stadium project and its funding. The committee will contact Mr. Ebersole to see if the station can work out a relationship.

X. Grant Applications

Gary Dixon supplied the archive information that he had relating to grants to Nick Zaklanovich. Nick will review the information, but suggested that the two local Morgan Foundations may be the best chance for grant funding. Kerry mentioned that Frank Youngwerth has had some communication with and obtained some funding from the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation for his "Good Day in Hudson" program. Frank's contacts with the Morgan Foundations could be a help in obtaining grants for HCTV. We discussed that grants could possibly be pursued for assistance in the procurement of replacement studio cameras.

XI. Farewell to long-time committee member Gary Dixon

Kerry presented a time line history of Gary's involvement with HCTV. Gary started the production of his public access program, "Meet the Band" in September 1997, while he was in high school. He was hired by the station as a Production Assistant in April 1999, first as a part-time employee and then full-time in January 2004. Gary worked as seasonal help after that until August 2004, when he joined the Advisory Committee in February 2005, serving on the committee until now. During that time, Gary was a member, ascended to chairman and then went back to being a member again. We all appreciate Gary's help and diligence over the years and will miss his input and guidance.

XII. Once Around

Brian Suntken has a Jazz Band concert recorded with interviews ready for airing.

Nick Zaklanovich mentioned that he has written an article for publishing in the Hudson Hub-Times, advertising for new members for the committee. Kerry said that Nick should send the article as acting chairman of the committee and they should publish the item. No other approval is required.

Also, after recently viewing the archive HCTV program related to Public Access and HCTV, we noted that the program contains interviews with Public Access producers who are no longer on the station and committee members who are also no longer present. It was suggested that we should update the program to make it more current.

XIII. Next Meeting Date

With the committee's approval of a bi-monthly meeting schedule, the next HCTV Advisory Committee meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 6:30 PM in the HCTV Studios in Hudson High School.

XIV. Adjournment

With no further business indicated, Brian Suntken moved that the meeting be adjourned. Gary Dixon, in his last official committee act, seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.