

# Missoula Civic Television Advisory Commission

## Minutes ~ October 20, 2009

Commission Members in Attendance: Jason Wiener, Jen Sauer, Ed Childers, Ginny Merriam, John Rettenmayer, Link Starbureiy, Carol Bellin,

Commission Members Absent: Lesli Brassfield, Jean Curtiss, Antonio Guglielmo

Others in Attendance: Melani Coyle (Commission Secretary), Geoff Badenoch (MCAT Board Liaison), Joel Baird (MCAT)

John Rettenmayer called the meeting to order.

Ed Childers moved to approve the June minutes; Jason Wiener seconded. The motion passed.

### Old Business

- ❖ Review current programming schedule that has been recorded/is being recorded
  - The [current programming schedule](#) was handed out.
  
- ❖ Programming ideas from the commission

There was discussion of what should be covered under the annual 1,400 City government hours. Ginny Merriam suggested that since we are often bumping up against or exceeding the ceiling on hours, perhaps there should be a discussion of programming that we cover but that is not city government. For instance, the Missoula County Public Schools District is not part of local government, but MCTAC members have agreed to covering some of its meetings and school activities. Carol Bellin stated schools are government and should be covered under government hours because the school district pays taxes and are governed by elected officials. Ginny Merriam said they are not part of the City government that pays for the civic channel. The last three and a half years, the Commission has expanded the scope to include a lot of the school district and university meetings. Ed Childers said the school district is government, but doesn't fall within the scope of the hours covered on the civic channel. Carol asked to have an annual review of what meetings are covered broken down by hours for city, UM, MCPS and County. Geoff Badenoch said the agreement between MCAT and the City is up for negotiation soon. This is the time to ask for additional hours. More is better when informing the public. The MCAT board has recognized this and has set up a committee to work with the City on the hours.

  - Property Ad-Hoc Committee – MCPS
  - Film Fest – City land rights – panel after the film
  - Change in late voting to fairgrounds
  - Different approach to Law School Community Planning
  - Swine flu – could have informational piece ready in case of emergency
  - Police Department – talk show (explain and demonstrate policies)

### **MCAT covering, not on city government hours**

- President's lecture series
- Climate Change series
- Provost distinguished faculty series
- 12 concerts for MCPS between Oct and Jan
- 18 concerts for MCPS after Jan

Joel Baird handed out the [MCTAC Meeting Hours November 2008 ~ October 2009](#). There is a total of 654.75 hours of product hours, which are programming. There is more time that went into production hours.

Joel also handed out the [Time by Item October 2008~ September 2009](#) information. The total hours are 1,474.25. The contract between the city and MCAT says 1,400 hours.

Joel said there is a lot more setup time involved for off-site meetings such as the Health Department or the County.

Geoff Badenoch said MCAT would like to increase the number of sites that are setup for their recordings. More cameras would need to be installed. A robotic camera costs about \$1500 each, but would reduce the amount of time needed for setup.

John Rettenmayer said this could be included in the negotiations with the city. If MCAT could figure out how many cameras were needed and how much setup time it would save before negotiating with the city, it could be possible to have the cameras added to the contract.

### **Alliance for Community Media (CAP) – Geoff Badenoch**

#### **[Benefits of Support for the CAP Act](#)**

Geoff Badenoch handed out the benefits for supporting the CAP Act. The CAP Act was introduced to resolve problems with state franchising and is asking the city government to support it. Jason Wiener said he would refer it to council if Geoff drafted a letter. He also suggested MCAT speak to the Rotary groups, Chamber of Commerce, etc to get more support. Carol Bellin asked if the commission could send a letter of support. John Rettenmayer asked Joel to draft a letter and bring it to the next meeting for approval.

### **MCAT Board Comment**

No comment

### **Additional Comments**

#### **Date of next meeting:**

November 17, 2009  
Jack Reidy Conference Room  
3-4 pm