

**URBANA PUBLIC TELEVISION
COMMISSION**

DATE: November 19, 2004
Friday, 12:00 PM

PLACE: City Council Chambers, Urbana City Building

MEMBERS PRESENT

Barb Gladney
Peter Resnick
Greg Boozell
Kathy Jessup
Kevin Maxson

MEMBERS ABSCENT

James Hayes
Dana Mancuso

STAFF PRESENT

Chris Foster
Mayor Satterthwaite

OTHERS PRESENT

Randall Cotton

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 PM.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Gladney said she had received petitions for a hearing on Democracy Now.

STAFF REPORT

UPTV Coordinator Chris Foster stated that a Democracy Now hearing was being put on hold until the rules revision was complete. He added that his new production assistant had started, and the outreach coordinator position job description was going to be created by personnel.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Boozell gave an overview of the major changes made to the UPTV Public Access Policies and Procedure Manual.

- Changes made to clear the way for Democracy Now to be on UPTV
- Local programming was given a higher scheduling priority
- Non-local series had to be sponsored by Urbana residents
- Membership fees will be higher for non-residents and those using production resources
- Grammatical changes were made to make the rules clear and consistent
- Some new forms were to be added to the manual as well

Mayor Satterthwaite added that members using UPTV equipment now had to fill out a program proposal form. This gives UPTV the ability to monitor its equipment better. He also stated that he really wanted to make sure that outside programming didn't dominate our local resource, and that the new rules dictate that.

Commissioner Boozell moved to approve the new Public Access Policies and Procedure, Commissioner Resnick seconded.

Commissioner Maxson felt the donations policy was too vague and should include a dollar amount or more specific language.

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that significant donations may require a budget amendment and this policy is for those instances. He said he would check with City Comptroller Ron Eldridge about a possible dollar amount.

Commissioner Resnick noticed several places where the word tape was still being used, he suggested another editing pass before they were finalized.

Chris Foster said he would be making some new forms for UPTV use, and they would be added to manual.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Randall Cotton asked why is council approval necessary for donations and would it be necessary for Democracy Now?

Mayor Satterthwaite said that council approval could be needed because the city needs to accept revenue before they spend it. It may be necessary for Democracy Now because it is a significant donation and the dish will be a fixture on a city building.

Mr. Cotton asked what is needed to get the donation approved by the council?

Mayor Satterthwaite said we need to know the value of the donation.

Mr. Cotton asked why the city is so afraid of non-local programming dominating UPTV airwaves?

Commissioner Maxson said that we need to look out for the future of UPTV.

Mr. Cotton asked when the new policies would take effect?

Mayor Satterthwaite said that it was on the City Council agenda for November 22nd and if there are no problems they would pass on December 6th.

Walter Matherly felt the presence of the mayor was intimidating, confrontational, and the chair was being led by the mayor. He felt the commission should ask him to not sit as if he was a member of the commission.

Commissioner Resnick did note that the mayor should ask for permission to speak.

Chair Gladney said that the mayor has not been at every meeting and won't be at meetings in the future. She thanked him for his many hours of work on this project.

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that he doesn't normally sit with the commission but he was asked to be part of a sub-committee and the sub-committee was giving a report.

Commissioner Maxson said that he has never been intimidated by the mayor and he was at the meeting by invitation.

The commission voted 5-0 to approve the new UPTV Public Access Policies and Procedures Manual.

Chair Gladney wanted to make clear that the UPTV Commission had already stated that they were in favor of Democracy Now on UPTV. She also thanked Greg, Dana, and the mayor for their work on the policies and the commission members for attending all the special meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

The next UPTV Commission was set for Monday, December 13th at 12:00 PM. Chair Gladney opened up a discussion for agenda items.

- Procedures for a grievance hearing
- How is Insight doing with the franchise agreement
- Discussion of an additional public access channel
- Equipment upgrades for UPTV
- UPTV studio update

Chair Gladney asked about the two current vacancies on the UPTV Commission.

Mayor Satterthwaite said that Fred Schlipf from the library was supposed to invite Kathy Wicks to join the commission. He had not received any applications for the other at large position.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:54 PM.