

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. at Troy City Hall.

II. Roll Call

Present: Bryan Wehrung
Kent Voigt
Jerry Bixby
Alan Manzon
Cindy Stewart, CAC Liaison

Absent: Penny Marinos, Richard Hughes

Introductions: Robert Lin, Senior at Athens High – interested in being appointed as the Student Rep.

III. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Kent Voigt

Seconded by: Alan Manzon

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the April 21, 2005 regular meeting be approved.

Yeas: All

MOTION CARRIED

IV. Correspondence

- A. Comcast — Residential Late notice – August 1, 2005. Rates appear to be very reasonable. Unfortunate that items are all ala carte with no group rates. Usually can get special deals if you ask due to fierce competition.
- B. Comcast – High Speed Internet Speed Update – July 13, 2005. Again upgrading their speed to 8 mbps/768kbps and 6 mbps/384 kbps, 400% increase in less than two years. Comcast customers will more easily be able to
 - Share photo slideshows with music
 - Send video greetings
 - Stream online music or download songs
 - Download online games

Comcast serves 21.5 million cable customers, 7.4 million high-speed internet customers and 1.2 million voice customers.

- C. Comcast - Price Reduction — June 28, 2005. Converter Box price \$2.09 to \$.80.

- D. Wide Open West— Cable System Equipment Move — May 25, 2005. WOW removed all cable system equipment including PEG channel electronics housed at SBC facility in Troy to an existing WOW owned facility also in Troy from June 7-10, 2005. Customers experienced a loss of the Educational Channel.

- C.S did call WOW and got them to adjust hours so as not to lose service for a long period of time during peak graduation season for schools.

- E. Comcast — Cable Lineup Adjustments - May 2, 2005. Changes effective June 8, 2005. Some customers in our area using an analog converter to receive premium services need to replace current converter to a new converter at no charge in price.
- F. Comcast — Lineup Changes - April 28, 2005
 - TNT High Definition recently added on digital channel 204
 - Through 5/7/05, Comcast Digital Cable customers with ON DEMAND can view profiles of the top 50 draft prospects - produced by NEL Network

V. Articles

- A. Phone, Cable Firms to Fight for Video: - Free Press 6/4/05:
Next big battle in telecommunications industry will pit phone companies against cable TV firms to provide TV-like video to consumers. Phone companies want the freedom to provide video programming over high-speed phone lines, much as cable TV companies provide phone connections over the Internet.
- B. Answers to Your Questions about Digital Cable — Free Press 06/29/05:
Good information sheet related to digital TV service.
- C. Cable Companies Must Deliver Better Service — Detroit News 07/01/05:
Michigan television subscribers expect the benefits of competition. Nearly 1/3 of all Michigan residents benefit from having multiple cable providers from which to choose service.
- D. Cable Users Hagggle for Lower Bills - Detroit News 6/19/05:
Service providers negotiate to keep customers, but customers have to call—companies won't call you. WOW has shown a willingness to bargain with customers, but can't meet every demand.
- E. City Shares Cable Money With Schools — Daily Tribune 7/25/05.
- F. Rochester Hills asked to reconsider TV cuts – Detroit News - 7/24/05

VI. Old Business

- A. Cable Complaint Logs – Fairly routine customer concerns and complaints. Nothing negligible. Cable line buries that might have been overlooked from the winter. Brian suggests we remove this topic from future agendas since Troy does not seem to received the large volume of complaints we did in the past.
- B. Report on Web Publications – Brian went through all sites listed – more situations on cable personalities. No new technology. What do we want? What's new in technology, what's new for the future? Committee should continue to watch for any articles of interest to the group. Cindy's articles have more information than the websites listed.

VII. New Business

- A. Cable Franchise Lawsuit Report from City Attorney Lori Bluhm –

The City of Troy was one of 13 defendants served with a lawsuit challenging the cable franchise fees as an illegal tax. Eight of the individual circuit court judges dismissed the lawsuit against Ann Arbor, Canton Twp, Grand Rapids, Livonia, Muskegon, St. Clair Shores and Westland. Troy, Royal Oak and Midland filed motions for dismissal; the circuit court judges stayed these three cases to wait for a decision in the Michigan Court of Appeals. These three cases will now likely be dismissed.

- B. CAC Mission Statement & Goals - It's a good idea to revisit these from time to time especially after new members are appointed. CAC does have one vacancy. Cindy will check out waiting list since it appears that Bob Victor cannot make a commitment at this time.

VIII. Staff Report

Update on the ICCA – CMN Contract negotiations: 9 of the 11 ICCA communities have brought the proposed contract and bylaws to their Councils/Commissions. Of those, Auburn Hills, Berkley, Clawson, Huntington Woods, Oakland Twp, Rochester, Royal Oak and Troy have approved the contract & bylaws. Pleasant Ridge voted no. Ferndale and Rochester Hills should be bringing it to their Councils soon. Clawson, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge and Rochester Hills have decided not to give any money to CMN. Royal Oak took their $\frac{3}{4}$ % down to $\frac{1}{2}$ %.

- A. WTRY Cable Guide – August 2005: We have taped a lot of new Talking History programs – interviews with long-time Troy residents or business owners. Also airing 50th Anniversary Concerts, 50th Anniversary Museum Lectures. Upcoming programs for August/September: Miss Troy Pageant & Contours Concert.
- B. CAC Member Listing – one correction
- C. ICCA Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2005
- D. Bryan suggested we invite a rep from Comcast to the next meeting followed by a rep from WideOpenWest at the following meeting. Ask them to have information on:
- Project where the cable industry is going in the near future;
 - New products & services anticipated one year and five years from now;
 - With rates so high, how will they plan on accommodating senior citizens and low income families;
 - What would Comcast/WOW like the City of Troy to do to help advance the cable industry in our community?
- E. Next meeting Thursday, October 20, 2005

IX. Adjournment

X.

Motion to Adjourn – Moved by J. Bixby, Seconded by A. Manzon that the CAC Meeting be adjourned at 8:41 pm.

Yeas: All

MOTION CARRIED

Bryan Wehrung, CAC Chairman

Cindy Stewart, Recording secretary