



Manchester Community
Public Access Cable Television for Manchester, New Hampshire
Access Media, Inc.
PO Box 5274 - Manchester, NH - 03108

Web Site – www.mcam.org

Board of Directors Meeting – March 31, 2006 - 7:00 a.m.

At the Home of MCAM

540 Commercial Street

Tel. No. 622-3023 - Fax: 622-9323

Needed for a Quorum – Nine attending

Attending on March 31, 2006: (9-7-1) John St. Hilaire, June Craig, Carol Williamson, Ray Buckley, Arthur Gatzoulis, Lou D'Allesandro, Chris Williams, Carol Yeaton, Ami D'Amelio, and Station Manager Joe Lahr. Missing were Chris Proulx, James Stewart, Lorraine Lamontagne, Hubie McDonough, Jean Jeudy, Gene Mackie and Graham Chynoweth.

Meeting was called to order by John St. Hilaire at 7:05 a.m. and run according to Robert Rules of Order. Joe passed out a brief agenda. It was noted by Chairman John St. Hilaire that Lorraine Lamontagne has submitted her resignation to the Board and he said he accepted her resignation with regret as she has been a good and faithful member of the Board. **Ray Buckley made a motion, seconded by Lou D'Allesandro that at an upcoming meeting the Board present her with a plaque as a token of our appreciation. The motion was approved.**

Carol Yeaton was attending her first meeting and was welcomed by The Chairman. John also expressed intent to hold an "Orientation" for the newest members of the Board,

It was reported that Joe Lahr made a budget presentation to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen on Tuesday, March 28th.

Joe reported that the mural has been completed by artist Tony Williams. It looks great.

Sponsorships Station Manager Joe Lahr requested that the Board allow him to engage a person to sell sponsorships. The process would have to be ironed out; we have to be sure we do things according to FCC Rules. Our sponsorships ads will be especially good for small businesses as there is good value for the cost of sponsorships.

There was a discussion about the limitations there might be for political ads. It is OK to run notice of political meetings or appearances.

The guidelines for Sponsorships are – no comparative contrasts

- no price
- no call to action

Carol Williamson made a motion, seconded by Carol Yeaton to allow Joe to begin the sponsorship program to proceed as presented (20 sponsors to begin with) omitting any political references and allow Joe to implement a salesperson. Motion passed.

Policies and Procedure Chairman Arthur Gatzoulis reported that a decision was made by the Committee in the Complaint brought by one Producer against another for content in a program. In the case of Vaillancourt vs Salts it was decided to take no disciplinary action against Mr. Salts

Minutes of February 24, 2006 were forwarded via email on March 30th 16, 2006 to each Board Member by June Craig, Secretary

Treasurer: Gene Mackie

UNH use of MCAM Facilities

Joe reported that UNH would like to begin promoting the use of our facilities in their schedules for Spring of 2007 so they would like an answer on an agreement between them and MCAM. Joe noted that the UNH Program will fit very nicely with MCAM's time and facilities. He feels that UNH are our neighbors, and it will be good for both of us. The income would be lab fees of about (\$100) One Hundred Dollars per student. UNH is not interested in the sub lease space. Contracting with UNH will have no effect on any arrangements we make with Chester College. The schools are involved in different aspects of TV communication. * See Addendum below

CHESTER COLLEGE use of MCAM Facilities

In contrast, Chester College is interested in the sub lease space, some studio use. They offer students a fine arts degree and they would be making a meaningful commitment to MCAM. John will be meeting with the Dean of Chester College soon to get an agreement on the table.

In view of the upcoming meeting with Chester College **Lou D'Allesandro made a motion, seconded by Artie to table a decision on the UNH and Chester College involvement until after John's meeting with Chester College. Discussion**

Joe wants to begin Control Room A. The parts to complete the Control Room cost less than completion of Studio A. There is \$60,000 to be used in the restricted account. We are short \$40,000 to complete both rooms. We would need to generate the remainder of the funds needed for the camera and lighting. June made a motion, seconded by Lou to approve the completion of the Control Room. There was discussion on the possible uses by other television entities for the upcoming political season. Joe says the Control Room completion would be a good first step because the fit up is painstaking and time consuming and we can afford to get started now. The completion of Studio A, although more expensive can have the work completed in one day. It was mentioned that we do not have a satellite hookup, although many of the TV stations, FOX, CNN, NBC and C-SPAN have their own satellite trucks. Joe says the satellite hookup costs \$100,000.

The discussion went again to Chester College. We would like to receive \$30,000 for a one year agreement on the proposed use of MCAM facilities and the sub lease space.

It was decided to table the decisions on UNH and Chester College until the April meeting.

Fund Raising John proposed a **golf tournament** in September or October of 2006 as a way to raise some money. He spoke to Louie Craig who has run quite a few golf tournaments and noted the steps to have a successful event. First, we need a chairman. Jim Stewart's name came up as a

potential chairman for the tournament. **A motion was playfully made by Arthur, seconded by Lou that Jim Stewart be the chairman of the First Annual MCAM golf tournament. Motion passed.** Now all we have to do is find out if Jim Stewart accepts the nomination.

Another fundraiser involves the newly completed wall mural by Anthony Williams. John would like to cost estimates for a calendar featuring the images on the wall mural. There could be ads included on the calendar that could be sold and the calendar could be out for Christmas. We need to know how many calendars we need to sell to make money. We would allow Anthony Williams to receive a portion of the proceeds.

Ray Buckley brought up how MCAM can best acknowledge the folks who paid to have the mural painted. The Manchester Monarchs paid \$2,000 for the whole thing. We could do a litho print of the mural. Maybe we could make a presentation to the Monarchs at one of their games. John said he will cost out the calendar, note cards and the lithograph. We should do a press release. Anthony Williams, the artist would like to do more murals on the MCAM walls.

John assigned Ami D'Amelio to put together a presentation for the Monarchs to thank them for the mural.

Break IN, Missing Banner John created a banner for George Cox's TV show, "Tonic" The intruders came in through a window and stole the banner and did not disturb anything else. This event show how vulnerable we are. We need a night security light. John made a motion, seconded by Artie to get quotes for security for the windows. All were in favor.

Regarding MCTV The Mayor's proposed budget did not fund MCTV it was moved to be under the School Department. The school nurses suffered the same fate. Joe wrote a letter to the editor of the Union Leader in support of MCTV and urged it to be funded. It was felt the it was unlikely that a shutdown of MCTV's government and education programs would be allowed by the Aldermen. It was felt that it would be best to allow the problem to work itself out without MCAM's involvement.

Meeting with the Mayor. In response to John's letter to the Mayor several months ago, a meeting has been scheduled for April 18th between John and the Mayor. The Mayor has not assigned his representative on the MCAM Board; the Mayor felt he wanted to wait until the completion of the term of the representative of Mayor Baines which ends in June.

Replacing Lorriane Board members were asked for suggestions for a new Board Member, some thinking we should replace her with another female vs male.

Not Handicapped Accessible Carol Williamson brought up the fact that the bathroom still is not accessible to her wheelchair. The cheapest solution is to remove the middle panel. John stated that although not done, Brian Currier and he had volunteered to complete the work for wheelchair access.

Carol noted that there should be a handicapped parking space for every 4 spaces or she should be allowed to park in front of the entrance. The parking space has to be the entrance closest to the business.

John noted that the handicap access issues were a negotiation factor when we were working out a lease with JCM Management. We can't ask them do take part in the work or cost.

Regarding the inquiry about vending machines on the premises, **we were not successful** finding a company who wanted to put a machine in.

The water bottle machine **has been moved** to make it more convenient to visitors.

Regarding the Public Service of NH program that would create a savings on the MCAM lighting equipment, **we did not qualify** for a rebate program for a media organization

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

June E. Craig, Secretary
MCAM Board of Directors
April 17, 2006

- **Addendum:** Joe advises that John asked him to give UNH permission to use our Studio A on a trial basis for one semester in the spring of '07. So on May 1st or so I contacted Anthony Tenczar of UNH and told him. (This commits us to finishing the Studio A and Control Room before winter.) *Addendum added on May 10, 2006.*