

CABLE TELEVISION COMMISSION
April 22, 2015
City Hall, 2nd Floor Lower Level
7:00 PM

Committee Members in Attendance:

Mr. Tom Davis, Commission Chairman
Ms. Janice Hopkins, Commission Member
Mr. Normand Bernache, Commission Member

Attendees:

Ms. Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney
Mr. Bill Gardiner, Assistant City Manager
Ms. Denise Palmer, Contract Secretary

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

1. Adopt minutes from the January 28, 2015 meeting

Ms. Hopkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2015 meeting. Mr. Davis seconded the motion and the motion was unanimous.

2. Update by City Attorney

Mr. Davis asked Ms. Ferguson to update the Commission on any updates of the Comcast/Time Warner merger. Ms. Ferguson reported that Comcast has finished the negotiations with Montgomery County and will settle on April 29, 2015. Chairman Davis had questions on the Montgomery County agreement and Ms. Ferguson reported that she can brief the Commission when the details are available. Comcast appears to want to get out of the INet. The difference with the other municipalities, for instance, Greenbelt, Laurel and Bowie is that those cities use their local channels to produce programming and College Park does not. There was discussion on the use of PEG funds.

Mr. Gardiner inquired of Ms. Ferguson when does she think the negotiations will be over with Comcast. She responded that they will probably be over at the end of the calendar year. The negotiations drag on and there has been a lot of stalling.

Chairman Davis reported on his attendance at a recent City Council meeting and several things were noted: (1) The Council inquired as to the role of the Cable Commission; (2) Chairman Davis brought up the three-year term to serve on the commission and asked if the Council can look into it because he has served many years and his term is up on December 28, 2015 which will be his last term, and (3) he inquired as to other ways that the Commission can make use of the PEG money. Chairman Davis suggested that the Council can perhaps give the Commission an assignment since there is over \$1 million in PEG money. One suggestion was to use some of the funds on relocating City Hall.

3. Comcast/Verizon – review monthly/quarterly reports

Chairman Davis asked Commission members to take a close look at the Call Center reports and the average answer and hold time in March was a vast improvement. Also, Comcast provides their information in a readable form, however, he does not believe that Verizon is providing numbers that directly related to the City of College Park.

4. Review any customer complaints

Mr. Gardiner reported that there were no currently active complaints. They have been resolved.

5. Other business or announcements

There were none to report.

6. Schedule next meeting. *Should make in on Thursdays going forward because one board member can't make Wednesday meetings. In addition, the 4th Wednesday of the Month is the County's Cable Television Meeting.*

Ms. Ferguson does not see a need to have a meeting before the next three months based on franchise negotiations. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Chairman Davis made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hopkins and Mr. Bernache seconded the motion and it was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Denise M. Palmer, Contract Secretary