

VAN Annual Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 4, 2018

In attendance: see below

VAN President Kevin Christopher called the meeting to order at 9:37 at GNAT in Sunderland, VT.

Introductions

Kevin welcomed the group, and reminded attendees that the meeting was being streamed and broadcast live. Tammie Reilly welcomed everyone to GNAT. Introductions were made by AMO Executive Directors or other staff.

Approval of Minutes of 5/5/17

Motion to approve the minutes of 5/5/17 VAN Annual Meeting by Tony Campos. Seconded by Eric Herz-O'Brien; motion passes.

Update on Legal Work

Lisa Byer provided an overview of the past year's history of legal work regarding Comcast's CPG. Last July, the PUC sided with VAN in the Comcast appeal, which Comcast then appealed to Federal Court. VAN hired other counsel, Joe Van Eaton, as our previous counsel had been hired by the Attorney General's office. VAN Board of Directors, at our legal committee's recommendation, decided to seek intervenor status, and were successful despite Comcast's motion to deny. VAN was granted intervenor status in February of 2018. The case is currently in a holding pattern, waiting on the judges ruling regarding remote origination sites, line extensions, HD channels, iNet, and the interactive program guide. Randy Visser provided an update from Maine, and noted parallel areas of concern.

Financial Report

Seth presented the budget, with the current year (2017/18) first, which used .75% of cable revenue to set dues, which pay for VAN general expenses, the VMX service plan, the member services position, a small reserve fund, and to pay off a deficit from the previous year. In January, VAN made an additional request to AMOs for a 1.25% contribution for legal expenses. VAN also received \$10,000 from the Alliance for Communications Democracy to support legal work. The 2018 budget will re-establish dues as .33% of cable revenue. **Tony Campos moved to accept the 2018/19 budget. Mike Cutler seconded. Motion passed.**

Board of Directors Elections

There are four positions open, and current directors are willing to continue serving. No nominations from the floor. **Motion to accept the slate of Kevin Christopher, Lisa Byer, Seth Mobley, Kurt Broderson, as presented by Tony Campos. Seconded by Jess Wilson. Motion passed.**

Kevin made a call for Regional Representatives, as there is no current representative from the Northeast Vermont region. Jamie Dimick volunteered to serve.

Rebecca Padula noted that VMX usage is up.

VMX Committee Elections

There are three positions open, and current members are willing to continue serving. **Motion to accept the slate of Drew Frazier, Cor Trowbridge and Jim Hering as presented by Tony Campos. Seconded by Alex Reichert. Motion passes.**

Member Services Report

Kevin presented Greg's video, which you can view here: https://www.dropbox.com/s/y3o39mdw9fzwrok/VAN_Member_Services_Report.mp4?dl=0

Statewide AMO

Rob Chapman presented about the status of VAN applying to be the AMO for a state-wide organization to replace Vermont Interactive Television, in order to facilitate interactive meetings for the Public Utilities Commission. The VAN Board of Directors had previously accepted the Statewide AMO Committee's recommendation to apply for this designation, with the caveat that it must receive legal review, and not cost VAN anything without Board approval.

Statewide Agency Outreach

Tammie reported on VAN's work to let state agencies know about AMO's role, and how we may be of assistance in getting news out to viewers, and how we can assist them in communicating in a uniform manner, and that we could share their content via VMX.

Vendor Introductions

Angelike introduced the vendors, who told a little more about themselves and the companies they represent. Thanks to all the vendors for participating today, and for providing raffle prizes.

Overview of Afternoon

Kevin presented the workshop topics.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Jared Gunnell. Seconded by Alex Reichert. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 11:25.

Board Reorganization

Kevin Christopher called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 12:25.

Discussed officers. **Cor Trowbridge moved, and Kurt Broderson seconded, the motion to accept the slate of officers as follows: President-Kevin Christopher; Vice-President-Lisa Byer; Treasurer-Seth Mobley; Secretary-Kurt Broderson. Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 12:37.

Minutes submitted by Kurt Broderson

Attendee List with Organization (69 total)

Kevin Christopher (LCATV)	George Bellerose (MCTV)
Michael Wright (LCATV)	Kurt Broderson (MCTV)
Rebecca Padula (LCATV)	Mike Deterling (KATV)
Buddy Meilleur (LCATV)	Jamie Dimick (KATV)
Stephanie Soules (LCATV)	Seth Mobley (VCAM)
Angelike Contis (MMCTV)	Eric Herz-O'Brien (VCAM)
Jim Hering (MMCTV)	Andrew Crawford (CCTV)
Tammie Reilly (GNAT)	Aidan White (CCTV)
Miriah Downing (GNAT)	Kim Villemaire (CCTV)
Hoss Wuerslin (GNAT)	Elizabeth Malone (NWATV)
Ann Hammerle (GNAT)	Zach Scheffler (NWATV)
Mark Moffett (GNAT)	Paul Snyder (NWATV)
Aryn Clark (GNAT)	Lisa Byer (CAT-TV)
Dawn Santos (GNAT)	Beq Lendvay (CAT-TV)
Bob Ellis (GNAT)	Alex Reichert (CAT-TV)
Janice Therrien (NEK-TV)	Ryan Scott (CAT-TV)
Donna Girot (CATV)	Mike Cutler (CAT-TV)
Thomas Bishop (CATV)	William Gadne (CAT-TV)
Chico Eastridge (CATV)	Vlasta Popelka (BCTV)
Adam Sayre (CATV)	Cor Trowbridge (BCTV)
Tony Campos (CVTV)	Nolan Edgar (BCTV)
Jared Gunnell (SAPA-TV)	Patrick Cody (Okemo Valley TV)
Kevin Paquet (SAPA-TV)	Nancy Donahue (RRCTV)
Asah Cramer (SAPA-TV)	Tom Leypoldt (RRCTV)
Anthony Italiano (MRVTV)	Rob Chapman (ORCA)
Keith Berkelhamer (MRVTV)	Jin An (ORCA)
Farhad Khan (MCTV)	Jess Wilson (RETN)
James Corbett (MCTV)	Drew Frazier (RETN)
Alice Eckles (MCTV)	Macy Lawrence (WCTV8)
Tim O'Leary (MCTV)	Rae Gardner (WCTV8)

Vendor Attendees

Adam Zonis (Extron Electronics)
Randy Visser (Cablecast Community Media)
Michael Ridinger (Unique Media Systems)
Matt Wood (Unique Media Systems)
Charles Paige (Telvue)
Josh Coli (Audio Video Corporation)
Jon Higgins (Audio Video Corporation)
Eric Nelson (Access A/V)
Zoe Harris (Barbizon Light of NE)