

Cathy Beaudoin

Board Meeting

Thursday • April 17, 2008 • 6:24 PM – 7:47 PM

channelAustin Conference Room • 1143 Northwestern Avenue • Austin, Texas 78702

1. Call to Order:

Board Co-Chair Celia Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:24 PM.

Board Members Present: Cathy Beaudoin, Oscar Palomo, Deborah Hill and Jackie Goodman.

channelAustin Staff Present: Linda Litowsky, Susan Harper, and Patricia Frank.

2. Citizens Communications: N/A

3. Producers' Communications:

Lorraine DeNardis – Producer Council Liaison

- Producers Council passed three motions. The PC wants:
 - o Consistent notification of Board Meetings
 - o A response from the Board about the PC's request for the suspension of Garry Wilkison and Linda Litowsky until an investigation is conducted and the results are made public
 - o \$380.00 refunded to Eustacio Martinez for repaired equipment and that credit be given for the remainder of his PID and series program time
- A producer requested streaming video as a great way to bring attention to the "great things that we are doing here."
- Spoke against the resolution to change the rules and to find a less intimidating way for producers to have their voices heard.
- Ms. DeNardis also suggested that the Board could direct producers to come to her with their concerns and that she would bring these concerns to the Board.

Celia asked for a copy of the paper that she read. Please see attached.

Sam Alexander – Producer

- Expressed a desire for streaming video.
- Suggested channelAustin set up an office for sponsors to help them get promos on the air and that this would also help raise additional funds.
- Would like to be considered a viable candidate for that office.

Oscar Palomo read the Producer Issues written responses Deborah Hill provided into the record. The responses were addressed to the Producer Council Representative from the March and February Board meetings.

Recording was suspended while the Board ate.

The Board meeting reconvened at 6:41PM.

4. Approval of March 2008 Minutes:

Oscar Palomo moved to approve the March minutes. Cathy Beaudoin seconded.

The vote was unanimous to approve.

5. Financial Review:

- Oscar explained that we are halfway through the fiscal year and everything is in order. There are a few items that look to be over budget, including Workers Comp, Liability Insurance, and unemployment tax. These were unexpected costs.
- Kids Make TV Camp is not held till June and the expenses shown to date were for a Youth Media Coordinator who worked during the fall.
- There were more than adequate reserve funds on hand from the 2nd quarter to carry over to the 3rd quarter and to maintain the reserve fund.

Celia welcomed Patricia Frank as the new bookkeeper.

- The **CITY AUDIT IS OVER.**
- All former and current staff will be paid a living wage. Former part time and fulltime staff has received their checks for back pay and all employment taxes are up to date.
- In the future, TARA will hold **channelAustin** to Section 20 of the contract and we must get approval from TARA to hire any contract workers.
- TARA also let us know that **channelAustin** can hire a lawyer as long as unrestricted funds are used.

6. Appointments with City Council Members: Linda has called and left messages with all Council Members except Laura Huffman. With the permission of the Board she will continue to pursue getting an appointment with Ms. Huffman. Linda explained to the Council Members that this is an introductory meeting. Linda also explained the packet that was given to the Telecom Commission and that part of that packet will be available for Council Members. Linda will email updates and reminders of appointments. Linda and Stefan will provide all Board members with talking points.

7. Producers Resource Cooperative of Central Texas:

Sol Water presented his concept for the cooperative.

- Bring crews together to help on shows – Like a crew-swap in the Main and Mini Studios.
- Working on a website to help people find each other, i.e. social networking or producers could have their own sub domains connected to **channelAustin**'s site.
- Sol would like three main things to be on the **channelAustin** web site: Video, Needs, and Talent offered.

8. Status of Strategic Plan:

- Committees are now formed as listed in the By-Laws.
- Committee Meetings will now be an agenda item at every Board meeting.
- The Operational Committee will meet in May to set goals and operational procedures.

Linda will email the new committee list to all Board Members for their review.

9. Executive Director and General Manager Report:

- EXSE Spoken Word was a great success.
- All equipment purchased with the \$200,000.00 has arrived.
- Linda went over the packets that were handed out to the Commissioners at the Telecom meeting.

Per Deborah Hill's request, Celia Hughes will respond to the Producer Council's Representative at the May meeting.

Executive Session: N/A

11. New Business:

The next Board meeting was set for May 15, 2008 from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM.

Celia Hughes made a motion to adjourn and Cathy Beaudoin seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

*Cathy Beaudoin
Secretary
5.22.08*