

MANISTEE AREA PEG COMMISSION

NOTES

July 24, 1997

Due to the fact that a quorum was not present for the July 24, 1997 regular meeting, these notes shall suffice for updating members on the evening's discussion.

MEMBERS PRESENT: A. Morin, M. Batjka, F. Balcer

MEMBERS ABSENT: S. Mackin, N. LeMire, T. Kaminski, K. Fenstermacher

OTHERS PRESENT: Lori Donnan (Administrative Assistant), Tex Collins, Cliff Edwards (Sunset Productions), Deb Dowdy.

A. Morin informed all present that she was under the assumption that the July 24 meeting was to be only a worksession, not a regularly scheduled meeting. She also expressed concern over why she was not alerted of this being a regularly scheduled meeting and talked to alone about the matter. Morin also expressed concern over not producing the agenda herself. Donnan informed Morin that it was agreed at the June worksession that the July 24 meeting would be a regularly scheduled meeting, and that members had agreed upon meeting the 4th Wednesday of each month. Donnan also informed members that the July 24 meeting was held on a Thursday due to a conflict of scheduling amongst the PEG members.

L. Donnan reviewed agenda items with members present. There was some discussion over election of officers. It was stated that A. Morin was currently chairperson. Donnan agreed to review the minutes of past meetings to research that statement and notified members that after June's worksession, she was under the assumption that PEG did not have any official officers.

Members discussed a question raised by an area citizen concerning the broadcasting of Filer Twp. Board Meetings. Cliff Edwards stated that Sunset does not have a contract with Filer to tape their Board Meetings. He also mentioned Filer and the City have a mutual franchise agreement with C-TEC and both recognize the operator as being Sunset. Edwards also stated that at the time of the Operator's Agreement, Filer did not have an interest in Sunset taping their Board Meetings. Donnan informed the members that citizens questioning the broadcasting of Filer Board Meetings would have to direct those concerns to Filer Twp., not the PEG Commission. Donnan also stated that it would be necessary for Filer to draw up a separate contract with Sunset if they wished to have their Board Meetings taped.

There was some concern over the presence of by-laws. A. Morin and Deb Dowdy both agreed that by-laws had been previously drafted and followed by the Commission. Donnan stated that she was not aware of any by-laws, only a Public Access Policy. Donnan also informed all persons present that it was assumed after June's worksession that PEG did not have any by-laws to follow that dealt with election of officers, terms of officers, definitions of officers, misconduct and removal of members, etc.

Donnan requested a hard copy from members because there is not a hard copy in City Hall's files. Ms. Morin will look in her files for a copy. A. Morin questioned the definition of misconduct. Donnan stated that three (3) unexcused absences would classify as misconduct, as well as a conflict of interest.

Discussion also reflected around Council members being present at a meeting to answer questions PEG members may have for them. Donnan informed members that we could indeed request the presence of representatives from the City Council at a future meeting.

Cliff Edwards was present to discuss the six (6) *Scheduling of Operator's Air Time* items located within the Public Access Policy (of which the Operator agreed to upon signing of their contract). Donnan requested Edwards to supply PEG with monthly request forms, and regularly scheduled programming. The regularly scheduled programming will be posted on the bulletin board at City Hall for interested parties to see what times are available. Edwards agreed to supply PEG with those two items. As for reviewing monthly programming schedules in advance, Edwards stated the PEG Commission agreed in the past that it was not necessary. Donnan informed Edwards that if it was indeed true, the Access Policy should have been revised to make note of that agreement. As it currently stands, the Policy requests the Operator to provide that information to PEG. Edwards informed Donnan that there is a need for the addition of an address and telephone number within the request form. He also stated that Sunset has been adding this to their forms and will not continue with that practice.

Donnan notified all persons present of the August 27, 1997 regularly scheduled meeting, which will be held at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lori Donnan".

Lori Donnan
Administrative Assistant