

Okemo Valley TV

Regular Meeting

Thursday, February 17, 2021 at 5:30PM

Okemo Valley TV, 37C Main St., Ludlow, VT and Zoom

Minutes

Present:, Pat Moore, Newt Rose, Noah Schmidt, George O. Thomson, Patrick Cody, Executive Director, Okemo Valley TV

Zoom: Susan Haefner

Absent:, Zachery McNaughton, Sharon Huntley, John Cama

I. Call Meeting to Order – The meeting was called to order by President Noah at 5:34.

II. Review Agenda and Consider any Adjustments – There was one addition to the agenda...to act on the resignation of Will Harris.

III. Communications/Public Comments – There was a letter of resignation of Will Harris. George made a motion to accept the resignation of Will Harris. It was seconded by Noah and approved unanimously.

Patrick will reach out to see if Wendell Perkins (who ran for the board in the last election) to ask if he is interested in filling the remainder of the term which is only three months.

IV. Review & Reconcile Archive of Meeting Minutes – Noah made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2021 meeting as adjusted. Pat seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Noah moved to table moving the January minutes as they were not available.

V. Director Report – Patrick highlighted a few items and will provide his report to the board electronically following the meeting. His full report is available on the website.

Patrick hired Will Harris as a part-time program scheduler. It is a temporary position to the end of the FY. Rebekah has been training him. The main responsibility is the daily schedules. Rebekah will be able to work on long term planning, publicity and production. The part time field producer position is yet to be filled yet but Patrick has a potential lead.

Coverage for Informational Meetings for Town Meeting will be starting. There is one on Saturday and then two on Monday both live and hybrid (Mt. Holly and Plymouth). Ludlow and Cavendish delayed meetings so we will have to do those in the future (Cavendish March 28 and Ludlow April 4). Ludlow village meeting 3/21/22 will also be scheduled. Voting for the two meetings in by Australian the next day.

In addition, there are two annual school board meetings to be recorded next week.

Patrick still does weekly Friday updates with Charlie Kimball, the representative from Reading, Plymouth Woodstock. He is the only legislator who does this.

There is a Legislative Roundtable on Monday sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. George Thomson is the Moderator.

Pat Moore continues to record the Innkeepers Ski races.

In this week's mail, there was a card from someone Wells who watches a yoga program on the VTel station. He expressed his appreciation and sent a donation to . sent her a donation.

Sports coverage – We subscribed to live streaming service this year so we can broadcast the GMUHS and Mill River games. We do not have to cover the games ourselves which is easier, but the quality is not as good as when we record ourselves. We may suggest the schools do something different next year but they may have already contracted with NFHS.

We are partnering with the Ottaquechee Regional Planning Commission to do a few short series of flood mitigation videos.

We have had some success with community engagement by getting some new underwriters. The Heritage Bank and Killarney have agreed to be underwriters. Pat indicated we may also have Murdocks as an underwriter. Appreciation was expressed to Newt for organizing the drive. It appears we will surpass our budget projections of \$3,500. once we received the money.

Patrick did a presentation to the Ludlow Rotary Club this week. He provided an update on the station letting the assembled know we are still around but the work has changed, adapting and evolving all the time.

Our relationship with towns has never been stronger. They recognize and appreciate all the work that OVTV has done during the pandemic.

The River Valley Tech Center IT class is building a second streaming service for our government and educational channel. We have sourced the supplies which they will pick up after February break and start to build it. It is wonderful to have this partnership.

VAN's \$300,000 request for support from the legislature has passed the senate and the house. VAN decided to split the money evenly among all the VAN members (\$12,500). Because this is a budget adjustment it needs to be spent by June 30. It is to be used to offset increases in expenses that we incurred as a result the pandemic...bridge funding. Next year VAN is asking for \$600,000. If that is approved in the budget then there will be a funding formula to disperse the money.

VI. Building Project Report – Patrick has had a conversation with Scott about some of the problems with the building and he feels Scott understands the needs. In the draft budget they did had some money for paving interest, but the Selectmen needed to remove it this year.

As mentioned last month, we received a cost estimate of \$154,000 to finish out the building. This did included money for a contingency and inflationary factor. Patrick has talked with Efficiency VT about doing an audit for us. If they do, the results may be used to help us get some grants.

This budget will be reviewed by the building committee and then brought back to the board at the next meeting.

VII. Underwriting 2022 – Sharon has been doing work on the digital brochure. This is only the one-page document. There was some discussion if we needed the trifold and we decided we did not. We will get some printed to give folks. We do not need to many as our prospect list only has 20 folks on it.

VIII. Financial/Budget Report – The year to date budget report was sent to the board prior to the meeting. Revenue lines 2010 and 1010 are directly related to the PEG funds. Although delayed, the Comcast check did come in. It was in a plastic bag and torn. With that check our revenue is 70+%. Patrick reminded the board that the biggest checks come in final quarter so we should end the year at or slightly over budget.

Underwriting already has \$2,000 but more to come so we will be over in this budget line

Membership and production services are a little low at the present time. A couple other projects are in the works so we may meet the budget.

We will get the additional \$12,500 from the Legislature. Patrick suggests we add it to restricted funds either capital or the general budget.

The board asked for some explanations of specific line items. Patrick said we may be looking to make some changes with the addition of a book keeper. Over all we are under in expenses.

IX. Other Business – No other business.

X. Confirm Next Meeting Date(s) – Committees & Regular meeting March 17 at 5:30 was set for the next regular meeting. Noah will reach out to Zach and set up a building committee meeting to review the building budget.

XI. Adjourn

Pat made a motion to adjourn at 6:36. The motion was seconded by Newt and so moved.

Respectfully submitted,

George O Thomson
Secretary