

HACTAC Agenda
October 18, 2017
Simsbury Public Library-Simsbury

Guest:

Minutes:- June 21, 2017

Treasurer Report

Town Reports:

Bloomfield
East Hartford
Hartford
Simsbury
West Hartford
Windsor

Company Reports:

Comcast
AT&T

Committee Reports:

Chairman's Report

Complaints-

Old Business

New Business

Next Meeting: -Nov. 15, 2017- East Hartford?

Adjournment:

On Wed, Oct 18, 2017 at 5:18 PM, Gil Martinez <gmartinez@hpatv.org> wrote:

Hello, Penny. Below are some quick updates for HPATV;

- Had a successful Fall Season Producer's Meeting (70 active producers producing content for HPATV's Channel 5 including various new shows)
- Recent Board Member Term Completions/Resignations (Luz Conde, Shirley Surgeon, Christopher Stan and Jeffrey Stewart)
- Current HPATV Leadership Team; President - Peter Yazbak, Vice President - Jeremy Baver, Secretary - Jennifer Thomassen, Treasurer - Violette Haldane
- New Board Members Recruited (Celestino Jimenez, Jennifer Thomassen, Retired Fire Chief Charles Teale, Violette Haldane)
- Recently received Technical Assistance Grant from HFPG for Revenue Plan Development. Currently working with consultants, NetMark Associates, to facilitate this process. Attended 2 of 3 Workshops to create presentation materials and strategies for developing corporate sponsorships, a fee for service initiative to work with the Stepping Stone Free-Lance Producer Program and other fundraising efforts.
- Registered in Leadership Greater Hartford's Board Member recruitment program (Leaders on Board) to further develop board.
- Enrolled in HFPG Board Development Training Seminar Series. Completion of training qualifies HPATV to receive 35 hours of free consulting on Board / Fund Development.
- Accepted to participate in HFPG's Strategic Technology Program which begins 10/24/17. Completion qualifies HPATV to receive up to \$25K in technology funding including web development
- Strategic partnership with UHART strengthened by university's approval of \$37K to build 2 new studio sets which will be utilized by university students and HPATV Interns/Staff/Volunteers to develop new programming to be broadcast on HPATV's Educational Channel 95. Programming to include UHART & local school sports, Community News (HART City News), The Whaler Guys, Yard Goats, etc.
- PEGPETIA funding for Public Access Station technology appears to be swept into general fund according to recent State of CT budget proposals. Recent Republican Proposed complete elimination of PEGPETIA funding in perpetuity.

Please give my best to the HACTAC team.

All the best,

Gil Martinez, Executive Director
Hartford Public Access Television
20-28 Sargeant Street
Hartford, CT 06105
[\(860\) 524-8621](tel:(860)524-8621) - W
[\(860\) 524-8459](tel:(860)524-8459) - F
gmartinez@hpatv.org
www.hpatv.org



The Honorable John Fonfara
Legislative Office Building
Room 3700
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Dear Senator Fonfara:

I am writing in response to the possibility that \$3.5 million in Public, Educational and Governmental Programming and Education Technology Investment Account (PEGPETIA) grant funding will be permanently eliminated from the state budget each fiscal year going forward and was included in both the General Assembly's Republican budget and Governor's budget. As you are probably aware, the PEGPETIA fund provides support for public, educational, and governmental (i.e. community access television) programming in Connecticut. I urge you to please protect PEGPETIA and adamantly resist any efforts to permanently sweep this very important funding source.

We at HPATV understand the need to find savings to get the state through these difficult fiscal times by temporarily reducing budget items such as PEGPETIA but both budgets presented so far include the phrase "and each fiscal year thereafter" suggesting a permanent sweep of the funds. This is especially troubling to community access stations around the state because we depend heavily on this crucial funding to modernize our studios, equipment and technology which ensures that we remain relevant in the 21st Century.

Just last year, HPATV completed the renovation and upgrade of our television recording studios, editing suite and obsolete broadcast control equipment and expanded our internet presence thanks in large part to our receipt of a nearly \$195,000 equipment grant from the PEGPETIA fund. Because of these recent capital improvements, we were able to modernize HPATV's outdated broadcast transmission equipment and transition from analog to digital broadcast including the live, digital broadcast and streaming of local government meetings and cultural events to over 26,000 homes throughout the city. This is of especially significant value to the members of our community who are homebound because they are elderly or disabled, cannot afford to attend on a regular basis due to fixed or limited income, and those who have a family or personal obligation on the night of a particular meeting or event.

Due to the strict reporting requirements, conditions and grant restrictions placed on PEGPETIA recipients, I can assure you that – when awarded - none of this crucial funding is squandered. Having reliable state of the art equipment has energized our existing volunteer producers, attracted new producers and increased the number of new programs at HPATV – all explicit goals set forth in PEGPETIA eligibility criteria. As a result of the complete renovation of HPATV's



facility, the HPATV team is proud of the expanded and improved role we play in creating quality productions and promoting Connecticut's Capitol as an ideal city in which to live, work and visit.

If HPATV loses a funding source as essential as PEGPETIA, our ability to maintain our current level of service to the Greater Hartford community and our promotion of everything that is great about Hartford and it's residents will be severely affected. I am not aware of there being an opportunity for public comment on the budget thus far which is why I am writing to you as Hartford's representative in the General Assembly to urge you to safeguard this important funding source. Please ensure that any reference made to permanent cuts in budget negotiations is resisted and language recommending permanently eliminating PEGPETIA (e.g. "and each fiscal year thereafter") is removed from any of this year's budget proposals.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the impact of cutting PEGPETIA further, do not hesitate to contact me at (860) 539-1678.

Yours in service,

Gil Martinez, Executive Director
Hartford Public Access Television, Inc.

Debbie Burrell

To: roger goldbeck
Subject: RE: HACTAC notes

HACTAC

Inspiring Equity Project

The project involves creating a photobook along the theme of equity and then using an app to bring the pictures in the book to life. WHC-TV is providing studio space and assisting with the recording of the silent movie and audio of the stories of equity. **We All Have a Story to Tell:**

Inspiring Equity through Community Conversations is a project of the West Hartford (CT) Public Schools that seeks to bring our schools and community together through the lens of individual and collective stories. Engaging community dialogue through the use of storytelling and a multimedia exhibition builds upon our community's cultural capital, which includes many active organizations/groups invested in issues of leadership, equity, and community dialogue. There will be an exhibit featuring all of the pictures in the book in December on the third floor of West Hartford Town Hall. Through this community project, we have begun to learn about the bridges and barriers to equity that exist within our community. Authentic conversations about the reality of racial, economic, and social-cultural inequity are often difficult to even begin, particularly in an increasingly polarized environment. Hearing other's stories brings new consciousness about the feelings and perspectives of others and new awareness of what influences our sense of identity and community.

After the hearing, these videos will be put together into a program that will run on the channel. We hope that WHC-TV's support and participation in this project helps to build a better and stronger West Hartford.

Election 2017

Candidates for municipal offices, including Board of Education, Town Council and Town Clerk recorded two minute profiles. We recorded two debates in the race for Town Council in collaboration with the League of Women Voters of Greater Hartford. The Board of Education debate is scheduled to record their debate on October 11th. These programs will telecast on a heavy schedule beginning on October 16th.

I am also excited to tell you about the Board of Education Candidate Forum scheduled to go live from Charter Oak School on Monday, October 23rd at 7 pm. This forum will also include a Spanish language interpreter so that people may ask questions in their native language.

Probate Court & You Series 2017

West Hartford Community Television is in the process of recording a four part lecture series recorded at our Public Library with Probate Court Judge Owen Eagan demystifying probate and estate planning featuring legal experts and open Q/A.

Topics include:

What is Probate Court? 9/12

Estate Planning: The Basics 10/4

Estate Taxation and the Use of Trusts 10/17

Conservatorships and Title 19 11/1

Community Media day is Friday, October 20th and I did end up arranging for a proclamation to be presented by

Mayor Shari Cantor. We are planning to do social media and interviews around what makes community media important. You don't have to mention it at all but wanted you to have it ready if everyone else has events planned for Community Media Day and they ask what we are doing. (I am away on Friday but have arranged for the proclamation and Diana is going to handle the social media.)



August 4, 2017

Richard Ostop, Chairman
Hartford Area Cable TV Advisory Council
P.O. Box 42
Simsbury, CT 06070

Re: Cable TV Advisory Council Contact

Dear Mr. Ostop:

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to inform you that I am the new Comcast representative to the Advisory Council. As outlined in Comcast's letter dated May 5, 2017, I will attend two (2) Advisory Council meetings per year in accordance with our statutory requirement. Please note that the Advisory Council will continue to receive hard copies of every filing that Comcast makes with the Public Utility Regulatory Authority relating to your franchise area, and I am always available to address any issues or questions that may arise at any time. I can be reached directly at Matt_Skane@comcast.com or 860-505-3349.

I look forward to meeting you and the other members of the Advisory Council. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Matt Skane
Manager, Government & Regulatory Affairs
Western New England Region



HARTFORD AREA CABLE TV ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 18, 2017

Introduction:

Matt Skane, Manager of Government & Regulatory Affairs Comcast WNE
Office: 860-505-3349; Cell: 860-414-5066; Matt_Skane@comcast.com

Community Relations

- **Internet Essentials (IE) Announcement:** Comcast has just announced that 1 million customers have enrolled in the program. Internet Essentials is the biggest Comcast Community Outreach Initiative to bridge the digital divide and way to give back. *See Pamphlet for Eligibility Req.*
- **Internet Essentials Senior Pilot Program:** On October 3, 2017, Comcast announced the expansion of Internet Essentials to low-income senior citizens in Hartford.
- **Back to School Events:**
 - Comcast was a sponsor of the Connecticut Invention Convention to support STEM programs among students on April 29, 2017.
 - Comcast sponsored the Hartford Public Schools Professional Development Conference between August 14th and 16th.
 - Comcast assisted with the Hartford CREC Back to School Block Party on 8/16/2017.
 - Comcast received the Hartford YWCA Corporate Partner Award on September 26, 2017.
- **Hurricane Relief Efforts:**
 - To help residents and emergency personnel stay connected during Hurricane Irma, Comcast opened more than 137,000 Xfinity WiFi hotspots throughout Florida; nearly 10,000 Xfinity WiFi hotspots throughout Georgia; and close to 6,000 Xfinity WiFi hotspots in South Carolina to anyone who needs them, including non-Xfinity customers, for free.
 - Comcast NBC Universal donated an additional \$1 million to hurricane relief efforts, bringing total contributions to almost \$20 million in cash/funds raised, and in-kind support.

Programming Notes

- **Filed with PURA on July 19, 2017**
 - Effective August 15, 2017 – Comcast will launch Inspiration on Channel 83 in all Connecticut systems. Inspiration will be available to all customers who subscribe to Expanded Basic service.
 - Effective August 15, 2017 – RLTV will no longer be available on Channels 125 and 1498 in the Comcast/Hartford system.
- **Filed with PURA on October 6, 2017**
 - Effective November 7, 2017, ESPN Classic will no longer be available in any of Comcast Connecticut Systems.
 - Comcast Sports Network (CSN) of New England has been renamed NBC Sports Boston and RLTV has been renamed to Newsy.

Complaints

- **Complaint Regarding Programming and Channel Availability**
 - Received on 8/11/2017
 - Addressed on 8/14/2017 by Comcast



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