



**Portsmouth  
Cable Commission Meeting  
3:30 p.m. – January 11, 2007  
City Hall/City Manager’s Conference Room**

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The Portsmouth Cable Commission met on Thursday, January 11, 2007 at 3:30 p.m.

- I. Call to Order** - The following were present:
- John Gregg, Chairman
  - City Manager John Bohenko
  - Louis Vinciguerra, Commissioner
  - Brian Gregg, Commissioner
  - Kathy Pearce, Commissioner
  - Nancy Beach, Commissioner
  - Gary Lowe, Alternate Commissioner

Also present were Alan Brady, City of Portsmouth Webmaster and Suzanne Woodland, Assistant City Attorney.

Chairman John Gregg called the meeting to order at approximately 3:35 p.m.

- II. Approval of Minutes** – Voted to approve and accept the minutes of the December 7, 2006 Cable Commission meeting. Motion passed
- III. Update PEG Access** – The Chairman briefly reviewed the series of steps approved at the last meeting for developing a plan to operate a Public Access Channel. He referenced that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss and gain agreement on a vision for what a Public Access Channel would look like in its initial phase: “How grand and how fast?”

In support of the series of discussions the Commission will have over the next few months, Alan Brady reported that he has begun to assemble relevant information gathered to date from other New Hampshire communities that already have Public Access: Concord, Bedford, Londonderry, Manchester and Merrimac. He provided commission members with notebooks of this information: capital and operating budgets, by-laws and operating policies.

The Chair then opened discussion on “How grand and how fast?” He posed two extremes: starting with an all volunteer operation with very limited equipment vs. a very well equipped facility with paid staff. Subsequent discussion suggested that commission members favored starting with a solid but not overly grand facility and a paid director. The director was felt to be key but could possibly be part time.

There was discussion about obtaining financial support for Public Access and Nancy Beach reported that she has been contacted by a couple community business leaders who expressed their willingness to support. She asked, and was given permission, to request

that these people put their expression of support in writing. There was discussion regarding possible conflicts of interest for financial sponsors who also wished to provide programming material. The City Manager and Assistant City Attorney mentioned that there are standard procedures for handling these matters.

The Chair then asked the commission to be prepared at the February meeting to review the budgets of other communities and be prepared to discuss appropriate capital expense and operating budgets in support of the vision that was agreed upon. He asked Alan Brady to bring copies of his previously prepared capital expense budget.

**IV. Non Public Session (meeting with legal counsel)**

**MOTION** made by Louis Vinciguerra to go into non-public session. Seconded by Nancy Beach. Motion passed.

The Commission then went into non-public session.

The next non-public session is scheduled for Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.

**MOTION** made by Kathleen Pearce to go back into public session. Seconded by Brian Gregg.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2007 at 3:30 p.m.

The Chair welcomed Gary Lowe as an alternate Commissioner.

**V. Adjournment – MOTION** made by Nancy Beach to adjourn. Seconded by Louis Vinciguerra. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine E. Boucas