

Minutes of Meeting  
March 15, 2004

A meeting of the MCT Board of Directors was held at 7548 Standish Place in Rockville, Maryland on Monday, March 15, 2004. The Board members in attendance were:

Fernando Cruz-Villalba  
Francha Davis  
Stan Doore  
Ginny Gong  
John Hansman  
Ginny Hillhouse  
Bill Larson

Nancy Poole  
Carla Satinsky  
Eugene Saunders  
Roald Schrack  
Alice Scipio  
Noreene Wells

The meeting was called to order at 7:41 p.m. Richard Turner, MCT Executive Director, and guests Jane Lawton, Cable Office Administrator, Thomas G. Robinson, CBG Communications, Inc. and Connie Ledoux Book, Ph.D. Telecommunications Research Corporation were in attendance.

**Roll Call**

Board members Victoria Brailitsa and Allen Edwards, having previously advised of other commitments, requested excused absences. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes were approved with the following corrections.

Nancy Poole corrected the fact that the nominations for the three at large seats are not executed at the same time as the regular elections and the spelling of Bill Larson's name needs to be corrected.

Carla Satinsky moved and Bill Larson seconded to approve the February 2, 2004 minutes with the corrections. The motion carried unanimously.

**Presentation by Tom Robinson CBG Communications**

Jane Lawton, Cable Administrator, indicated that the needs assessment study was not designed to look at MCT but it was designed to look at public access. Marilyn Praisner indicated that this study was warranted when the citizens of Takoma Park indicated, on numerous occasions, their interest in a facility similar to MCT to be located nearer to them.

Jane Lawton stated that public access is threatened at the present time. At the national level the cable operators believe there is a lack of interest in public access especially when the cable stations are capable of doing it themselves.

Ms. Lawton believed that with the changes in technology, the down county can be provide with different options which can incorporate a small office that checks out equipment or one or two editing stations or a production facility similar to MCT's.

Thomas G. Robinson and Connie Ledoux Book were selected to do a broader needs assessment. This study was conducted over the past two years and included an evaluation in MCT's services. Three models were proposed. Two of the models envisioned scaling back operations at MCT in favor of an increased presence in the Down County area. The third model called for renovations and upgrades to our current site and creating bureaus or satellite offices.

### **President's Report**

Nancy Poole informed the board that this would be her last meeting as President. She expressed that it was an honor and a privilege being President for the last four years. She thanked the board for their support.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Richard Turner discussed the outreach program, candidate forum, FY05 cable plan and budget, information technology implementation plan, organizational assessment and community ascertainment. The entire report is attached to the minutes:

John Hansman moved that \$90,000 from the reserves be applied to the Information Technology Implementation Plan. **Carla Satinsky** seconded. The motion carried unanimously

### **Old Business**

No old business

### **Official Business of the Annual Meeting**

Francha Davis, Chair of the Nominating Committee, informed the board of the committee's recommended slate - Eugene Saunders as President and Ginny Gong as Secretary. They both accepted.

Bill Larson moved and John Hansman seconded to approve the recommendations of the nominating committee's slate as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Nancy Poole stated that since Eugene Saunders was first Vice President that Fernando-Cruz-Villalba will be the sole Vice President.

Francha Davis presented Nancy Poole with a certificate from the board of directors expressing their appreciation for her contribution in her four years as president.

Nancy expressed her appreciation and thanks to everyone that helped during all the challenges that MCT faced last year.

### **New Business**

Eugene Saunders thanked the board and the nominating committee for their confidence in selecting him to serve as President. He expressed his admiration for the dedication and commitment that Nancy Poole has shown in her tenure as president of the board.

Eugene Saunders informed the board of the three new ad hoc committees

Strategic Planning Committee- Eugene Saunders, Chair  
Technology Committee - Stan Doore, Chair  
Personnel Committee - Ginny Gong, Chair

The remaining committees' are:

Public Access Policy Committee - Fernando Cruz-Villalba, Chair  
Finance and Budget Committee - Francha Davis, Chair

The May 17 meeting will begin at 6:30 and be dedicated to strategic planning.

### **Adjourn**

Carla Satinsky moved and Noreene Wells seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.