



MT. HOOD CABLE REGULATORY COMMISSION

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MT. HOOD CABLE REGULATORY COMMISSION

Annual Planning Retreat

McMenamins Kennedy School, Portland

January 23, 2010 Retreat Minutes – [APPROVED](#)

SUMMARY MINUTES

MINUTES AS APPROVED AT THE FEBRUARY 22, 2010 MHCRC MEETING.

Call to Order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Alan Alexander III (Chair), Sue Dicile, Clark Santee, Leif Hansen, John Kilian and Norm Thomas

Commissioners Absent: Andrea Cano and Rich Goheen

Staff: David Olson, Julie Omelchuck, Mary Beth Henry, and Rebecca Gibbons

Facilitator: Paula Manley, Paula Manley Consulting

Presenters: Tom Robinson, CBG Communications; Mike Riley, Riley Research; Dr. Connie Book, Elon University (by phone) (Departed retreat at 1:45pm)

Retreat Objectives:

- ▶ Develop a shared understanding of the ascertainment findings and identify any areas to be strengthened.
- ▶ Consider franchise renewal milestones, decision points and roles.
- ▶ Review proud accomplishments and disappointments/challenges of the past year.
- ▶ Provide opportunities for Commissioners to get to know each other and strengthen working relationships.

Presentation and Discussion of Community Needs Ascertainment Findings

Omelchuck provided an overview of the ascertainment phases and the YourVoice initiative.

Robinson, Riley and Book presented key findings of the YourVoice Initiative. The Commission discussed the draft findings based on the six Key Questions (contained in the meeting packet). They offered suggestions on the overall organization of the document, and then provided feedback on the findings associated with each of the questions.

Anticipating the next phase of the ascertainment, Commissioners brainstormed format ideas to consider as part of the Report to the Community.

(Robinson, Riley and Book departed, 1:45 pm)

The Year in Review

Commissioners and staff highlighted proud accomplishments and disappointments of 2009.

Comcast Renewal Preview

Commissioners and staff discussed the general timeline for conducting the Comcast franchise renewal process and the role of the Commission.

Jurisdiction action (extension, approval or denial) is required before December 31, 2010. The Commission recommendation must be forwarded to the jurisdictions by early November in order to meet the jurisdictions' meeting requirements.

Commissioner's agreed that 2-3 Commissioners will serve as liaisons to stay in close communication with staff during negotiations (Chair Alexander to appoint liaisons).

Budget Outlook

Henry gave an update on the budget outlook. A key issue is assuring an adequate level of resources for outside expertise mostly related to the Comcast renewal.

Work Session

Chair Alexander noted the importance of continuing the conversation about convergence and potential future roles for the Commission. Commissioners agreed to hold an informal evening discussion in March/April to continue the discussion of the Commission's role in a changing environment.

Commission Operating Protocols

Chair Alexander opened a conversation with Commissioners about what is working well and needing improvement with regard to the MHCRC's meeting protocols.

The retreat adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Gibbons
Program Specialist