

Minutes of the Board of directors of Midlothian Community Media Association held on Monday 13th October 2014.

Present: N.Dunk (ND) C.Crawford (CC) S.Horsburgh (SH),D Aird (DA) C.Mackrell (CM) G.Clayton (GC)

Apologies: R. Miller & B.Smith

Best Wishes to Brian who was unable to attend this meeting.

Minutes of previous meeting 1st September 2014: acceptance proposed by ND seconded by CC

Business Arising: None other than on Agenda

Advertising: KC Kitchens-Offer £250 + VAT-----Slimming Club---After discussion, it was agreed that for short-term, programme specific ads that a free membership might be offered instead of a contractual arrangement.

Grant: Application made to developing Communities Stream for £11K over 3 years based on existing level of grant + inflation. Outputs would have to be achieved around Community Safety and Community Cohesion and evidence retained. I.e. 1 COI per hour, 1 Community news slot per programme (both day-time) + logging local voices on air from local groups. If unsuccessful, we could apply for £3K next year. Our current bank balance and the need to cut grants may be a factor as we do not fit in easily to one stream.

Insurance: trustee indemnity now required by council and libel and Slander advisable.

Quote from Zurich awaited: delegated to ND & CC to accept and finalise

Office Computer: 2 Microsoft office to be purchased at discounted price of £13 each-CM

Scheduling/programming: New poetry programme to be slotted in sat am before Weekend Works (ND offered to put on)

Concern that the pool of cover presenters was shallow.SH to consider how best to remind all volunteers about link on web-site to the schedule and whether it was feasible to identify empty slots just ahead of each week.

While day-time programme could be covered by mixed music, it was agreed that the genre of specialist programmes should be sacrosanct whoever was presenting .SH was in charge of scheduling and would use ND as a sounding board regarding any contentious matters. It was recognised that Geoff has the most opportunity to relate to other presenters and provided he worked within policy he had a useful role to assist SH.

Training: Continued concern that people from training and general enquiries are not making the step to presenting. ND had contacted those from the March course without any positive outcomes. Discussed the possibility of a bid for an additional space to allow the portable desk to be set up ready for training in a non-live environment. After a quick visit, there were concerns about security and the distance from the studio. Concerns from centre staff about finding a new home for the existing use. An issue was finding a way to simulate the news bulletin on the portable desk to give a 'mirror' of the studio desk. A donation might be required as the centre is entitled to charge and retain income.

While not ruling out a bid for the space in the future, it was agreed as a first step that a small group including Geoff should meet on a Saturday morning to review what was in the 'Hub' and see if the Portable desk could be set up in there if other stuff could be thrown out or whether the centre could find space for some gear/materials. Security over essential equipment to the operation of the station might have to be reviewed.

Work Experience: A problem had arisen through an arrangement being entered into against Board Policy. Embarrassment had been caused and ND would talk to the person involved and make them aware that unilateral decisions by non-board members was not acceptable.

Promotions/OB:

No presence at Newtongrange Skateboard Park opening

Request for Dalkeith lights 6th Dec: CM not available-Agreed to circulate to volunteers

Fleeces available for collection @£20

Transmission: Confirmation of 'change' still to come from OFCOM-Now operating @ 40w with members reporting improvement in output.

AOCB

Heart of Matter shortlisted for a Jerusalem award-members travelling to London for the ceremony on wed 15th

Congratulations to the team for being short-listed and hope to get some publicity as well as the trophy!

ND to contact Jim Freglin from Dalkeith who has interesting background experience and wants to get involved. SH to check if Jay Jay Allan who has Radio Cumbria experience and might do 7-9am breakfast had made contact with Geoff.

Addie organising 10 pin bowling social outing for volunteers

Board decided not to host a Xmas event this year.

CCTV being reconfigured and hard disc from old computer recycled.

Presenters meeting: Sat 22nd Nov @ 10am- Christmas Schedule to be discussed

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 15th December 2014 @ 7pm in Newbattle CLC