

BIRMINGHAM AREA CABLE BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 7:45 am

***Village of Beverly Hills

Council Chambers***

18500 W. 13 Mile Road

This meeting will be held IN PERSON

1. Roll Call
2. Approve Meeting Minutes for Cable Board Meeting of February 16, 2022-M
3. Public Comments
4. Approval of Payment of Administrative Grants- M
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Cable Action Committee
 - b. PEG Committee
6. Executive Director's Report
7. Provider Related Topics
 - a. Comcast
 - b. AT&T
 - c. WOW
8. BAPA/BAMA Report
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Public Comments
12. Board Comments
13. Adjourn

CAC and PEG Committee Meetings Immediately After Regular Meeting

BIRMINGHAM AREA CABLE BOARD MEETING MINUTES – February 16, 2022

Gugni called the meeting to order at 7:45 AM. in the Village of Beverly Hills Municipal Building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

Present: Eick, Abraham, Whittington – Birmingham
Gugni, Kamoo, Henry, Tootell– Beverly Hills
Mydloski - Franklin
Absent: Fenberg, Shand, Cleary
Also Present: Gojcai – Attorney for Cable Board
Rota – Bloomfield Community Television

Gugni welcomed the new Cable Board member, Robert Whittington, representing Birmingham.

APPROVE MINUTES OF CABLE BOARD MEETING HELD December 15, 2021

Motion by Eick, seconded by Kamoo to approve the minutes of the Cable Board meeting on December 15, 2021, as presented.

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF COSTS TO CONTINUE STREAMING PEG CHANNELS 24/7

Mydloski stated that following the 12/15/21 Cable Board meeting there had been a PEG meeting which was attended by Eick, White, Gugni, Henry, Rota, Black and herself. At the November BACB meeting she reported that Stream Dynamics would no longer be providing 24/7 streaming service. After much research, Rota and Black found that the Tight Rope Media servers that BCTV uses for 24/7 streaming playback service. However, the correct annual cost would be \$1,799.00.

Motion by Mydloski, seconded by Kamoo to approve the cost of Tight Rope from Advanced Lighting and Sound in the amount of \$1,799.00 to continue the 24/7 streaming of PEG Channels.

Rota clarified that the \$1,799.00 was the yearly amount to be paid in December, 2022. He also gave the instructions as to how the public could access the streaming service.

Roll Call Vote

Kamoo	Aye
Abraham	Aye
Tootell	Aye
Eick	Aye
Mydloski	Aye
Henry	Aye
Whittington	Aye
Gugni	Aye

Motion Passed. (8-0).

CONSIDERATION OF CHANGING MEETING DATES TO EVERY OTHER MONTH

Gugni stated that the idea of holding Cable Board meetings every other month was the idea of Elaine McLain, former Chair of the Cable Board, before she stepped down from that position. He added that the meetings would be in months which coincide with various annual issues, i.e., Budget and Grants, etc. which need to be discussed in detail. The next meeting would be in March and alternate months thereafter. White agreed with this schedule.

Gojcaj noted that additional meetings could be called when necessary.

RESOLUTION CONCERNING MEETINGS

Moved by: Shane Henry, Seconded by: Dave Eick

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of the Birmingham Area Cable Board provide that regular and special meetings shall comply with the requirements PA2 67 of 1976 as amended ("Open Meetings Act").

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of the Birmingham Area Cable Board provide that "regular meetings shall be held monthly or at such regular periodic intervals as may be established by the Birmingham Area Cable Board from time to time by formal resolution."

WHEREAS, the Birmingham Area Cable Board determines that monthly meetings are not required and that meetings shall be held every other month commencing in January 2022, March 2022, May 2022, and so on and so forth; as the Birmingham Area Cable Board further determines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BIRMINGHAM AREA CABLE BOARD RESOLVES THAT INSTEAD OF MONTHLY MEETINGS, THE BIRMINGHAM AREA CABLE BOARD DESIRES MEETINGS TO BE HELD EVERY OTHER MONTH, COMMENCING ON JANUARY 2022, OR AS THE BIRMINGHAM AREA CABLE BOARD FURTHER DECIDES.

Roll Call Vote

Abraham	Aye
Tootell	Aye
Eick	Aye
Mydloski	Aye
Henry	Aye
Whittington	Aye
Gugni	Aye
Kamoo	Aye

Motion Passed. (8-0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cable Action Committee

Abraham noted there would be a short meeting immediately following this one. It will cover some housekeeping issues. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for the first Thursday of the month at 4:30 PM in the Birmingham Baldwin Public Library. Abraham will make the determination if it would be necessary to hold one.

PEG Committee

Mydloski gave a synopsis of her report earlier in the meeting. There would not be a meeting following this one.

Personnel Committee

Gugni stated he had been the Chairman of this Committee when he was Vice Chairman of the Cable Board. Eick, who is now the Vice Chairman of the Board will now be the Chairman of the Personnel Committee.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

White was unable to attend this meeting but has attached a written report in the Board packet. Referring to her report, Gugni noted the one complaint from last month regarding low-hanging wires on the property of a Beverly Hills resident which have been raised. This complaint is now closed.

FINANCIAL

The account balance for the MBS, Michigan United Credit Union and Beverly Hills accounts as of January 31, 2022 was emailed to all Board members, as well as BACB financial reports for the month of January, 2022.

CHECK DISBURSEMENT

One check was written since the last meeting: Michigan United Credit Union (Visa- Phone, Conferences & Offices Supplies) for \$227.41.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

White prepared a new Board Member Roster based on the new members and included it in the packet.

PROVIDER RELATED TOPICS

a. Comcast

There was no representative present and no new information received.

b. AT&T/Uverse/Direct TV

There was no representative present and no new information received.

c. WOW

There was no representative present and no new information received.

BAPA/BAMA REPORT

Rota referred to his memo to BACB, Report February 10, 2022 through February 16, 2022, dated February 10, 2022. In his report he noted the list of all **BAMA** regularly scheduled municipal meetings and added that there were several which had been cancelled due to COVID. The list also included some Franklin meetings (Zoning, Council and Planning) which moved from Council Chambers to the Franklin Church and needed equipment changes.

For the **BAPA** Programs, 27 programs by producers and organizations from December 17, 2021 through February 16, 2022 were taped. All of which he listed, including sports, Birmingham Concert Band and Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber Economic Forecast Lecture.

PRODUCER AND VOLUNTEER WORKSHOP

Rota reminded everyone that anyone interested in producing or volunteering behind the scenes should call the office to schedule a one-on-one appointment, 248-433-7790.

Regarding the purchase of equipment for “on location programming (ENG)” which the Board approved a couple of months ago, a few items are on back order. The WOW encoders approved by the Board and ordered through Advanced Lighting and Sound are also on back order.

His last comments were regarding the annual streaming subscription which had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

On behalf of Franklin, Mydloski thanked Rota for moving the meetings from the Village Hall to the Church. It took a lot of effort on his part.

For the future, Rota reminded everyone to be within 6 inches of the microphones when speaking. They are very sensitive and sometimes if you lean back, they might pick up rustling noises coming from around you.

OLD BUSINESS

Gugni commented that the 2021 Annual Report was in the January packet for the meeting that never took place. It was a good synopsis of those things the BACB accomplished. White spent a significant amount of time putting it together. She did a wonderful job.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

BOARD COMMENTS

Gojcai noted the Michigan Attorney General’s recent opinion on the Open Meetings Act. He summarized the Act for the benefit of the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 AM.

Birmingham Area Cable Board
Review of Franchise fees and Board Expenditures
Calculation of administrative grants

	YE 6/30/2021
Franchise Fees:	
Birmingham	267,427
Village of Beverly Hills	83,309
Village of Franklin	29,065
Village of Bingham Farms	16,458
	<u>396,259</u>
Board Expenditures:	
Conferences	100
Contract labor	1,064
Exec Director	39,520
Liab Insurance	5,070
Memberships	955
Operating Expense	7,865
Prof fees	19,538
Adv/Pro	210
Municipal support services	6,188
	<u>80,510</u>
Excess	<u>315,749</u>
Admin Grant based on 95% of excess	<u>299,962</u>
Allocation of Admin Grant:	
Birmingham	202,438
Beverly Hills	63,064
Franklin	22,002
Bingham Farms	12,458
	<u>299,962</u>

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 9, 2022
TO: Board Members
FROM: Cathy White
Re: Monthly Report

CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS

We have received three (3) complaints since the date of my last report. Complaint No.2022-02 was filed by a member of the Board of Directors of the Birmingham Woods Condominium Association. He stated that WOW and Comcast have not been following the agreed-upon point of entry into the condo buildings. Wires have been attached improperly on the south and west sides of one of the buildings and he has requested assistance in getting this resolved. This complaint is pending.

Complaint No. 2022-03 was received directly through our website from a Beverly Hills resident. He has some low-hanging wires on his property and although he is a WOW subscriber, he believes that the low-hanging wires belong to either Comcast or AT&T. This complaint has been forwarded to the escalation teams and is currently pending.

Complaint No. 2022-04 was submitted by a Beverly Hills resident who is not a Comcast subscriber but Comcast left a big spool of wire that extends from the pole in her backyard to the ground near her sandbox. This was left after a Comcast crew did extensive work in her adjoining neighbor's backyard. She has requested that this be cleaned up and this complaint is pending.

FINANCIAL

The account balance for the MBS, Michigan United Credit Union and Beverly Hills accounts as of February 28, 2022 will be e-mailed to all Board members, as well as BACB financial reports for the month of February, 2022.

CHECK DISBURSEMENT

Two checks have been written since the date of our last meeting as follows:

1. Michigan United Credit Union (Visa- Phone, Memberships & Adv/Promotion): \$1,167.35
2. Franklin-Bingham Fire Department (reissue-Municipal Support Services Grant):
\$2,699.04

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

1. I have attached some correspondence we received from Kyle Mazurek on behalf of Comcast regarding its program to provide assistance for internet costs.

internet» essentials

FROM COMCAST

Free Internet
Service

Affordable Connectivity
Program

Eleanor,
Internet Essentials customer

Get connected to FREE home Internet!

Internet Essentials offers high-speed home Internet for a low monthly price. **You may be eligible to receive Internet Essentials at no cost with the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).**

The Affordable Connectivity Program provides eligible households a credit of up to \$30/month towards Internet service.

Apply today if you qualify for programs like the Federal Pell Grant, National School Lunch Program, SNAP, Medicaid, housing assistance, and others.

Save with the Affordable Connectivity Program!

Internet Essentials:

~~\$9.95~~
Per Month + Tax

= \$0

After
benefit
applied,
tax extra

**Getting started is easy with no
activation fees and free equipment.**

- Fast, reliable connection – up to 50 Mbps!
- Good for multiple devices at a time.
- Work and learn from home.
- Make video calls and share files.
- Stay connected on the go, with Xfinity WiFi hotspots.



APPLY NOW »

Visit **InternetEssentials.com**, call **1-855-846-8376**, or hold your phone's camera over the code. *Standard data charges apply.*

Restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. Limited to Internet Essentials ("IE") residential customers 18 years of age or older meeting certain eligibility criteria. If a customer is determined to be no longer eligible for the IE program, regular rates will apply to the selected Internet service. Subject to Internet Essentials program terms and conditions. Taxes, home drop-off, and professional install extra. Advertised price applies to a single outlet. Actual speeds vary and are not guaranteed. For factors affecting speed visit [xfinity.com/networkmanagement](https://www.xfinity.com/networkmanagement). Affordable Connectivity Program: Only eligible households may enroll. Benefit is up to \$30/month (\$75/month Tribal lands). After the conclusion of the Affordable Connectivity Program, you'll be billed at Comcast's standard monthly prices, including any applicable taxes, fees, and equipment charges. Once you have successfully enrolled, you will see the Affordable Connectivity Program credit toward your Internet service. For complete details visit [xfinity.com/acp](https://www.xfinity.com/acp). ©2022 Comcast. All rights reserved.


COMCAST

Get connected to FREE home Internet – and choose the speed that’s right for you!

Get **Internet Essentials** or **Internet Essentials Plus** for **FREE** when you qualify for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).

ACP provides eligible households a credit of up to \$30/month towards Internet services.

Apply today if you’re eligible for programs like the Federal Pell Grant, National School Lunch Program, SNAP, Medicaid, housing assistance, and others.

Internet Essentials

~~\$9.95~~ = \$0
Per Month + Tax

After
benefit
applied,
tax extra

- Fast, reliable connection – up to 50 Mbps!
- Best for up to 4 devices.
- Download music and photos.
- Light streaming.

or

Internet Essentials Plus

~~\$29.95~~ = \$0
Per Month + Tax

After
benefit
applied,
tax extra

- Faster download speeds – up to 100 Mbps!
- Best for up to 5 devices.
- Make video calls and share files.
- Stream and download shows.

Getting started is easy with no activation fees and free equipment.



APPLY NOW >>

Visit **InternetEssentials.com**, call **1-855-846-8376**,
or hold your phone’s camera over the code.

Standard data charges apply.

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Save on
Internet

Affordable Connectivity
Program

internet»
essentials
FROM COMCAST

Yaz, Nasr, Rama & Seela,
Internet Essentials customers

Internet Essentials and Xfinity Mobile

Get Internet Essentials and one Xfinity Mobile Unlimited line with 5G together for **only \$24.95/month** when you qualify for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).

The Affordable Connectivity Program provides eligible households a credit of up to \$30/month towards Internet and mobile services.

Apply today if you qualify for programs like the Federal Pell Grant, National School Lunch Program, SNAP, Medicaid, housing assistance, and others.



APPLY NOW >>

Visit **InternetEssentials.com**, call **1-855-846-8376**, or hold your phone's camera over the code.

Standard data charges apply.

Internet and Unlimited
Mobile with 5G

\$24⁹⁵ /month
+ tax

After benefit applied.

internet»
essentials
FROM COMCAST

- Fast, reliable connection – up to 50 Mbps!
- Work and learn from home.
- Make video calls and share files.
- No credit check, no term contract, and free equipment.

xfinity mobile

- Get nationwide 5G included at no extra cost!
- Choose from the latest phones or bring your own.
- Stream movies and more.
- HD-quality resolution for video streaming.

Then add Xfinity Mobile by visiting
www.xfinity.com/mobile.

Restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. Limited to residential customers who qualify for Internet Essentials and the Affordable Connectivity Program. Advertised price limited to Internet Essentials with 1 Xfinity Mobile Unlimited line. Equipment, taxes, fees and other charges extra, and are subject to change. Internet Essentials: Limited to Internet Essentials ("IE") residential customers 18 years of age or older meeting certain eligibility criteria. If a customer is determined to be no longer eligible for the IE program, regular rates will apply to the selected Internet service. Subject to Internet Essentials program terms and conditions. Taxes, home drop-off, and professional install extra. Advertised price applies to a single outlet. Actual speeds vary and are not guaranteed. For factors affecting speed visit xfinity.com/networkmanagement. Affordable Connectivity Program: Only eligible households may enroll. Benefit is up to \$30/month (\$75/month Tribal lands). After the conclusion of the Affordable Connectivity Program, you'll be billed at Comcast's standard monthly prices, including any applicable taxes, fees, and equipment charges. Once you have successfully enrolled, you will see the Affordable Connectivity Program credit toward your Internet service. For complete details visit xfinity.com/acp.

Xfinity Mobile: requires residential post-pay Xfinity Internet. Line limitations may apply. Equipment, international and roaming charges, taxes and fees, including regular recovery fees, and other charges extra, and subject to change. \$25/line/mo. charge applies if Xfinity TV, Internet, or Voice post-pay services not maintained. Pricing subject to change. In times of congestion, your data may be temporarily slower than other traffic. After 20 GB monthly data use, speeds reduced to a maximum of 1.5 Mbps download/750 Kbps upload. No rollover data. For Xfinity Mobile Broadband Disclosures visit: www.xfinity.com/mobile/policies/broadband-disclosures. ©2022 Comcast. All rights reserved.

COMCAST

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

customers:
Inge & Eleanor



What is the Affordable Connectivity Program?

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a \$14.2 billion government program that extends and modifies the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB), and continues its aim to help low-income households connect and stay connected to the Internet with a monthly credit. Comcast has been participating in the EBB program since its inception in May 2021, and is proud to continue participating through ACP. All tiers of Xfinity Internet service, including Internet Essentials, will continue to be available to those who qualify for the benefit.

What changes in the transition from EBB to ACP?

- Existing Comcast customers who enrolled in **EBB before December 31, 2021** and who continue into ACP **will see their maximum \$50/month credit decrease to a maximum \$30/month credit after a 60-day transition period**
- Internet Essentials customers currently enrolled in EBB and who continue into ACP will continue to have the full cost of their service covered
- New customers who apply for **ACP after December 30, 2021** may be eligible for up to \$30/month credit toward their Internet bill
- A maximum \$75/month benefit remains available for customers in Tribal Lands

FROM

Name: Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB)

Credit: Up to \$50/month;
\$75/month for customers in Tribal Lands

Must meet one of the qualifying criteria:

- Current Internet Essentials customer
- Income at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines
- Eligible for National School Lunch Program, SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Lifeline, Federal Pell Grants, or other benefit programs
- Substantial loss of income since February 29, 2020

TO

Name: Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

Credit: Up to \$30/month;
\$75/month for customers in Tribal Lands

Must meet one of the qualifying criteria:

- For those using income to qualify, households can now make up to 200% of the federal poverty guidelines and receive the benefit
- National School Lunch Program, SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Lifeline, Federal Pell Grants, and other benefit program recipients are still eligible; WIC recipients are now also eligible
- ACP removes the substantial loss of income component of EBB eligibility; customers who qualified for EBB due to loss of income will be notified and have the opportunity to reapply under the updated criteria

How can qualified households get started?

New customers should first apply for Internet Essentials in step one. Existing Internet Essentials customers can skip to step two and check to see if they qualify for the ACP credit.

- 1 Apply for Internet Essentials at InternetEssentials.com or call 855-8-INTERNET
- 2 Check eligibility for ACP. Complete the National Verifier form at acpbenefit.org or call 833-511-0311
- 3 Complete the Xfinity ACP enrollment form to receive your credit. For this step, you'll need the application ID you received from the National Verifier when you were approved. Visit Xfinity.com/acp to start your enrollment.



customer: Tommy

What does ACP cover?

ACP applies to monthly charges for Internet service and mobile data usage and service fees. Qualified households will receive a total credit of up to \$30/month toward Xfinity Internet service, including Internet Essentials, and/or Xfinity Mobile data usage and service fees. Qualified households within Tribal lands will receive up to \$75/month. The amount of the credit depends on the rate for the services that a customer chooses.

If a customer has both Xfinity Internet and Xfinity Mobile service, the ACP benefit will first be applied to the Internet portion of their bill. Any balance will be applied to Xfinity Mobile services. If a customer only has Xfinity Mobile service and no longer has Internet service from Xfinity, they can call 844-389-4681 to enroll in ACP through Xfinity and have the ACP credit applied to their Xfinity Mobile service.

How can free Internet with the ACP credit impact lives?

At Comcast, we believe deeply in the power of connection. That is why we recently announced Project UP, our **\$1 billion commitment** to advance digital equity and build a future of unlimited possibilities. Project UP encompasses the programs and community partnerships that connect people to high-speed Internet in their own homes and help them stay connected to work, school, loved ones, healthcare, employment opportunities, and government resources. Learn more at corporate.comcast.com/impact/project-up.

\$1B

**Commitment to
advance digital equity**

Are there materials to support partners with outreach?

Outreach materials, such as flyers and brochures, are currently in development. Check our Partner Portal at InternetEssentials.com/partner in January 2022 and order complimentary prints to support your community outreach. High-speed Internet at home is essential in today's increasingly digital world, and we hope to make it easy for our partners to spread the word about this government benefit.



Bloomfield Community Television

Memorandum

Bloomfield Township

To: BACB

From: Steve Rota

Subject: Report February 17, 2022 through March 16, 2022

Date: March 10, 2022

Cc: Greg Black; Cathy White; Gil Gugni, Heather Mydloski

BAMA Programs

During this time period we've completed all regularly scheduled municipal meetings, which include: the BACB meeting, Baldwin Public Library Board and Trust meeting, The Village of Bingham Farms meeting, The Village of Beverly Hills Council meeting, The Village of Franklin Zoning, Council, Planning and Historic meetings, The City of Birmingham's, Commission, Planning Board, Parks and Rec Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Historic Board and Design Review Board and the Multi Modal Meetings.

BAPA Programs

From BACB area individual producers and organizations, we've taped 12 programs.

- ❖ Three Eye on Oakland hosted by Chuck Moss.
- ❖ Two *Patriot Lessons* hosted by Judge Michael Warren.
- ❖ One *Gracefully Greying* hosted by Henry Gorenbein.
- ❖ Four Michigan Entrepreneur hosted by Tara Kachaturroff.
- ❖ Birmingham Musicale.
- ❖ Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber *Real Estate Forecast* Lecture.

PRODUCER WORKSHOP

We are offering a one on one session for those who are interested in producing their own show and to those who want experience behind the scenes. Please call 248-433-7790 and we can schedule a date and time with you.

SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

Girls Soccer: 4/14 @ Seaholm

Baseball: 4/18 Double Header @ Groves
4/20 Single Game @ Seaholm

Boys Lacrosse: 4/26 @ Seaholm

Girls Water Polo: 5/3 @ Seaholm

Girls Lacrosse: 5/4 @ Seaholm

Softball: 5/19 Double Header @ Groves

Boys Water Polo: TBA