

Walpole Media Corporation (WMC)
275 Common Street, Walpole, Massachusetts 02081

Board of Directors Meeting
February 9, 2022
Via Zoom Meeting

Meeting called to order on February 9, 2022, at 7:08 p.m. by Jean Kenney.

Board members present: Jean Kenney, Mark Gallivan, Jim D'Attilio, Richard McCarthy, Nancy Niles, Joseph Mulligan.

Also present: Executive Director Tamarah Green.

Ms. Kenney called the Meeting to order. Ms. Kenney made a proposal to waive the reading of the January, 2021, meeting minutes. Motion was made by Mr. D'Attilio, seconded by Mr. McCarthy. Vote to accept 6-0-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Gallivan presented Treasurer's Report.

Mr. Gallivan noted that expenses continue to be less than budgeted. The underspending, he noted, is due to COVID. However, viewership is up for the same reason. Peoples' activities being restricted has resulted in residents watching WMC to stay current on town activities, watching recreational league games or Walpole High games because they're unable to attend. WMC has enhanced its capabilities to address this challenge of increasing coverage to meet the demands of the increased viewing audience. Ms. Green commented that people tell her consistently that WMC has been a lifesaver in keeping them connected with Walpole news and activities.

Other Items addressed:

- Mr. Gallivan spoke with Mr. Johnson, Town Administrator, regarding the opportunity for new space at Walpole High School (WHS), particularly if renovations to the WHS structure take place. WMC has sufficient funds to contribute to the upgrade costs.
- Finance Committee meeting is March 7, 2022. Ms. Green to present the FY 2023 WMC budget at that time (further budget details below).
- Hybrid meetings on Zoom have created an opportunity for increased citizen participation and are likely to continue post-pandemic.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Green presented the Executive Director's Report, please see attached.

Discussions included:

- Town Administrator Jim Johnson did interview to initiate a new program that highlights individuals who do services for the town and their impact- whether or not they are town employees. Mr. Johnson discussed the town budget.
- The Office of Massachusetts State Auditor Suzanne Bump contacted WMC to arrange a tour of WMC.
- Next edition of Walpole News was being taped.
- Walpole Green program has been popular with viewers and has three more episodes scheduled to be taped.
- Fashion show being sponsored by Walpole boys and girls hockey teams, Friday night, February 11, 2022, at 7:00 pm. Both the boys and girls hockey players will model tuxedos and prom dresses.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2023 WMC budget was reviewed and questions answered by Ms. Green and Mr. Gallivan. Board members commented favorably on the increased attention to detail in the budget provided.

OLD BUSINESS

The repair of Walpole High School TV production equipment voted on in the January, 2022, WMC meeting was revisited. Figures presented at that meeting of up to a specific cost for repairs were actually to provide repair estimate. This cost would then be credited against the final cost. After the cost to repair is determined, then situation will be reassessed to determine if repair or replacement would be the most cost-effective action.

Town request for a monitor presented in prior WMC Minutes was also amended. Ms. Green contacted the recommended vendor and found the item to be much more expensive than anticipated. Given this change, Ms. Green approached the Town Administrator who pledged a 50/50 split of the cost between WMC and the town. Additional funding for the repair was requested. A vote was called for by Ms. Kenney, so moved by Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Ms. Niles. The vote to approve the funding was 5-0-1, with one Board member abstaining due to potential conflict of interest.

Ms. Kenney scheduled next meeting for Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Ms. Kenney proposed to adjourn the meeting which was so moved by Mr. D'Attilio, seconded by Mr. Mulligan. The motion carried 6-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Joseph Mulligan, Secretary/Clerk