

General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday March 30, 2016, Shadowstone, NJ

The meeting was called to order at 12:08 by Bob Duthaler, JAG Past President.

Attendees: Asbury Park-Ed Salvas, Bloomfield- Bob Duthaler, Mahwah-Peter Wendrychowicz, Metuchen-Rich Desimone, Stephanie Gibbons, Oradell-Nick Besink, Linda Besink, Bruce Goldsmith, Ramsey- George Bumiller, Rutgers University-Jeff Arban, Shadowstone- Paul Distefano, West Milford-Ada Erik, Bob Nicholson, Geoff Belinfante.

Approval of Minutes from the February 24, 2016 meeting, moved by Ada-West Milford, 2nd by Rich from Metuchen, vote passed.

Member introductions went around the room.

**Committee Reports:**

**Executive:** Bob D. - Exec. Board met on Mar. 9th, they moved forward on the purchase of external hard drives to store JAG documents. They also moved forward on getting a storage unit to house all of the conference items. The committee voted on the legislator of the year award, 7th Legislative District Congressman Leonard Lance, has a TV show that he puts on Telvue Connect, he has political guests on, and is on the Energy & Commerce committee that oversees the FCC.

**Finance:** Debbe starting the QuickBooks training.

**Production:** no report

**External Relations:** Looking for members to write an article for the JAG newsletter, please submit it to Rich. HB Communications is the sponsor for the next meeting in Summit; they are bringing in Panasonic to do a presentation. We have some nominations for the Municipal Excellence Award but are still accepting nominations, have another week.

**Ad Hoc Reports:**

**Membership:** Welcomed Peter from Mahwah who recently renewed their membership. Clear-Com became an organizational member.

**Legislative:** Dave G. is writing a letter to the FCC in response to the issue of the treatment of PEG channels, ex. not being on the TV guide and other issues; he will share it once it has been finalized. JAG is working with the ACM & NATOA about PEG not being treated fairly by cable companies. Cablevision is up for sale to a French company.

**Marketing:** Launched the new website, take a look, member section easier. If you have content to add to the members section, please send it to Dave G. and he will add it to the website.

**Conference Committee:** Rich- JAG is offering scholarship to the conference if funding is not available from your town or school. Also reach out to have people to come to the free trade show. Come to the workshop day to find about issues to take to your council. Four members of the NATOA executive board are attending as well as the president of the ACM. There are three special events at the trade show, 1) a drone cage will be set up and have drone presentations. 2) NJ Net will be talking about the emergency management network and showing some of the equipment. 3) Jersey Talk Radio –NJ first internet radio will be broadcasting from the conference. The keynote speaker is Christine Eng who flew Apache helicopters in Afganistan and now runs a company that deals with the legislation, regulation and ordinance of the operation of drones. Towns are going to get a look at rules and she will do a workshop with Q & A.

**JAM Awards:** reminder to order JAM trophies if you are interested.

**New Business:** NR

**Old Business:** NR

 **Discussion & Assistance:** Bob sent out an email through the list serve asking about recording PEG channels on Cablevision. He received this question from someone from Ocean Cnty. Cablevision couldn’t or wouldn’t give Bob a definitive answer. Someone told him that because they moved to a cloud based DVR it cannot record PEG, VOD or Music channels. We will add this item in the letter to the FCC, even NATOA did not know about this. This is something to bring up to the BPU, stay tuned for more to come.

Ed from Asbury Park asked about the process of renewing the franchising agreement which end in 2017, his administrator just wants to continue with the same contract. Bob explained the process that towns need to do an assertanment so they can negotiate with the cable company unless they are under the state wide franchise and if so they have the ability to get grant money.

Nick from Oradell asked about carrying sports games live. There was a discussion of being able to using IP based camera and the new IP based switchers as well as mini portable systems.

Bob introduced Paul from Shadowstone for a lighting presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 2:44pm. Motioned by Ada, 2nd by Linda.