

### Trustees 2021

Bob Duthaler Pres.- 2023  
Dave Garb VP – 2021  
Dave Ambrosy  
Recording Sec.- 2021  
Linda Besink Treasurer- 2023  
Stephanie Gibbons  
Corresponding Sec. – 2022  
Jeff Arban- 2021  
Anthony Pagliuco - 2022  
Darryl Love- 2021  
George Fairfield- 2022

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### General Meeting Schedule 2021

Jan. 27, 2021- Virtual  
**REORGANIZATION**  
Presentation- JVC  
Feb. 24- Virtual  
Presentation- TelVue  
Mar. 31- Virtual  
Presentation- TBD  
Apr. 28- Virtual  
Presentation- TBD  
May 27- Virtual  
Presentation- RUSHWORKS  
Jun. 24- Virtual  
Presentation- TBD  
Sept. 29- TBD  
Presentation - Varto  
Oct. 27- TBD  
Presentation- Cablecast  
Dec. 1- TBD  
Presentation- DeSisti

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### Connecting Your Town to Your Residents

#### 2020 Ends and 2021 Begins .... What Changes?

Everyone was waiting for the clock to strike midnight and 2020 to come to an end. This past year was full of turmoil, uncertainty, insecurity, grief and sorrow. We saw job loss, sickness and people pushed to the edge both mentally and politically. I do not need to dwell on the year past and all its problems as well as having lived through it.



What I do want to talk about is how JAG stepped up as an organization this year and recap some of the great things we accomplished. I will point out however, my remarks will be brief and highlight some of the accomplishments of the different committees. In the past newsletter you can read each committee's year-end report in more detail.

**The External Relations Committee** has kept busy throughout this pandemic.

They have provided enhancements to the JAG website, social media outlets and informational articles about our members in the newsletters. We have had new organizational members along with current members present at our JAG meetings and have made these presentations available to watch in a special member's only section of the JAG website. The committee will continue to grow these features in this new year.

**The Finance Committee** has been keeping on top of the JAG budget, monitoring our expenses, finding ways to cut back and keep the organization solvent. The year 2020 was a year without a JAG Conference, which is an income source for the organization. Fortunately, there were other areas of expense that we reduced or eliminated including attending the national NATOA conference and having a booth at the NJ League of Municipalities – both of which are some of our major expenses.

**The Production Committee** started off 2020 very strong, finishing a series of videos for the NJ League of Municipalities. If you have not had a chance to see them, please visit the member's only section of the JAG website to view them, you will not be disappointed. The committee has also been working with External Relations on releasing a series of JAG videos and testimonials. Look for a new YouTube Channel and other great things in 2021.

**The Conference Committee:** Since there was no conference in 2020, the conference committee was disbanded. An exploratory committee was created late in the year and has recommended that the JAG Executive Board create a new committee. This will be brought up at the annual re-organization meeting. If there is a conference it will be virtual with a lot of exciting new sessions for members along with a trade show element.

**The Legislative Committee** also started off very promising with bills in the House and Senate supporting PEG Stations, but par for 2020, they were derailed when COVID-19 hit. However, this did not keep the committee from reaching out and having conversations with our legislators, getting some to sign on to the bills and keeping an open dialogue with them. In addition, JAG weighed in on the Verizon re-franchise in New Jersey. You can read more about that in another one of my articles in this newsletter.

**The Membership Committee** is focusing in on you and your needs. They continue to evaluate what our members are looking for, discussing with the various committees and the board to let them know. In addition, we have expanded membership and are reaching out to non-profits with interests in common with JAG. If you have not recently heard from the membership committee, please answer their call as they conduct a survey to evaluate our membership needs.

**The JAG Awards** are coming, the JAG Awards are coming!! The committee was hard at work in 2020 and are now working on reinventing the awards and providing an additional benefit to the members. Be on the lookout for the official announcement in next month's newsletter. The first entry will be at no charge - compliments of JAG! Get your best work together from 2020!

**Leadership Development** is JAG's newest committee and are charged with a lot. They are responsible for helping create the material that will help this organization, including Welcome Letters, Marketing Materials and other "Tools" that the various committees will use. This committee is comprised of members from each of JAG's other committees.

As you can see, JAG persevered through 2020 and is in good shape for 2021. The Board of Trustees set some goals at its 2020 retreat which will be discussed further during the annual Reorganization Meeting on Wednesday, January 13th. Our main focus is and will remain our members, for you are the strength of our organization. We will continue to find better ways to serve you via social media, website enhancements, webinars, social hangouts and more. The organization will continue to provide educational opportunities to its members through various sources including presentations and our annual conference. We continue to partner with state organizations like the *NJ League of Municipalities* and national organizations such as the *National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors* and *The Alliance for Community Media* to keep on top of legislation and changes in political climate. The JAG Executive Board will work together with the idea of supporting our membership, providing them the tools necessary to succeed and much more.

Finally, as I mention each month in my article, JAG as an organization is a very social group. Face to face interaction at this point continues to not be possible but there are work arounds. I encourage you to take part in these events, webinars, monthly virtual meetings, impromptu online gatherings and perhaps an online happy hour! Stay Home, Stay Safe and make the most of this time with your family and loved ones.

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### **Board of Trustees Election Results**

Bob Duthaler 2021-2023  
Linda Besink 2021-2023  
Anthony Pagliuco 2021-2022  
Stephanie Gibbons 2021-2022  
George Fairfield 2021-2022

### **Trustees Reorganization Meeting**

#### **Election of Officers**

Bob Duthaler- President  
Dave Garb- Vice President  
Linda Besink- Treasurer  
Dave Ambrosy- Secretary  
Stephanie Gibbons- Corresponding Secretary

#### **Trustees**

Anthony Pagliuco, Jeff Arban, Darryl Love, George Fairfield

### **Standing Committees**

Finance Committee- Linda Besink-Chair, Jeff Arban-Vice Chair  
External Relations Committee- Geoffery Belinfante-Chair, Dustin Dumas-Vice Chair, Stephanie Gibbons/Dustin Dumas-Co-secretaries

### **Ad Hoc Committees**

Membership Committee- Stephanie Gibbons-Chair, Darryl Love-Vice Chair  
JAG Awards- George Fairfield-Chair, Bob Nicholson-Vice Chair, Valerie Stevens -Secretary  
Leadership Development Committee- Dave Garb-Chair, Doug Seidel-Vice Chair, Linda Besink-Secretary

**Bob Duthaler, President, Jersey Access Group**

As most of you should be aware at this point, Verizon came before the Board of Public Utilities in September 2020 for the Franchise Renewal. The stakeholders and public were given a chance to speak at this meeting. Dave Garb and I constructed a letter that we sent to the BPU (see below), and I spoke at the hearing. It was never JAG's intention to deny franchise renewal to Verizon, but rather to hold their feet to the fire so to speak on promises made and not kept, along with things missing that hurt PEG Stations. Recently Verizon has begun to respond to our requests. I have included our letter below and then have included their answers. Please note, not everything has been addressed at this point, but I feel this is a good start.

September 29, 2020

Attn. BPU - Office of Cable Television & Telecommunications

RE: Comments on the Statewide Renewal of Verizon. BPU Docket No. CE20080516

JAG - the Jersey Access Group, the non-profit organization representing local government, educational and public television channels throughout the state of New Jersey would like to submit our comments into the record regarding Verizon's New Jersey Statewide Franchise renewal.

Local PEG (Public, Education, Government) stations are main source for community communications, news and involvement with our municipal government officials and school boards. These PEG stations provide important information directly to our local residents. This fact couldn't be more apparent than during the current pandemic. PEG stations throughout the state have had to creatively redefine themselves in order to get vital messages out from their respective municipalities to the general public.

JAG would like the following concerns specific to Verizon franchise renewal to be considered:

1. HD (High Definition) Television has been around for over 15 years. By 2009, all television networks had switched to this amazing technology, except for PEG. PEG has been denied this technology and kept in the SD (Standard Definition) bottomless pit. The problem is, SD has gone away. Replacement equipment is no longer being made and impossible to obtain. PEG stations already have converted to HD equipment for content creation and play back, but now need to downgrade their signal to a sub-standard level for Verizon.

The Federal Cable Act states that we (PEG facilities) are not to be treated any differently from any other network/cable channel. It is evident in this situation PEG channels are.

*"So it appears that Verizon is now willing and have started to upgrade some the PEG stations delivery systems. Both Bloomfield and Scotch Plains have had new fiber systems and ONTs constructed at their locations in addition to having Verizon's Encoders being placed at the stations end. This has allowed both stations to hand-off a digital HD-SDI signal to Verizon Encoder and not a composite, analog feed as in the past. In addition, they have configured their broadcast of this feed to be in a 16:9 format. However, at this point the channel is still not broadcast in HD, this is the first step in getting there. The same encoder newly installed is cable of encoding a HD feed and sending it to Verizon to be broadcast in HD"*

2. To go along with the first point, PEG also has not been allowed to list their programming in the channel guides. In a time where people search programming guides and record programs from information listed in them, PEG channels have been left out. Again, PEG is treated differently. *"We are waiting for a response"*
3. Verizon never completed their buildout as originally proposed. Many municipalities are in limbo as to whether it will ever happen. Many smaller communities are still in need of cable competition and high speed internet access as promised by Verizon.
  - a. There are many communities in which Verizon has started buildout and has yet to complete it. Leaving portions of a municipality's residents in the dark when it comes to local government communication, especially during a pandemic, when they do not have access to the local PEG channel. *"We are waiting for a response"*
  - b. Municipalities are often left to wonder where their local channel broadcasts to, as there is no clearly defined service map showing exactly where each PEG station broadcasts to. *"We are waiting for a response"*

- c. The lack of complete buildout in a community has left many municipalities and their stations in limbo. Many stations are broadcasting on the Verizon FiOS network, but because cable service has not been completed in their town, they cannot even get service to see their own PEG channel at their facility for oversight and quality control. *"We are waiting for a response"*
4. Currently most local government and PEG station managers have no local government contact information within Verizon that they can reach out to in case of an outage, broadcast issues and general questions. We strongly urge the BPU to demand that Verizon provide a local contact and their information to municipalities, PEG Stations and JAG Members. *"Verizon Response Below"*

*Verizon understands the importance of Public, Education and Government (PEG) programming and the need to address/resolve signal quality and outage issues as quickly as possible. Therefore, it is Verizon's pleasure to inform you that Verizon's National Network Management Center (NNMC) is available to PEG Program providers should PEG signal quality or outage issues occur. If you experience signal quality or outage issues with your PEG channel, please follow the instructions below to report the problem.*

*If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.*

*Sincerely,  
Tanya Davis  
Verizon Fios TV  
NY & NJ Franchise Service Manager  
111 Main St, 6th Floor  
White Plains, NY 10601  
(Office) 914-821-9681  
(Mobile) 917-612-1614  
[Tanya.K.Davis@Verizon.com](mailto:Tanya.K.Davis@Verizon.com)*

#### **PEG SIGNAL QUALITY OR OUTAGE ISSUES**

*The National Network Management Center (NNMC) is staffed with experienced Network Specialists currently working with National Broadcast Providers. The NNMC will provide more efficient and expeditious resolution of PEG signal quality or outage issues. The NNMC is available 24x7 and will immediately initiate PEG Network troubleshooting eliminating the need to call Franchise Service Managers when problems occur. Franchise Service Managers will remain a resource to PEG providers on PEG signal quality and outage issues as necessary.*

#### **WHAT PEG PROGRAM PROVIDERS NEED TO DO**

*Call the NNMC at 1-800-243-6994, Option 4, Option 2*

- Identify yourself as a PEG Provider*
- Provide the community and channel number(s) affected.*
- Provide call back number and access information should a need to dispatch a technician be required.*

#### **WHAT THE NNMC WILL DO**

- The NNMC will troubleshoot the Verizon Network to determine if the problem is connected with the Verizon Network.*
- If necessary, a dispatch to the PEG provider site will be arranged.*

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

*The NNMC is not responsible for provisioning the PEG monitoring drop. The PEG monitoring drop is a subscriber drop used for viewing PEG channels on the FiOS Network. For information on the PEG monitoring drop you need to call your Franchise Service Manager."*

5. Verizon has not adequately provided the proper production and post-production equipment (cameras, microphones, edit systems and more) as outlined in the original systemwide franchise agreement. In locations where they began to setup these repositories for equipment and training, municipalities were not notified of them, there is not clear and concise information on how to gain access to them and equipment currently on hand at them is outdated or no longer available. *"Verizon Response Below"*

#### **Verizon NJ PEG Training and Equipment Program**

Verizon NJ, in areas where Verizon NJ provides cable television service, and with the assistance of select New Jersey County and Community Colleges (see list below), makes equipment and training programs available to municipal-authorized representatives or residents for use in the development of local programming content that can be shown on local community public, educational or government ("PEG") access channels, pursuant to N. J.S. A. 48:SA-28(1). NJEdge is the program implementation coordinator for the PEG Training and Equipment Program (or the "Program").

Through the Program, any municipal-authorized representative or resident can take a free Basic Video Production training course at a participating County or Community College and then be eligible to borrow a complete location video production system to record a community event or program. Once the video shoot is complete, the authorized representative or resident can edit the footage at the participating County or Community College in order to produce a complete video program, ready for broadcast on local PEG channels. An Advanced Video Production training course is also available, once the Basic Training has been successfully completed.

Participating County and Community Colleges are:

<b>County/Community College</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
<i>Bergen Community College</i>	<i>James Quimby - <a href="mailto:jquimby@bergen.edu">jquimby@bergen.edu</a></i>
<i>Brookdale Community College</i>	<i>Lauren Concar - <a href="mailto:lconcar@brookdalecc.edu">lconcar@brookdalecc.edu</a></i>
<i>Essex County College</i>	<i>Victoria Timpanaro - <a href="mailto:vtimpana@essex.edu">vtimpana@essex.edu</a></i>
<i>Gloucester County Educational Network</i>	<i>John Mondelli - <a href="mailto:jmondelli@gcecnj.org">jmondelli@gcecnj.org</a></i>
<i>Mercer County Community College</i>	<i>Steve Voorhees - <a href="mailto:voorhees@mccc.edu">voorhees@mccc.edu</a></i>
<i>Ocean County College</i>	<i>Lee Kobus - <a href="mailto:lkobus@ocean.edu">lkobus@ocean.edu</a></i>
<i>Union County College</i>	<i>Patrick Gallagher - <a href="mailto:gallagher@ucc.edu">gallagher@ucc.edu</a></i>

*If you have any questions or need more information Forough Ghahramani at NJEdge at [forough.ghahramani@njedge.net](mailto:forough.ghahramani@njedge.net), or your local County or Community College."*

As outlined in the Board of Public Utilities Guide to Cable Franchise Renewal, "...is to examine the past performance of the cable operator and identify the future cable-related needs of the community." We are not advocating that Verizon be refused their franchise renewal; rather, JAG respectfully requests that Verizon be held accountable to their original agreements and keep up with current technology and trends such as High Definition Broadcast of PEG channel. We believe this inequity should be rectified.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Bob Duthaler  
President, Jersey Access Group  
President, NJ NATOA  
Member, National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (EMMYS)



**Special Event for Members**

**A JAG WEBINAR**

**UPDATE: Comments by JAG on the Statewide Renewal of Verizon presented to the BPU**

**February 11, 2021 @ 2pm**

**Host Bob Duthaler, President, JAG**

***Access information will be sent to the membership prior to the event.***





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Web Site: [www.jagonline.org](http://www.jagonline.org) ♦ E-mail: [JAGinfo@jagonline.org](mailto:JAGinfo@jagonline.org)  
NJ Chapter of NATOA & Affiliate of the NJ League of Municipalities

**GENERAL REORGANIZATION MEETING AGENDA – 12:12pm Start Time**

***Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021*** Phone #: (727) 731-9722

**Join the online meeting:** <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/bduthaler>

12:12-12:20p.m. \*Welcome\*

- Call to Order & Additions to Agenda [Chair or vice chair if chair not available].
- Approve minutes of Dec. 2020 meeting [JAG Secretary or as designated by the president].
- Member Introductions [Roll-Call by Chair]
- Welcome new members [Membership Chair].

12:20p.m.- 12:50p.m. \*Discussion\* ***Post Production Add-Ons & Technology***

- Future Topic Ideas

12:50-1:40pm \*Presentation\*

- Brad Bassett, District Sales Manager, JVCKENWOOD USA Corporation

1:40pm-1:50pm \*Committee Reports\* Attached

- Committee Reports
  - Standing Committee Reports
    - Executive [Bob Duthaler Chair, Dave Garb Vice Chair]
      - ◆ *Report Highlights and Questions*
    - Finance [Linda Besink Chair, Jeff Arban Vice Chair]
      - ◆ *Report Highlights and Questions*
    - Production [Lee Beckerman Chair, Anthony Pagliuco, Vice Chair]
      - ◆ *Report Highlights and Questions*
    - External Relations [Geoffrey Belinfante Chair, Dustin Dumas Vice Chair]
      - ◆ *Report Highlights and Questions*
  - Ad Hoc Committee Reports
    - Membership [Stephanie Gibbons Chair, Darryl Love Vice Chair]
      - ◆ *Report Highlights and Questions*
    - Legislative [Dave Garb Chair, Vice Chair TBA]
      - ◆ *Report Highlights and Questions*
    - JAG Awards [George Fairfield Chair Bob Nicholson Vice Chair]
      - ◆ *Report Highlights and Questions*
    - Leadership Development [Dave Garb Chair, Doug Seidel Vice Chair]
      - ◆ *Report Highlights and Questions*
    - Conference [TBD]
      - ◆ *Report Highlights and Questions*

1:50p.m.-2:00p.m. \*Continuing Business\*

- Results of Board Trustees election of officers

2:00p.m.-2:15p.m. \*New Business\*

- Discussion & Assistance: Who needs help?
- Other New Business

2:15p.m. \*Announcements/next meeting.... Adjournment\*

**Stay Safe! Stay Home!**

Register for the JAG website by sending an email to [bduthaler@jagonline.org](mailto:bduthaler@jagonline.org)

***Look For Webinars and Ongoing Virtual Social Hang/Happy Hour Sessions throughout the Fall.***

***The next meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> .***

***Details can be found in upcoming JAG Newsletter.***

## New Leadership Can Be Helpful But The Fight Will Continue

By Ken Fellman, Esq., Of Counsel, Helmer, Conley and Kasselmann

Feature

On January 20, 2021, Joe Biden will be sworn in as the 46th President of the United States. How will a new Administration impact local governments and community television at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC)? What will the next Congress do with legislation impacting cable franchising?



Predicting what “will happen” in politics is usually a fool’s errand, so let’s discuss what “might happen.” As is customary, Chairman Ajit Pai will step down on January 20th and allow the new President to pick a chairman. The President will likely name Democratic Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel as acting chair. His choice for a permanent chair must receive Senate confirmation.

Rumors abound about who the permanent chair will be. Commissioner Rosenworcel is certainly a front-runner and Democratic Commissioner Geoffrey Starks is also a possibility. Former Commissioner Mignon

Clyburn is leading President-elect Biden’s FCC transition team, and if she wants the chairmanship, it may well be hers. Other names are in the mix as well.

The Commission will be split 2-2 until a new chair is confirmed by the Senate. The election in Georgia, which occurred just before this article was written, suggests that the President should have an easier time getting his nominee confirmed, resulting in a 3-2 Democratic majority. Even at 2-2, we can be fairly confident that there will be no further limits to local government authority at the FCC. A 2-2 Commission will not undo any of the damage done by Chairman Pai’s FCC, whether it be PEG related, net neutrality or any other issues. Indeed, current Republican Commissioner Brendan Carr, who has shown no hesitation to wade into partisan politics, has recently advocated for the Senate to refuse to consider the new President’s nominee for chair, in order to preserve actions taken by the Trump FCC. Assuming no changes in the Georgia election results, we can expect to have a full 5 member FCC at work later this year.

Moving to Capitol Hill, the Protecting Community Television Act, introduced by Senator Markey (D-MA) and Rep. Eshoo (D-CA) in January 2020, will likely be reintroduced. As Rep. Eshoo said when the bill was introduced “The FCC’s attempt to gut these important voices is shameful, and I’m proud to introduce legislation with Senator Markey that will protect community television and ensure local voices can be heard.” Again, assuming no changes in Georgia, there is a much better chance that this bill will get a hearing. Organizations like JAG and the NJ League of Municipalities are in a unique position to advocate for this bill, given that the Chairman of the Commerce Committee, Frank Pallone, is a New Jersey representative.



I have had the privilege of representing local governments and advocating for their interests at the FCC and in Congress for a long time. Of the last seven chairs, four were Democrats and three were Republican. We need to remember that regardless of who controls the FCC, advocating for our interests is always challenging. True, under Democratic leadership, we will likely take fewer big hits to local authority. But also remember that regardless of who is in power, the cable and broadband industry will continue to have a significant advantage in the full-time lobbyists and the money spent on promoting industry interests at the FCC. We have an agency that will likely be more respectful of our issues, but that does not guarantee that major changes will be made.

Where does this leave us? Local governments can be effective advocates and overcome the monetary advantages of industry lobbying, because local governments are the voice of the people. New Jersey is fortunate to have a handful of local elected officials who understand this and excel in this role. We need more. JAG should focus on continuing its work of educating local officials and encouraging their advocacy on our behalf at the FCC and in Congress. While the road to success requires a federal government willing to listen and act on behalf of local communities it also requires our building the strongest team possible to effectively advocate on behalf of our citizens. JAG is uniquely positioned to be a leader in these efforts.

# Tips and Tricks for Doing Virtual Meetings

**Bob Duthaler, President, Jersey Access Group**

Tec Talk

As we continue to navigate through this virtual world of meetings and broadcasting, I am sure a lot of you have run in to obstacles and have found certain tricks that got you through. Some of you may be looking for something that you could share with your Township Officials. To that end, I created this document based on conversations with other stations throughout the country and things that have worked for me. Please use this as a guide and tweak it as you see fit. This is a fluid document and can change/adapt for each station and what works best for them.



## **ZOOM Participant Best Practices**

### **Prepare for the meeting – Zoom Software Setup**

- Download the Zoom desktop app: <https://zoom.us/> Practice using Zoom, particularly how to run your presentation and how to participate.
- Use a wired connection (instead of WiFi) if possible
- Use a desktop or laptop (instead of phone) if possible
- Test your audio and video
  - Use Computer Audio whenever possible
- When entering your name use the following style: First name, last name, all caps.
  - Ex: FIRST LASTNAME
- Test your internet connection. <https://www.fast.com>
  - Will display your download speed, then click “Show more info” for your upload speed. We strongly recommend 10Mbps minimum for download and 6-10 Mbps minimum for upload.



### **Prepare for the meeting – Zoom Meeting Location**

- Select your Zoom-space:
  - Find a quiet location in your home, away from interruptions, close a door if necessary. It should be somewhere clear of distractions in the room with a neutral background (or use a virtual background).
  - Lighting should come from in front of you or from the side, in order to best light your face. Try to avoid bright lights behind or overhead. Avoid having a window behind you. Close the blinds/curtains if you can't avoid the window.
  - Camera - Place your laptop or monitor camera at eye level. Prop up a laptop, if necessary, or lower a monitor that is on a high shelf. It works best to be looking directly into the camera. Center yourself in the middle of the screen. Avoid too much “head room” above your head. (No floating heads.)
  - Place yourself in the screen so your size and position are similar to the example below.
  - Audio - Use a headset with a microphone, if you have one. Be aware of where the microphone is on your computer, so that you can be close enough to be heard. Remember to mute your audio when you aren't speaking. Stray noises in your environment will become part of the meeting and will cause your camera to “pop” on.
- Clothing:
  - Choose clothing you would typically wear to an “in-person” version of the meeting.
  - Try to avoid solid white, solid black or small, busy patterns



### **Prepare For the Meeting – Meeting Time**

- You will receive the Event ID and passcode before the meeting. Do not share with the public, this is for Mayor, Council and Invited Staff only.
- Join the meeting at least 15mins before the scheduled time
- When you join the Event, you will automatically enter a Waiting Room; clerk will move you to the Event before the start time.
- During that time:
  - We will verify your name and email address as they will appear on screen.
- We will check your audio levels
- Close all unnecessary tabs in your browser and close any applications that cause audio notifications, such as Email or messaging.
  - Check the icons in the lower-right of your PC (task tray). Right-click to close (in most cases)
- If you aren't talking, mute or turn off your microphone.
- Avoid noisy activities like typing while your microphone is on. Avoid dangly jewelry that might make noise.
- Keep your Zoom window set to Gallery View.



**Bob Duthaler, Chair, Executive Committee**

In August JAG held its annual board retreat. One of the board's responsibilities was to revisit JAG's Goals and to update them to reflect the changes as necessary to support JAG's membership. These goals are designed to conform to JAG's Mission Statement and aid JAG in its management through JAG's Standing and Ad Hoc Committees.

Because of Covid's restrictions JAG has had to reevaluate its communication structure and to seek out changes in its methods to meet its goals. All JAG meetings are now virtual, webinars have begun, JAG's president has hosted social hangouts (a virtual open forum to engage and assist members), vendors are providing virtual presentations at JAG general meetings, the JAG newsletter has increased its content, JAG has begun to focus on its presence on social media, and JAG has established the new Leadership Development Committee - all in an effort to meet JAG's goals.

Change may not sometimes work, but it is necessary to ensure growth. The Executive Board is now and will continue to engage in a dialog as to if changes are accomplishing their desired goals. Some of the new methods of communicating might become new standards of operation.

The work of all of our committees has been nothing short of incredible as they looked for ways to fulfill their responsibilities. New ideas being considered are a Virtual JAG Awards, a Virtual Conference, a new website library for Technical Support, with articles to help stations and producers navigate the new virtual landscape and Social Media Usage, with articles that support distribution and marketing of content, and the launching of a JAG You Tube Channel, to name just a few.

JAG's Membership Committee is currently reaching out to each member for their input to assist leadership in ensuring that JAG's Goals are providing the support that our membership requires.

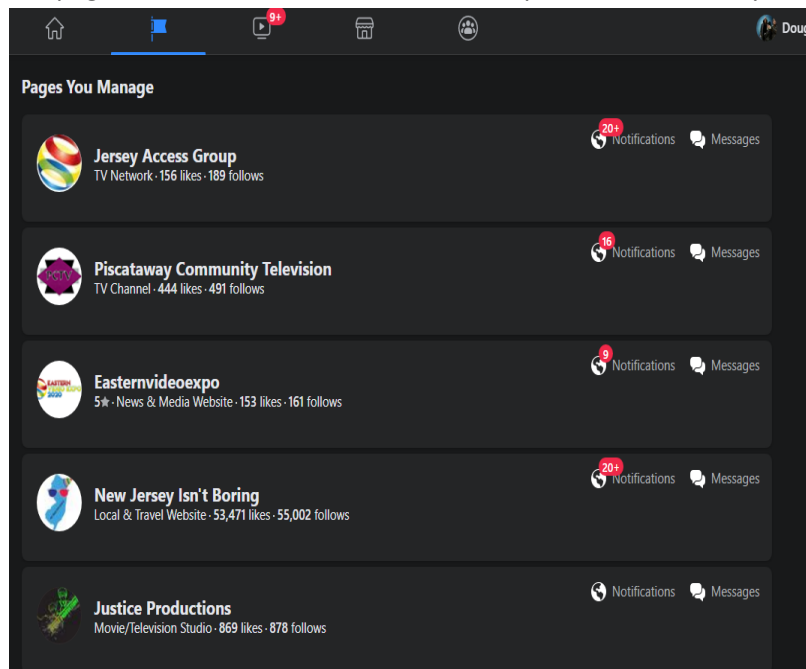
## **GOALS**

- Educate, inform, and promote community involvement through all available communication platforms
- Provide information on legislative and regulatory issues
- Conduct regularly scheduled meetings to facilitate communication, provide technology updates and product demonstrations
- Share information about best practices for facilities operation, production, staffing and matters related to volunteers
- Provide technical support and recommendations
- Aid in the initial formation and upgrading of Public, Education and Government Media Facilities
- Advise on new developments in the communication industry
- Share equipment and staffing resources through networking
- Provide consultation and presentations to municipal officials
- Provide an avenue for joint production ventures
- Share problem solving strategies
- Provide information concerning qualified vendors in specific areas of expertise
- Share information regarding franchise renewals, negotiations, and interaction with cable providers
- Support integration of various content delivery platforms i.e. Facebook, Zoom
- Assist members with information about capital equipment purchases
- Investigate funding and equipment donation sources
- Develop outreach programs for students interested in the media field
- Create a platform to recognize outstanding video content
- Conduct workshops for the dissemination of information in support of our mission
- Aid in maintaining the integrity and professionalism of Public, Education and Government Media Facilities.
- Provide access to JAG's content sharing platform for program distribution

Over the last two months we have gone over why you should be using social media and how to get started with it. Now we will start working on some of the finer details like how being social with JAG and other accounts can help you, and how to keep professional and personal social media separate.



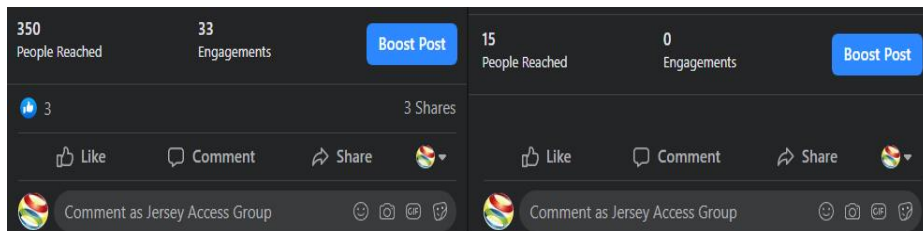
First, we will talk about how to keep professional and personal accounts separate. Many of us have a personal account on at least one social media site. As professionals we most likely post some things that blur the line of personal and professional, like sharing a video you made for work on your personal page. There is of course nothing wrong with that, you should be proud of your work and want to post it for all to see. We do have to be more careful when it comes to the professional page. Let us use Facebook as the example for this. When you make your Facebook account for yourself it is a personal page with your name on it, under the same login name you can create and admin your professional page. This is where it becomes important to make sure you are using the correct one when posting, liking, and commenting. This also keeps you from becoming the social media face of your station. You should be keeping posts on your professional page relevant to your audience. They are following your station because they want to know what is on it, have an interest in television, are involved with you, or they are using it as a source of local information. Maybe that funny meme about a recent current event is not what you should be sharing, but the interesting “behind the scenes” feature you saw on YouTube is. All of this is meant, of course, to help your station grow. Between the availability of a thousand cable channels and a growing number of streaming services, a lot of people have forgotten what local access is, and social media is a great way to remind them. Most towns have a private group on Facebook, and you can join that group as your professional page. Add your social media links to your business cards, put promo videos between shows, add the links to your bulletin board, and tag local hot spots.



Let us sidetrack into tags and hashtags, because this will lead us into how you can help JAG’s social media to help you grow too. Tagging is when you add a link in your post to a person or professional page. This normally requires the “@” before their screen name, some social media will auto-suggest tags while you type. The most important thing here is to make sure you tag the correct page. Some are different for each social media account and may not be the name you expect. For instance, JAG is @pegtv on Facebook - if you type in @jag you would be tagging a random person or the 90s TV show about Naval lawyers. When you tag someone, they get a notification. This hopefully leads to their page liking and commenting on your own. This can bring more traffic to your page. This is very helpful with events like ribbon cuttings because the business will most likely share your video, creating more exposure.

Now to talk about hashtags. This is the “#” symbol directly in front of the key word. This creates a searchable word, or more importantly adds your post to the searchable word. This can require a bit of research but can have a high return. Let us use an example. JAG does a “This day in TV history” post each week. The reach goes up when hashtags are added. One recent one was about the actor that played Uncle Fester on the Addams family that used the hashtag #addamsfamily and it got a few boosted views from some fans of the show on Instagram. I recommend finding popular hashtags in your area, just about every town has some.

Now let's finish with how you can help JAG and in return help your page grow. First if you are just starting your page, you can already have a follower. If you follow JAG we will follow your page back. In the beginning everyone needs a boost to help get attention in the algorithms of each social media account. JAG is constantly looking for content to post and share on the multiple pages that we have, and what better than your station's videos. The more stations (or stations employees/volunteers) that follow JAG the more outreach each station can have when they tag JAG in their posts. The more followers JAG has the easier it becomes for professional networking. A lot of new businesses use social media for advertising, networking, and even making decisions. The next time we have a conference and reach out to the vendors, they may check our social media when making a decision regarding attending the event. We know we are an active group, but if someone logs onto Facebook or Instagram and sees our posts are infrequent or have no likes or views, they might pass on our event. If you don't have a professional page and only use social media for your personal fun, you can still help JAG by just following the page and liking posts. Sharing helps a lot too especially when most of us have personal friends that also work or have an interest in what is going on with our world. If you are worried about people seeing your personal profile, you can go into settings and make your profile private. This will help keep personal and professional life on social media separate.

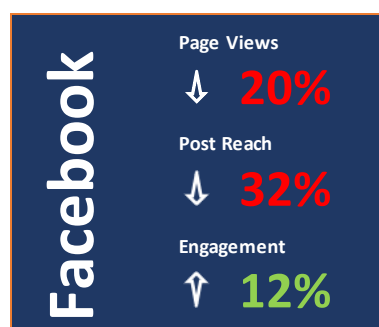
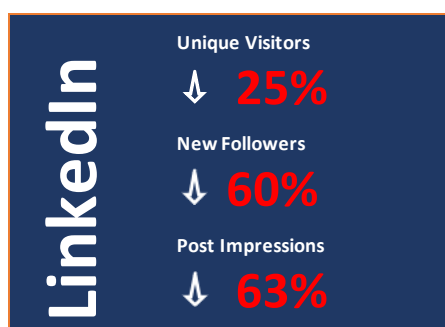


Now we know why to get started on social media, how to start finding your audience, and how to use it professionally. So now it is time to get out there and start using it. Remember you can start with adding all of JAG accounts [www.facebook.com/pegvtv](http://www.facebook.com/pegvtv) , [www.instagram.com/jersey\\_access\\_group/](http://www.instagram.com/jersey_access_group/) , and [www.linkedin.com/company/jersey-access-group/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/jersey-access-group/) and happy posting.

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### *Social Media Stats Based on Last 30 Days*

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**Overall Audience Growth of 4.64%**

**Not surprising to be down in December as everyone is busy with end of year wrap up and the holidays. Let's start of this new year right by making a resolution to hop on social media once at week to share some posts.**

[facebook.com/pegvtv](http://facebook.com/pegvtv)  
[linkedin.com/company/jersey-access-group](http://linkedin.com/company/jersey-access-group)  
[instagram.com/jersey\\_access\\_group](http://instagram.com/jersey_access_group)

# Committees

Rich Desimone, Managing Director

# Volunteerism

The Conference Committee has been re-established. A virtual conference is being planned in 2021. This committee has a number of components and will require the assistance of many of our members. Its first meeting will be on Monday, January 18 at 2pm. Please consider joining one and helping JAG fulfill its mission in 2021. *(Changes & new additions marked in red)*



Executive 2021 (as of 1.13.21) Meeting second Wednesday 12:00PM	Production 2020(as of 11.20.20) Meeting first Monday 11AM	External Relations 2021 (as of 1.7.21) Meeting first Thursday 12:30pm
Bob Duthaler, President <b>ELECTED 2021-2024</b>	Lee Beckerman (Chair) <b>ELECTION NEEDED</b>	Geoffrey Belinfante (Chair) <b>ELECTED 2021-2023</b>
Dave Garb, Vice-President-2019-2021	Anthony Pagliuco (Vice Chair) <b>2020-2022</b>	Dustin Dumas (Vice Chair) <b>2020-2022</b>
Linda Besink, Treasurer- <b>ELECTED 2021-2024</b>	TBD: (Secretary) <b>ELECTION NEEDED</b>	Stephanie Gibbons/Dustin Dumas: (Co-Secretary) <b>ELECTED 2021-2023</b>
Dave Ambrosy, Secretary-2019-2021	Dave Ambrosy: Producer	Doug Seidel-Social Media
Stephanie Gibbons, Corresponding Sec.- <b>ELECTED 2021-2023</b>	Nick Besink	Bob Duthaler: NJLOM Join Session, JAG Session, Booth Staffing and rooms, Web Site
Anthony Pagliuco, Trustee <b>ELECTED 2021-2023</b>	Dave Garb	Rich Desimone: JAG Newsletter Editor
Jeff Arban, Trustee <b>2019-2021</b>	Robert Horvath	Dave Garb:
Darryl Love, Trustee <b>2019-2021</b>	Geoffrey Belinfante- Access NJ	George B Bumiller
George Fairfield, Trustee <b>ELECTED 2021-2023</b>	Doug Seidel	
Lee Beckerman, Production Chair	Bob Duthaler	
Geoffrey Belinfante, External Relations Chair <b>ELECTED 2021-2023</b>		
Rich Desimone: Managing Director Action Plan/Policies & Procedures/Bylaws	Legislation 2020 Meeting first Tuesday 11AM	Conference 2021 Meeting second Monday 2PM
Finance 2020 (as of 10.9.20) Meeting second Tuesday 11AM	Dave Garb (Chair) <b>ELECTION NEEDED</b>	<b>OPEN (Chair) ELECTION NEEDED</b>
Linda Besink: (Chair) <b>APPOINTED</b>	TBA: (Vice Chair) <b>ELECTION NEEDED</b>	<b>OPEN: (Vice Chair) ELECTION NEEDED</b>
Jeff Arban (Vice Chair) <b>2020-2022</b>	Linda Besink (Secretary) <b>ELECTION NEEDED</b>	<b>OPEN (Secretary) ELECTION NEEDED</b>
TBD: (Secretary) <b>ELECTION NEEDED</b>	Bob Duthaler: NJLM	Linda Besink: Treasurer, Billing <b>APPOINTED</b>
Bob Duthaler: President	Ada Erik: NJ Legislation	<b>OPEN- Funding: Sponsorships/Presentations/Ads</b>
Dave Garb: Vice President	Nick Besink	<b>OPEN- Registration</b>
Lee Beckerman, Production Chair	Jeff Arban	<b>OPEN- Virtual Management/Scheduling</b>
Geoffrey Belinfante, External Relations Chair		<b>OPEN- Workshops/Panelists</b>
		<b>OPEN- Events/Guest Speakers</b>
	JAG Awards (as of 10.12.20) Meeting first Monday 11am	<b>OPEN- Vendor Presentations</b>
Leadership Development 2020 (as of 10.12.20) Meeting second Monday 11AM	George Fairfield (Chair) <b>2020-2022</b>	<b>OPEN- Communications: Constant Contact</b>
Dave Garb (Chair): <b>APPOINTED</b>	Bob Nicholson (Vice Chair) <b>2020-2022</b>	<b>OPEN- Marketing: Social Media</b>
Doug Seidel: (Vice Chair) <b>2020-2022</b>	Valerie Stevens: (Secretary) <b>2020-2022</b>	
Linda Besink: Finance Rep (Secretary) <b>2020-2022</b>	Dave Garb	
Darryl Love, Membership Rep	Ronni Garrett	
Anthony Pagliuco: Production Rep		
Dustin Dumas: External Relations Rep		
George Fairfield: JAG Awards Rep	Membership 2021 (as of 1.7.21) Meeting first Tuesday 1PM	
<b>OPEN: Legislative Rep</b>	Stephanie Gibbons (Chair) <b>ELECTED 2021-2023</b>	
<b>OPEN: Conference Rep</b>	Darryl Love (Vice Chairs) <b>2020-2022</b>	
	Linda Besink: (Secretary) Data Management <b>ELECTION NEEDED</b>	
	Bob Duthaler: List Serve	
	Dave Garb	
	<b>George Fairfield NEW MEMBER</b>	
	<b>Geoffrey Belinfante NEW MEMBER</b>	



# Bits & Bytes

## JAG Meeting Schedule

- Monday, Jan. 18, 2pm — Conference Committee via virtual video service
  - Election of Officers
  - Virtual Structure
  - Vendor Involvement
  - Workshop Topics
  - Revenue Generation
- Wednesday, Jan. 27, 12:10pm — General Meeting via virtual video service
  - Topic for Discussion: Post Production Add-Ons & Technology
  - Presentation by Brad Bassett, District Sales Manager, JVCKENWOOD USA Corporation
  - Committee Reports Q&A
  - Announce Board of Trustees Officers and Election term results (Two three year & Three two year)
  - Recertify voting members
  - Introduction of 2021 budget
- Monday, Feb. 1, 11am — Production Committee Meeting via conference call
  - COVID Testimonials
  - JAG Promo Development
  - Launch JAG You Tube Channel
- Tuesday, Feb. 2, 11am — Finance Committee Meeting via conference call
  - Financial Reports
  - Billing 2021 update
  - Develop JAG's Database
- Tuesday, Feb. 2, 1pm — Membership Committee Meeting via virtual video service
  - Delinquent Membership follow-up
  - Member Outreach Survey
- Thursday, Feb. 4, 11am — JAG Awards Committee Meeting via conference call
  - Planning launch of 2021 awards
- Thursday, Feb. 4, 12:30pm — External Relations Committee Meeting via virtual video service
  - Vendor Presentation
  - Website updates: Posting Vendor Presentations and JAG Webinars
  - Newsletter Development & Management
  - Social Media Management
  - Marketing JAG Awards
  - Independent Producers Value
- Monday, Feb. 8, 11am — Leadership Development Meeting via virtual video service
  - Marketing Plan
  - Tool Box Development
  - Membership Development
  - Committee Assistance
- Monday, Feb. 8, 2pm — Conference Committee via virtual video service
  - Virtual Structure
  - Vendor Involvement
  - Workshop Topics
  - Revenue Generation
- Tuesday, Feb. 9, 11am — Legislative Committee Meeting via conference call
  - Protecting Access Television Act: Support from federal legislators
- Wednesday, Feb. 10, 12pm — Executive Board Meeting via virtual video service
  - Action Plan Committee Reports
  - Webinars & Virtual Hangs
- Thursday, Feb. 11, 2pm — JAG Webinar via virtual video service
  - UPDATE: Comments by JAG on the *Statewide Renewal of Verizon* presented to the BPU
- Wednesday, Feb. 24, 12:10pm — General Meeting via virtual video service
  - Topic for Discussion: TBA
  - Presentation by Jesse Lerman, President, TelVue Corporation
  - Committee Reports Q&A

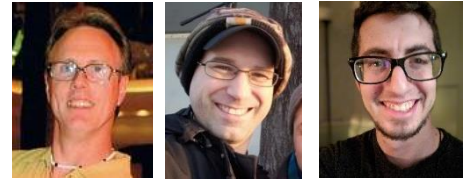
## 2020 Through the Eyes of PCTV:

By George Fairfield, Station Manager; Doug Seidel, Program Supervisor; and Brian Belzer, Program Facilitator

## Spotlight

Happy New Year!! And what a year the past 12 months have been.

2020 began like each year before; record the re-organizational meetings; record police promotions; the usual. Then, the first sign of change peeked over the horizon; I should have known something was about to break. The consummate Peter Namen, the station manager, announces his retirement will be at the end of January 2020. George was promoted to station manager, Doug became the Program Supervisor, Brian Belzer began his shift in February, and within weeks a once in a hundred year pandemic washed over us, the NJ governor closes all public schools & non-essential businesses - he closes the casinos, dine in restaurants, gyms and theaters - which basically brought every town to a standstill.



What do we do now? Well, once the realization that this was not going away quickly settled in, we figured it was time to get things moving again. First item was safety. We created an open floor plan; defined individual own working spaces (phone, desk, computer, etc.) which now no one else would use; if you had to approach someone's space, you had to be in a mask.

Next was getting back to production. At first, we only thought COVID-19 had slowed production. In fact, it changed a lot about how our productions would be created.



While our studio was closed to independent producers and volunteer staff, like everyone else, we began using the advances in video conferencing to continue producing programs. Using applications like Zoom we have kept Aging Insights, Gen Z TV, Spotlight on Middlesex County, Health Talk and Eye on Piscataway in full production. While this is not new for some towns, we even began recording regular updates from Piscataway's Mayor, Director of Aging, and even the clerk to keep the residents informed.

Additionally, we took the charge in recording regular classes that were taught at the local senior center so the seniors could continue to work out, learn to dance, or stay connected - all from the safety of their home. Currently we are assisting Piscataway's civil rights commission to produce an all-virtual program for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day which will be aired on the holiday.

Brian, being new to the station, spent a good part of the year reconfiguring the broadcast server to be more efficient given the equipment available. Some improvements include correcting their online livestream to be HD; fixing audio gain staging supplemented by Telvue's real-time audio loudness processing option; & building a new Bulletin Board system using open source technology. Brian also began utilizing more programming features through their Hypercaster; he setup advanced recursion rules for all shows; and began using overlay rules for snipes. And like most other stations, PCTV began cablecasting Governor Murphy's briefings live from YouTube. This got the wheels really turning to figure out how to take it further. Now the station has dipped its toes into using Zoom, OBS and NDI to create advanced live productions of varying complexity.

Through all of the swirling winds of an ever changing landscape we have been able to stand our ground, continue producing programming, and even develop new methods for recording, all while bringing PCTV into the 21st century. I truly could not have accomplished this without my amazing crew. We have had to make a lot of adjustments, but it has been a great time of learning and best of all we have not had to shut down production.

I wonder what 2021 will bring . . .





The JAG Awards are annual awards, facilitated by the Jersey Access Group, that honors excellence in local & regional Public Education Government (PEG) cablecast programming. These awards were originally named the JAM Awards for the partnership between JAG and the ACM. In 2016, the awards were rebranded and became **The JAG Awards**. Categories cover a variety of programming including, among others, community events, documentary, talk show, sports, and entertainment.

New for this year is the addition of sub-categories for single camera and multi-camera productions.

The Jersey Access Group is very proud of the programming all PEG Stations produce and is honored to host the JAG Awards each year.

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### Organizational Members



## COMMITTEES CORNER

### Standing Committee Reports

#### **EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE: *Geoffrey Belinfante (Chair), Dustin Dumas (Vice Chair)***

We all know that on-line marketing in one form or another is the cornerstone of success in the 21st Century. We on the External Relations Committee are spending a lot of time these days trying to improve JAG's on-line presence.

This has taken several different forms and involves several other JAG committees. For the JAG awards, we want to make sure that everyone involved in producing programs for PEG channels knows about the awards. For Membership, we want to ensure that every municipality in the state knows about JAG and understands the benefits of membership. For potential organizational members, we want businesses to realize that PEG channels are a viable market for the products they create.

This is no small job. We need to harness the power of social media, and our own website to spread the word about the benefits of JAG membership. Thanks to Doug's social media efforts, and, with the help of the Production Committee, the addition of a JAG YouTube channel, and some updates to our website, we have begun the process, but we need help. If you would like to give us a hand in spreading the word about JAG, please let me know—[geoffbel512@gmail.com](mailto:geoffbel512@gmail.com).

This is the Seven Year Anniversary of JAG's newsletter. On January 14, 2014 JAG began as a simple four page newsletter for the purpose of keeping the membership informed of what was happening both inside and outside JAG. This included a Presidents Message, a guest written feature article, a Bits & Bytes page with the meeting and event schedule, and the Committee Corner providing committee's the opportunity to talk about what their committee was doing. Over time the Bits & Bytes and Committee Corner pages have become more comprehensive and we have added vendor articles, Committee Updates, a member Spotlight page, meeting agendas, event promotion, and our newest additions; Social Media and Tec Talk. This month we have grown to seventeen pages, a tribute to the support from the leadership of our seven committees and you our member. Little did we recognize its increasing value until we were faced with changes in JAG's operation due to the virus. Thank you to Rich Desimone, Cindy Hahn and Stephanie Gibbons for their work in keeping this vital communication platform alive.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE: *Linda Besink (Chairs), Jeff Arban (Vice Chair)***

Dues invoices have been emailed out. If you have not received yours, please email JAG Treasurer Linda Besink at [lbesink@gmail.com](mailto:lbesink@gmail.com) and it will be re-sent. Any questions or concerns may also be emailed to her. JAG is committed to financial transparency, and if you're able to serve on the Finance Committee, please also email our Treasurer.

#### **PRODUCTION COMMITTEE: *Lee Beckerman (Chair), Anthony Pagliuco (Vice Chair)***

Covid testimonials are moving very slowly. Woodbridge has been having trouble scheduling time with their Mayor. East Brunswick is working on theirs and Lee will reach out again to Brookdale to do one. The Covid PSA is on hold currently pending direction from the Executive Committee. Lee will discuss it at the next Executive Committee meeting.

It was suggested that we try to get a testimonial from Governor Murphy. East Brunswick is producing a piece with the governor's office and will see if they can work something out with him. We also discussed possibly trying to schedule something with government leaders at the league if it is live this year.

The committee is planning to make a "Why join JAG?" video a priority this year. Lee, Geoff and Bob will schedule a time to meet and discuss a script.

Rob Horvath suggested the possibility of doing some how-to videos on producing content. The committee is looking at the option of making a "How to shoot a testimonial video" video to shoot at the Woodbridge studio possibly this February.

The JAG YouTube channel mockup has been completed and the committee critiqued it. We discussed formats for submitting content, what content we will accept, adding links and the overall look of the channel. Doug Seidel is tweaking the channel and we will present it to the board at the next Executive Meeting.



## COMMITTEES CORNER

### AD HOC Committees Reports

#### **Legislation Committee: *Dave Garb (Chair), TBA (Vice Chair)***

With the new administration changing in the capitol and the recent run-off Senate race in Georgia, there is a strong possibility that the door may swing the other way for PEG in the future. First, on January 20th, the FCC chairman will be exiting. The question as to will there be an Interim Chair followed by a Chair nominee is unclear at present. While the Biden Administration is working on the transition, it is unclear how soon a nomination will come, and the confirmation process will have to occur in the Senate.

Secondly, and before anything can happen for any nominee to be confirmed, the Senate needs to assign Committees proportionally. This will take place in the coming month. Chairs of these Committees will be assigned by the Senate Majority Leader, who will be Chuck Schumer. As far as the Protecting Community Television Act is concerned, the Co-authors of the Acts have been waiting for the Congress make-up to determine their strategy for its passage. Once it is reintroduced, the Legislative Committee will be contacting our Representatives and Senators once again to co-sponsor these important Acts.

As always, the Legislative Committee constantly needs your eyes, ears, thoughts and contacts in order to keep PEG fresh in the minds of all of our lawmakers. For further information on our work, or if you would like to join our committee, please contact me.

#### **Membership Committee: *Stephanie Gibbons (Chair), Darryl Love (Vice Chair)***

The committee held its reorganization meeting. The committee re-elected Stephanie Gibbons as Chair, Darryl Love as Vice-chair and Linda Besink as Secretary. The committee welcomes two new members - Geoff Belinfante and George Fairfield - who were instrumental in the member questionnaire project that is still going on.

The member questionnaire project has interviewed 25% of JAG members, and we hope to complete the interviews by the end of the month. It is important for this committee to find out what JAG benefits are most useful to members as well as others you may need. So you may be getting a call from the membership committee soon.

We would like to welcome Mount Zion Baptist Church as our newest member and the first nonprofit organization to join JAG through the efforts of Darryl.

Please consider joining the membership committee. Our next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 2. If you are interested, please contact Darryl Love at [DFLove@aol.com](mailto:DFLove@aol.com) or Stephanie Gibbons at [Stgibbons@verizon.net](mailto:Stgibbons@verizon.net).

#### **Leadership Development Committee: *Dave Garb (Chair), Doug Seidel (Vice Chair)***

Our Committee's main objective is to focus on developing and promoting awareness of JAG by creating a marketing plan, utilizing social media to its fullest potential and aiding all of JAG's other committees in achieving their individual goals.

The Leadership Development Committee (LDC) is composed of the Chairs and/or Vice Chairs from their respective committees, as well as those individuals that are skilled and knowledgeable in areas that are needed to make the LDC successful.

We will be looking into our Policy and Procedures, along with our many forms of communication documents, in order to update and expand upon our marketing ambitions. To better serve the wishes of our membership, we have also been creating committee goals, all while making sure your needs are met.

One of our upcoming objectives will be reaching out to all of our members to discuss the importance of joining one of our committees by bringing your skills to assist JAG to grow and continue to be the voice of the New Jersey PEG community.

#### **JAG Awards Committee: *George Fairfield (Chairs), Bob Nicholson (Vice Chair)***

The committee has completed work on this year's categories and is now building the infrastructure necessary to manage the JAG Awards. Soon the list of categories, the rules for submission, and the costs will be posted to JAG's web site, [www.jagonline.org](http://www.jagonline.org). Registration is expected to open in the coming weeks.

Jersey Access Group, PO Box 164, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840

[www.jagonline.org](http://www.jagonline.org) [JAGinfo@jagonline.org](mailto:JAGinfo@jagonline.org)

New Jersey Chapter of NATOA and New Jersey League of Municipalities Affiliate

Editor-in-Chief: Rich Desimone, Managing Director    Features Editors: Stephanie Gibbons & Cindy Hahn