**JAG General Meeting Minutes**

**3/27/19, 12:00 pm in Piscataway, NJ**

Meeting attended by:, Bloomfield- Bob Duthaler, , East Brunswick- Dave Ambrosy, Anthony Pagliuco, Edison- Ed Cologna, Fair Lawn-Dimitry Mikhoylov, Saul Rochman, George Heibel, Highland Park, Metuchen- Stephanie Gibbons, OPTV- Nick Besink, Linda Besink, Bruce Goldsmith, Dave Banfield, Perth Amboy -Dave Garb, Piscataway-Peter Namen, George Fairfield, Doug Seidel, Roselle- Darryl Love, Rutgers -Jeff Arban, West Milford – Bob Nicholson, Ada Erik, Geoff Belinfante, Woodbridge- Lee Beckerman, Bruno Martins-Woodbridge Schools, Ron Rossnik-Independent Producer, JAG Managing Director- Rich Desimone and guest presenter, Paul Cintolo-Comrex.

JAG President, Bob Duthaler, called meeting to order at 12:13pm

Minutes from February 27, 2019 were moved by Geoff and seconded by Jeff and were approved.

Bob asked that Voting Member forms be filled out and returned to the secretary.

New Member from Highland Park introduced, George Heibel. Member introductions went around the room.

Committee Reports:

Executive- Bob said they met March 13th. Decided to send Managing Director to Washington D.C. for meetings with the FCC and Congressman Pallone, April 1st & 2nd to discuss Cable Franchise Fee changes and how that will impact PEG stations. Rich spoke about arraigning that meeting and what it means for JAG. Members discussed who else around the country were involved.

Finance- Linda reported 5 renewals so far. $27.00 came in from Bob D’s Facebook fundraiser. Finance will begin regular monthly meetings.

Production- Lee said the committee met March 22nd. Testimonials at the conference are going to be recorded about JAG Membership. Geoff suggested a “blanket video” on “What is JAG.” Lee spoke about reviving Access NJ.

Mayor Whaller came in to talk about the FCC issue and to encourage members to speak with their towns for support in fighting changes.

External Relations- Geoff reported the committee met that week. He gave information on Montclair’s Live Immigration broadcast. Talked about developing a new “elevator pitch” script which could work for the video he requested from production. Center for Cooperative Media & Free Press will help with the conference as will the NJ Film and TV Commission. Bruce will plan to do member spotlights for the newsletter.

Membership- Bruce said the committee met March 26th. They would like to meet with Stephanie to get insight and information regarding the committee since she was the former chairperson. They will look into emails being bounce on the list serve. Has volunteers to do outreach to towns around the NJ/NY border. Wants Board to look into the idea of local churches as members.

Legislative- Dave spoke about the FCC/Franchise Fee issue.

Conference- Stephanie said the Meet and Greet will be a social event at the Blackthorn Tavern across the street from the Hyatt. No charge. Trade show is nearly sold out for vendor space. Visit the web site and share social media posts.

JAG Awards- Bob said they are open and 4/16 is the deadline. Info is on the web site.

Continuing Business- Bob announced upcoming meeting locations, committee participation needed and nominations for Legislative and Municipal Excellence Awards are open.

New Business- 2019 Budget. Linda gave an overview of the committee budgets and the total for 2019. Opened for questions. Vote was taken with 15 yes, 1 abstention, 0 no. Approved.

Bob introduced Paul Cintolo from Comrex who gave a presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15pm

Respectfully submitted by Dave Ambrosy