

**Alliance for Community Media
Central States Region
General Meeting Minutes**

Date: May 3, 2014

Location: Spring Conference, Dayton, OH

1. Conference Review

This conference had a total of 52 attendees! 49 were preregistered and 3 were walk-ins. There was a total of 7 companies/vendors who showcased their products. Our Bronze sponsor was Tightrope, and Leightronix donated “dragon dollars” to be used at the baseball game on Thursday evening. Thank you everyone who came and made it a wonderful conference!

2. Upcoming Events

A. PEG Crawl

The MI-ACM is doing a PEG crawl/station tours as a kick off to the Philo Festival. The PEG crawl will be October 10th. More information will be coming soon, and all Central States Region members are invited to attend.

B. Philo Festival

The Philo Festival will be in Kalamazoo, MI at Public Media Network on October 11th. The submissions for Philo entries will open May 30th. Look for emails coming soon about how to submit and sign up to attend.

C. National-ACM Conference

The National-ACM conference is August 6-8 in Philadelphia, PA. There is a grassroots scholarship on the ACM Website for those who would like to apply. The national conference is in conjunction with the National Association of Media Arts and Culture (NAMAC) conference- so if you register for one you are registering for the other.

3. CSR-ACM Elections

This is an election year for the Central States Region. We have the following positions: Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, At Large.

We held nominations at the meeting (sorry for any spelling errors in names): Mark Monk & Eric Mulburg for Chair. Others nominated were: Norm Compton, Beth Mitchell, Ashley Berens, Melissa Brody, Laura Rose, Auto Boschet, Steve Ross, & Elizabeth Lord. The Election Chair will be Tom Bishop.

Voting will be conducted electronically. Nominations will be left open until May 23- email any nominations to Elizabeth Lord (elord@acm.info). After the nomination window closes there will be two weeks to approve them and then ballots will be emailed out June 6 and will be due back June 27.

4. National Board Announcements

- A. The National-ACM is in a transitioning stage. Currently the National-ACM has outsourced to a company named Harrington who is fielding phone call questions, membership, and emails. They have recently hired a part-time Public Policy Advocate who works in D.C. They do not currently have an Executive Director, but the search will be soon- most likely after the National Conference in August.
- B. Structural Changes
 - I. There have been some structural changes- emails have been set out about these changes. One being how chapters and regions are now considered “affiliates” of the National organization.
 - II. Membership rates have gone up.
 - III. Structural and financially they are sitting a lot better. They are typically two organizations now: alliance for community media- 501-c6, that is the membership part. Now there is the Foundation of the Alliance for Community Media 501-c3, based on some IRS documentation this was the best option for them. c6 reps the people who work in access, the c3 is a bigger picture.
 - IV. Specific means of updating the public on this are: they have had six webinars within the year, better collaboration and communications with the subgroups. Announcements about these services, updates will be emails, website tweaks, list serve is up and running, financials have been taken care of.

5. State Chapter Reports

- A. Ohio/Kentucky

State chapter meeting went really well and was well attended. They elected their new board. Steve is still Chair, Chip is Treasurer, Melissa is Secretary, Tim is Legislative Affairs Representative. They are facing the Comcast changes with Comcast going to Spinco. They will probably file as a non-profit but not a 501-c3. They are financially good.
- B. Michigan

They are doing good financially. Hosting a station tour before Philo Festival on October 10th. They hold NPO affiliate status, 501-c3 paperwork might have been filed but it is believed that it was never finished. MAB next year will kick off the CSR Conference March 12-15. (MAB is March 11.)

CAP Act- PEG resolution in CA memo will be sent out. Now is the time to let your local officials know about the Act and its importance. Deborah Guthrie will be sending the email on this.

C. Indiana

Starting in July they will be welcoming another access center in Anderson, Indiana! South Bend access center has been dealing with some issues- the Indiana Chapter is trying to help them. Norm is the regional treasurer- they need members! Currently have \$250 in the bank. This conference brought in about \$500. A while back they invested some money that took a loss, reinvested and made \$1,000 so they are making up ground.

6. Upcoming Philo Festival

This year the planning committee is looking more at the Hometown model. They are trying to do it all online. You'll be able to upload videos and send in links. Judging will be internet based; URLs will be on the forms. Mediafire will be the uploading destination. DVDs will still be accepted but it will cost more to send in media this way. The deadline will be July 11th for entries, judging will be done by August 11th, and the second round will be done by the end of August so winners can be notified.