



**Programming Meeting Minutes.  
September 5, 2007**

33 Bridge Street Bellows Falls

In attendance: Dot Read, Gary Smith, Melinda Underwood, Alan D'Amico, Jon Cohen, Linda Simoneaux  
Notetaker: Gary Smith

Call to order 7:08pm

- 1. Minutes of August 1, 2007:** Gary moved and Jon seconded that we accept the minutes of the previous meeting as drafted. Motioned carried unanimously.
- 2. Discussion of Host Post:** Melinda will include in the current host post an announcement of the application process for our full power NCE license. Melinda takes notes on other items throughout the meeting. Gary will get the August Host post out shortly.
- 3. Discussion of WOOL policy RE: Interviewing Political Candidates on the Air:**
  - a.** Alan D'Amico in attendance to ask for the station position about interviewing political candidates on the air.
  - b.** Dot related her research from the last time this issues was raised. [Included in these minutes, for reference, is the information Dot provided and referenced after the meeting for the record.]
  - c.** Jon called up the regulations from the FCC website, specifically the Act of 1934 Part 47 USC §315 and §73.1941/47cfr about equal opportunities.
  - d.** In short, without a news department, radio stations cannot interview one candidate without offering the same opportunity for equal time to all like candidates.
  - e.** It remains the position of the Board of Directors and the Programming Committee that our station is not staffed to ensure that hosts will do all the work to meet the FCC regulations and so we are currently disallowing the on air interviewing of political candidates.
  - f.** Email from Dot in further reference of this information follows:
    - i.** On Oct 4, 2006, at 10:05 AM, Dorothy Read wrote: Dear Martha, Board, Programming Committee, I talked to Mark Berlin at the FCC this morning, and we do indeed still have Equal Time requirements. There are some exceptions. For instance a candidate can appear on a news show without Equal Time given to other candidates, as long as the news show is a REGULARY SCHEDULED news show and not, for example, a music show. The same goes for candidates forums if they are part of a regularly scheduled news show. In that case, ridiculous as it sounds, the station could even invite only two of three candidates. If our station creates a special program to have a candidates' forum, we must adhere to the Equal Time requirements. Hosts of other types of shows who do not regularly have a news component must adhere to the Equal Time requirements and invite all candidates (generally if their name appears on the ballot, but even write-in candidates if they are declared). He said it was quite broad. The problem with our station remains that we have no staff to monitor what the hosts are doing. Berlin told me it was wise to protect our license by putting in place a policy of no candidate interviews by hosts until we have adequate management in place to ensure that the FCC requirements are both understood and met by those hosts, or, our license is on the line, he said. Here are the regs he pointed me to. <http://www.fcc.gov/mb/policy/political/candrul.htm>

#### **4. SCHEDULED:**

##### **a. Real Name: Ben Partridge**

Host: Ben Partridge

Title: Organics

Timeslot: Sunday 10pm.To 11pm.

Show Type: Music

Start Date: August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2007

Blurb: A traditional and contemporary exploration of the drawbar organ in solo and group settings.

##### **b. Real Name: Courtney Doubleday**

Host: Kyle

Title: Black Goat Radio

Timeslot: Friday 11pm to Midnight

Show Type: Music

Start Date: August 10, 17, 24, 2007

Blurb: 100% Pure Metal

##### **c. Host: Mimi Geerges**

Title: The Mimi Geerges Show

Timeslot: Wednesdays 10am to 11am.

Timeslot: Thursdays 7am.To 8am

Timeslot: Fridays 9am to 10am

Show Type: Talk

Start Date: Tuesday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Website: [www.mgshow.org](http://www.mgshow.org)

Blurb:.

##### **d. Host Presidential Radio Address**

Title: Presidential Radio Address

Timeslot: Saturdays at Noon to 12:15 pm.

Show Type: Talk

Start Date: August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Website: \_

Blurb:.

#### **5. SCHEDULE CHANGES:**

##### **a. Host Cuz Issac**

Title: Bluegrass Express

Old Timeslot: Friday 9am-12noon

New TimeSlot: Friday 10am to 12noon

#### **CANCELLATIONS:**

##### **a. Host: Jessica Reeves**

Title: Stuff I like

Timeslot: Monday 9:00am to 10:00am.

End Date: July 30, 2007

**b. Host: TNS News Radio**

Title: TNS News Radio

Timeslot: Wednesdays 10am to 10:30 am and 2pm. To 2:30pm.

End Date:

**6. Motion To Adjourn:** Gary moved, Jon seconded. Approved Unanimously.