



Director Report November 17, 2025

Administrative

- Cable Funding: Our 2025 Q3 PEG “franchise fee” payments were received from both Comcast and VTel recently. Compared to Q3 of last year, the payments were down by 7% & 13%, on Comcast & VTel, respectively. This is consistent with what we forecasted in this year’s budget. Comcast payments make up for approx. 67% of our entire budget, while VTel makes up for about 10%. So, in total, cable / PEG “franchise fee” funds account for more than ¾ of our overall budget. The dependency on these funds has been significantly reduced in recent years, thanks to funding from the State of VT and the Towns. Five years ago, cable / PEG fees comprised more than 90% of our budget. But more must be done to strengthen our other revenue streams, such as memberships & underwriting.
- December Board Meeting / Holiday Party: We have often done some sort of gathering around the holidays, sometimes combining it with a short Board meeting.
- Vote on By Law Revisions: A date has not yet been set for the Board to vote on the proposed By Law revisions presented by Newt & Wendell at last month’s meeting. Again, the proposed revisions need to be posted & the vote warned 30 days in advance. So, if the Board could set that date at this week’s meeting, the earliest it could be held is December 17th. Perhaps that could be part of an abbreviated December meeting, followed by a party, mixing a little business with some fun.

Buildings & Grounds

- Building Project Status: I met with Mark Blanchard (VIS Construction Consultants) last week. The working drawings will be completed by the architect, Joe Greene (Joseph Architects) within the next couple of weeks. Mark acknowledges that we are a couple of months behind on the project (construction was slated to begin in October), but feels confident that contractors will be able to get started in December. He estimates that it will be about 6 weeks of work on site, which would take us into February. Our own operations will obviously need be modified during this time - we will not be able to accommodate recording in the studio or other requests during normal business hours throughout the duration of the construction work.

WLUD-LP

- Music Library: We have been reaching out to local musicians, soliciting music to add to the WLUD library, and some have sent us some of their selections. In addition, many more CDs have been imported into the music library. There’s still quite a ways to go with this work, which is something that can continue over time.
- Underwriting Webinar: Thanks to support from VAB (Vermont Association of Broadcasters), last week, I was able to participate in a webinar on underwriting for public / community broadcasters. Resources such as these are one of the big benefits in being a VAB member (which we are now).
- Resources from the NFCB: And with our new membership to the NFCB (National Federation of Community Broadcasters), I have tapped into some other valuable resources, including consultation from NFCB staff. I was provided with a tool that they call the “5x5 Model”, which is a prescriptive type of model aimed at sustainability and efficiency for a start-up station.
- Committee Progress Report: . Sammy is willing to jump in to chair the radio committee, since it could use some help, as far as organization and moving things forward. There is a lot to do, and we have an extensive pool of willing volunteers. We just need someone to lead that effort in mobilizing them, delegating tasks, etc.

Community Engagement & Outreach

- After School Programs: We have kicked off two new after school programs within the last couple of weeks. We are now in Cavendish on Wednesdays & Mount Holly on Thursdays. Peter is heading up those programs for us, with Rebekah & Willem helping out. We are doing stop motion videos with the kids in each location. We are getting funded for this work once again by Two Rivers Supervisory Union, at a rate of \$150 per session.
- Next Donor Appreciation Event: We have discussed having another donor appreciation event. Perhaps this could be combined with a holiday party of some kind in December. If we are to do this, we will need to nail down a date and location, and invitations will need to go out ASAP.
- 25th Anniversary: I want to flag that 2026 marks the 25th anniversary of Okemo Valley TV (or LPCTV, as it was known then). There are numerous opportunities for PR & celebration, but it is something to start thinking about now, especially as far as when to celebrate it. My instinct would be to use the date of the first program to run on Adelphia cable “channel 8” (which was our one & only platform back then). I believe it was early September 2001. The issue with that date, however, is that it will also be very close to the 25th anniversary of 9/11. I think we would want some space around that, and not celebrate ourselves around that timeframe. We might want to look at the earlier part of the Summer or perhaps later in the Fall. The 25th anniversary may very well be a great opportunity for a gala type of event, or a large-scale telethon.

Fundraising

- Town Petitions & Appropriation Requests: We have petitions out in Ludlow and in Plymouth, collecting signatures to qualify for getting onto the Town Meeting Day ballots in each Town, where we are seeking increases to our appropriation requests. At last check, we need more signatures in both Towns. In Plymouth, our petition is in two locations: at the Town Office & Chloe’s Market. I believe we are close to the number of signatures needed in Plymouth, but we need a bunch more for Ludlow. Newt has that petition currently; we need to get it out in other locations, and I could use some help with that. I have submitted our requests to Andover & Mount Holly, and will be working on Cavendish & Reading next. We will be seeking “level-funded” appropriations in those four Towns, but in Mount Holly & Reading, we also receive funding from a budget line-item specifically for AV support of meetings (in Mount Holly it comes from the Selectboard’s budget and in Reading is out of the Planning Commission’s budget).