

Early Television Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
August 13, 2018
(Telephone Meeting)

Attending:

Dave Arland
Dave Abramson
Chuck Azar
Bob Dobush
Darryl Hock
Steve McVoy
James O'Neal
Ray Sieracki

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as published.

Reports:

Financial Report: The Foundation currently has a cash balance of about \$7,800. There is approximately \$3,800 in the CRT fund and approximately \$5,700 in the parking lot fund.

Property Taxes: Steve has applied for tax-exempt status for the museum building. That will result in a savings of about \$13,000 per year.

Parking Lot: Steve reported that a museum member has submitted a grant request to an organization that might fund up to half of the cost of repaving the parking lot. Steve said he would be willing to put in several thousand dollars toward the repaving if we get close to the needed amount in donations. Dave Abramson also indicated he would help.

Membership: Steve reported that we currently have 151 members, above where we were last year at this time. We have 7 lifetime members and 13 sustaining members. A lifetime membership requires a donation of \$1,000.

Equipment Donations: Steve was in contact with John Taylor, who works for LG/Zenith, who told him that they have a warehouse in Chicago where prewar and field sequential Zenith sets are stored. Steve offered to go to Chicago and offer advice about how LG could dispose of the sets. John indicated a willingness to donate sets to the museum. John has not responded to Steve's email. Dave Arland offered to contact John.

Steve Kissinger has volunteered to restore the Raytheon 15 inch color set that was donated earlier. The 15G is bad, but the museum has a good spare.

Major expenses: Nothing except a \$150 roof repair and \$500 HVAC repair.

Convention report: 120 attendees, up 5 from last year. 65 at the dinner, same as last year. Net income to the foundation \$18,000, \$4,600 in donations.

ASTC 3.0 conference: Dave Arland arranged for a reception to be held at the museum. About 90 people attended. Great publicity for the museum. In addition, the conference paid \$2,500 to the foundation. An FCC commissioner was in attendance.

TK-41 project: Moving along slowly.

Old Business

Getting collectors to include ETF in their wills: Steve will ask Dave Sica to email the board his report.

Signs: The city hasn't adopted a sign policy yet.

Advertising and marketing: Dave Arland reported that his crews recorded video on a visit to the museum and at the ATSC 3.0 conference and will have two promotional videos completed soon.

Chuck Azar reported that he will send emails to the radio club list with the promotional video attached.

Steve said he would email the video to several thousand email addresses he has from lists provided by Experience Columbus and the Hilliard development director.

Museum expansion: Steve reported that design is completed for an addition to the display area. It will extend from the present British/European area to the CRT rebuilding room. A door will lead to the CRT room and it will be set up as a display area, with signs describing the process of rebuilding tubes. The new area will allow expansion of our color display, and to include a section on newer sets.

In order to do the expansion the space has to be cleared. A volunteer has cleaned up the mess in the fenced area outside, and Larry is in the process of moving the CRTs that Nick left to that area. The RACS equipment will be moved to the trailer.

Nick's CRT rebuilding: Nothing to report.

New Business

Convention planning: The main issue with this year's convention was the AV at the presentations. We need to find a competent person to run it. Dave Abramson suggested that we contact a local video production company to see if they would do it. Steve said he would contact someone who had done it at a charity event he was involved with.

Steve wants to set up a committee to supervise next year's convention, with a person responsible for each aspect. He asked the board to send him suggestions for people to be on the committee.

There was discussion of how to make the auction better, including the possibility of selling the lesser value items in a buy it now category.

Audio tour guide: A problem we have is the lack of a person to do tours. Steve has started installing an audio tour system, with boxes in each room with pre-recorded 3-5 minute descriptions of the sets in the room. So far 3 rooms are completed.

Bob Dobush reminded us that he is available to do live tours if he is given enough notice.

Motorola 15 inch color set: A set in decent condition was for sale at a tag sale in Iowa. Bob Dobush agreed to drive up and try to get the set. He was successful at a price of \$1,500, and the set is now on its way to the museum. Ralph Sargent had previously agreed to help with the purchase of a similar set, and has contributed \$1,000 toward its purchase.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

There will be an extremely rare Motorola 15" color set in the auction. The museum hasn't purchased any sets in a long time, preferring to rely on donations of equipment. It was suggested that we establish a fund for the purpose of purchasing this set for the museum. Steve will send a letter to the membership soliciting donations for that purpose. We can also allocate funds from the sale of a 15" Westinghouse color set that the museum is disposing of in the auction.

Major expenses:

We spent approximately \$800 installing a small restroom in the warehouse area. This will help alleviate "traffic jams" at the existing restroom during the Convention. (We also installed a new paper towel dispenser in old bathroom.)

TK-41 Project:

See Barry Benne report. (Copied at end of minutes.)

Barry has been documenting things and getting things ready. He has been initially working on the cables. David Carlstrom lives in Detroit area and has offered to help him. Dave May agreed to restore the viewfinder. Dave doesn't have it yet, but Bob Dobush will be delivering it to him in the near future. [Edit: Dave passed away in April, 2018.]

We can probably have the camera ready as a non-functional mock-up display for this year's Convention, but it will almost certainly not be restored to operating condition by that time.

Estate Planning:

Dave Sica has been collecting information to be published as an "estate planning kit for collectors." He'll have it ready for introduction at the Convention. Dave would appreciate hearing from anyone with experience in inventorying and tagging artifacts prior to finalizing his recommendations.

CRT Rebuilding:

About three weeks ago, Steve reminded Nick about submitting a business plan. At the same point in time, Nick had discovered a complete set of CRT rebuilding equipment available from a recently-closed operation in California and made a deal to purchase it. Nick packed up all the equipment and loaded it into a tractor-trailer. He had everything delivered to museum, including 300 late-model CRTs (about 2/3 of which are color, 1/3 B&W) of unknown end-use applications.

We have listed the CRTs on the website and will split the proceeds of any sales with Nick. We will escrow funds resulting from any sales until we determine if there will be any cost associated with disposing of any of the 300 CRTs that may be unsaleable. Can Nick get information from the company he purchased the CRTs from regarding the customer base for those specialized CRTs?

Since he now has a complete set of equipment, Nick no longer needs any of the Foundation's equipment to set up a CRT rebuilding operation at his home in Maryland. At the present time, it appears that Nick plans to set up his operation on his own, with perhaps some assistance from the Early Television Foundation.

Nick will most likely do a demonstration of CRT rebuilding again at the 2018 Early Television Convention.

Our problem continues to be that we need someone to manage and operate the CRT operation in Hilliard. We will attempt to reach out to the person in Germany who is reportedly possibly interested in opening a CRT rebuilding operation in the United States and see if there is any opportunity for us to work together.

Publicity:

City of Hilliard Signs: the city has made no progress on this issue. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Video. Dave Arland will meet with Steve at Museum to plan a PR video. He will send a crew and plans to have a finished program ready to premiere at this year's Convention.

There is also a convention of broadcasters (from IN, IL, MI) coming up in Columbus; they will host a reception at the museum in late June.

Club publicity: mailing list. Chuck Azar is ready to send out emails publicizing the Convention. He has a spreadsheet list of people to send to, but needs to convert to email list? Steve will walk Chuck through the process of generating a mailing list from the spreadsheet. Steve received email contact lists from Desha on Hilliard.

New business:

Convention. Tim Poliniak has agreed to serve as Volunteer Coordinator. This will allow Steve to move more freely around to handle all the little things that come up.

Steve sent out the first email for registration earlier this year. We have 30 registrations already, and 10 of them are first-time attendees.

Steve will send list of Convention presentation proposals to board members for review.

New ideas for conven on. Auc on. We will no longer conduct a silent auc on, everything will be in the live auc on.

The opportunity to sponsor the wine bar for the social gathering on Friday evening is available if anyone is interested.

We will have a taco truck at the museum on Friday evening. By having food available at the social gathering, there would no longer be a need for people to leave the premises to get something to eat.

Workshops: There will be a Predicta Repair workshop at the conven on. Other workshops are also under discussion.

Visitor feedback has indicated an interest in television history post-1960. Steve proposed a plan for building an additional display area of about 12'x18' to allow for a small new display featuring television technology from 1960 to the present: items such as early plasma screens, first-generation high definition televisions, etc. The cost is estimated at approximately \$3,000 to build out the expansion. Included at one end of the area would be a couple of windows through which activity within the CRT rebuilding facility can be viewed by museum visitors without the need to physically enter the workshop.

(end of 2/21/2018 minutes)

=====

TK-41 Restoration Progress Report 2/1/2018)

Progress to date:

- Drew out a full schematic (85% so far) in Autocad to aid in troubleshooting and towards writing up a simplified layman's version of "theory of operation" for the museum once the camera works again. This will become a part of a completely new manual I'll put together from photocopies of the originals, also mostly done. I decided that using the original manuals for working on the system would probably destroy them, so new manuals seemed to be in order.
- Cleaned (power washed) all interconnecting cables that came from the museum, sorted into "recoverable" and "scrap". Will be listing connectors needed shortly. Most will need to be replaced, and in a few cases, the cables as well. So far all obtainable stuff.
- Restored the backup equipment rack, racked up the colorplexer and aperture corrector.
- Scrounged a full set of tubes from the second unit, and my own stock. All but one tube accounted for so far.
- Traced out and checked primary AC power wiring, preparing to power up the unit on variac for the first time.
- Identified broken parts noted by the previous restoration

That's where the project stands currently. I am ready to power it up, after which it should progress, as a stand alone subsystem, fairly quickly. I'll use test signals from my own generators pending receipt of the RCA color bar generator that goes with it, which will be needed for accurate alignment of the colorplexer. (where does that stand? I can still take that on as a project here)

My plan going forward, commencing now and ramping up to full speed in March:

- Get the colorplexer working and tested as far as possible with "other" test signals (one tube socket needs replaced - the new one has a pin filled with solder)
- Likely re-work all ground connections to the chassis. Most appear corroded and I may do this before I start any serious testing

- Find replacements for three unobtainium components flagged by the person who restored the chassis... one delay line, one switch, and one coil so far. Work-around is possible for these during initial testing, and "newer" components should be available if all else fails.
- Simultaneously inventory and order replacement connectors for interconnecting cables set, to interconnect all the parts of the camera chain
- Complete the colorplexer alignment once the CBG is here and working.
- Poll the rest of the module restorers and put together a rough schedule of what will be ready, and on what schedule
- Bring the camera head to my shop for reassembly, inspection, inventory ... preparatory for receipt of the control console. I won't do that until I have a schedule on the other parts of the system documented.

Once the console itself is back, I can start with hooking up and powering the entire system as a whole, and see what else is needed from there. It appears that the modules for the camera head have already been done, so they will need to be checked and aligned, which isn't feasible until the main control rack is functioning, so that would be the next critical piece. Following that, and probably last, the preamps themselves.

In the meanwhile, I have put together a work area with virtually unlimited space at my Sunbury shop, to bring the rest of the system together, and I will be soliciting assistance from anyone local who wishes to help once we get to that point. This plan was frustratingly interrupted when I took on two large mobile unit builds last year, which as mentioned are almost done and will likely be my last. I really am not liking "work" at the expense of my hobby :)

(end of TK-41 Restoration Progress Report 2/1/2018)