

**MICHIGAN NATOA CHAPTER
Annual Meeting
Thursday, October 4, 2007
Portland Oregon**

Meeting called to order by MI NATOA President Kathy Sherman at 5:30 PM.

Attendance

David Alberty, Greater West Bloomfield Cable Board
Pat Belanger, Lake Orion Commissioner
Caren Collins, SWOCC
Mel Ettenson, Bingham Farms Commissioner
Diane Griffiths, Lake Orion / Orion Township
Evelyn Goudreau, Livonia
Kathy Hagaman, Birmingham Area Cable Board
Leslie Helwig, Bloomfield Township
Bill Irving, City of Dearborn
Elaine McLain, Birmingham Commissioner
Lowell Peterson, Livonia Commissioner
Kathy Sherman, City of Southfield
Mike Watza, Kitch/Protec, Grosse Pointes
Cathryn White, City of Livonia

Visit from Libby Beatty

Libby Beatty, Executive Director of NATOA, visited to greet us and thank us for participating in the 2007 national conference. She recognized Kathy Sherman's years of service as Michigan Chapter President.

Election of Officers

A slate of officers for 2007-2008 was presented:

President:	Caren Collins, SWOCC
Vice President:	Leslie Helwig, Bloomfield Township
Treasurer:	Mike Ager, Canton Township
Secretary:	Linda Badamo, Clinton Township

The slate was elected unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Caren Collins presented the Treasurer's Report which had been prepared by Mike Ager. It was accepted unanimously. She also presented the proposed budget, also prepared by Mike Ager, which was accepted unanimously.

[View Financial Information](#)

Legislative Update

Mike Watza let a discussion about the status of legislation and related legal matters. He stated that in spite of AT&T's promises, there have been no new jobs created and no rate competition. The new law discriminates against PEG channels.

He emphasized that it will take considerable resources (e.g., legal costs) to challenge the act, but it can be done. He recommends that action be filed in federal court. He asked each MI NATOA member to consider funding such an effort.

As a group, we agreed on the following next steps:

- Share information among states. Susan Littlefield, NATOA board member, has already agreed to start a List serve among members from states who already have a state franchise or who are expecting one.
- Explore funding from NATOA. A typical function of national professional organizations is to help fund local efforts.
- Mike Watza will write a letter to members outlining the legal issues and asking for support.
- Begin a PR campaign to educate people as to the value of PEG channels and the impact of legislation on them.

PEG Test

Linda Badamo sent word that AT&T will soon be ready to enact a test of Clinton Township's PEG channel. She will keep us posted.

We all gave Kathy Sherman a hearty round of applause for her service as President of our Chapter since the chapter's inception. She has led the way on many initiatives and has been a mentor for many of us. We wish her well in her retirement.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.