

Your Community Channel 17

PAC 17

Plaistow Access Channel 17

Programming

Policies and Procedures

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And

PCAC

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PCAC Policies and procedures for programming

I. Statement of Purpose: Mission Statement

PAC channel 17 sees as their purpose:

- A tool for communication,
 - A means of entertainment and information,
 - A means of education of the Townspeople of Plaistow , and
 - To foster the spirit of community.
-
- A. Plaistow Access Channel is a public access resource provided by the franchise agreement between the Town of Plaistow and the Cable provider for the Town of Plaistow. As provided by FCC regulations, public access is on a first come, first serve, and non-discriminatory basis. PAC is the logo and call name of the channels which originate from the studio at Plaistow Town Hall on Main Street Plaistow, NH. At this time all channels are considered public access channels and combine all aspects of PEG programming with no distinction between the individual components of PEG.

 - B. By its nature, the views and opinions presented in community productions are those of the originating person or group and do not necessarily represent those of the Town of Plaistow of the Cable provider.

 - C. Facilities and training essential to community production are available at no charge and training will be provided periodically in areas of interest to the participant.

II. Non-discrimination statement:

- No individual or group will be denied access to Plaistow Access channels, facilities or equipment on the basis of race, sex, age, and disability, religious, political or sexual orientation. (Per PCAC Bylaws)

III. PREVIEW OF PROGRAMMING

A. Plaistow Access Channel 17 and PCAC reserves the right to review all productions (programs) submitted for broadcast to insure conformity to the Cablecast Agreement and Compliance. Programming which presents an adult theme, or contains strong language or explicit video will carry the following disclaimer; "this program contains (strong language) (explicit video) (an adult theme) which may not be suitable for sensitive audiences". All promotion for that program will contain the same disclaimer. Programming deemed to have an adult theme will not be shown between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. per Section 505 of the 1996 Telecommunication Act.

B. It is not the intent of Plaistow Access Channel 17 or PCAC to censor; however, it does have the right to warn the viewer of a program which may not conform to general community standards.

C. As provided by the FCC, Plaistow Access Channel 17 will not broadcast programs which are "Harmful to Minors" as defined in RSA 571-B: I.

D. All programs may be reviewed by PCAC before broadcast.

E. All programming of a public nature will use the format as outlined by submitting a Request for Program form to the Chair of PCAC or the Town of Plaistow Cable Coordinator for review by PCAC

IV. REJECTION OF A PROGRAM

A. Should Plaistow Access Channel 17 or PCAC determine or believe that statements made in connection with the submission of a program for broadcast are false, misleading or intentionally incomplete concerning the content of the program, or that the program contains material which is "Harmful to Minors" as defined in RSA 571-B: III, it shall not broadcast the program .

B. In the event of rejection of a program on the basis of Section III, or Section IV, the producer of the program has the right to appeal this rejection to the PCAC for review.

V. Training, Equipment and facilities

VI. Programming priorities and restrictions

PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES AND SCHEDULING

Scheduling the use of the Plaistow access channel broadcast time shall be the responsibility of the Town of Plaistow Cable coordinator or designee. Scheduling will be in accordance with the

Channel use priorities (listed below) and the availability of equipment and resources.

As outlined in the PCAC Roles and Responsibilities document:

1. Emergency Override Notification - To provide citizens with information and procedures in the event of emergency situations (severe weather, civil emergencies, failure of roadway or utility systems, hazardous waste et al.).
2. Public Meetings - To help increase and encourage citizen awareness and participation in public policy decision-making.
3. Topics and themes of public interest to the Town of Plaistow residents. Such as, but not limited to programming arranged and received via satellite or other means with suitable content for the community, local origination, community origination etc. as deemed to meet policies and purpose of PAC 17.

PROGRAMMING GUIDELINES

Programming shall be guided by the rules of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as they may apply to operations of public access channels.

All materials to be broadcast shall be related to matters of interest to the Town of Plaistow and community which include and are not in conflict with the following:

- Programming of an emergency nature involving public health or safety;
- Programming which is initiated by or reflects a resolution of Board of Selectmen, but is not limited to BOS;
- Programming of public meetings and matters before other boards and commissions;
- Programming initiated by various municipal departments in support of their operational missions;
- Programming of community sponsored events;
- Programming from other governmental units including county, state and federal agencies relating to non-partisan programs or information concerning government services or activities.

PROGRAMMING RESTRICTIONS

The PAC 17 will not broadcast programming containing the following:

- Partisan Political Broadcasts - The channel is not intended to be used as a partisan political forum by an individual or group, nor as a mechanism for building exclusive support for a particular person, program or issue. Any programming relating to election for public office or advocacy for a particular cause, viewpoint or policy subject to a pending vote or ballot question will only be allowed when the

format allows for all candidates or sides of an issue to be heard on an equal basis and within the same presentation format.

- Commercial Programming – Commercial programming, including paid advertising material shall not be considered for broadcast. However, this provision shall not prevent the incidental identification of the persons or entities providing grants or contributions to underwrite the cost of a production.
- Copyrighted Materials – Copyrighted material will not be broadcast unless clearances have been obtained, and written proof of such clearance can be presented or attested to by the sponsoring entity.
- Other – Programming which is otherwise prohibited by applicable Federal, state or local laws will not be broadcast.

- PAC 17 Producers are fully responsible for the content of all program material which they produce. Said producers are solely responsible for any and all legal expenses associated with their productions.
- The following material is prohibited:
 1. Any obscene, indecent, libelous, or slanderous material;
 2. Any solicitation of funds or material for any and all purposes including the promotion, advertising and sale of commercial products and services (community based, licensed nonprofits and charitable Organizations are waived.) Advertising and promotion is further defined as having the intent to make a profit as a result of the telecast;
 3. Any solicitation of funds by and for individuals;
 4. Any lottery information;
 5. Any invasion of privacy;
 6. Any violation of trademark, copyright or publicity rights which may Violate any local, state, or federal law;
 7. Any illegal activity or any programming that promotes illegal Activity

VII. Government access channel 17

Government Access Channel 17 will provide direct, non-editorial Information to area citizens concerning their government. Emergency messages affecting the health or general welfare of area residents will receive priority.

VIII. Public access channel

A. Application for channel time on Public Access Channel 17 is open to any community member. It is suggested that channel time must be arranged at least two weeks in advance, when possible and the PCAC programming form has been filed with either Town of Plaistow Cable Coordinator or PCAC chair and reviewed by PCAC. This process must be completed before a program or series is broadcast.

B. Scheduling requests for channel time will be processed on a first come - First served basis subject to the availability of cable casting equipment and Channel time.

C. Requests for consistent time slots (a program series) will be honored

If possible and arranged with the Town of Plaistow Cable Coordinator

D. When a program has been cablecast for one week, the scheduling of its

Replay or removal is at the discretion of the Cable Coordinator

E. Programs identified as containing adult/mature material will be

Scheduled to play at a time between 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM. Producers

Are responsible for informing, if their program contains adult/mature material.

F. PAC 17 will regularly run the following disclaimer: "The following is a

Public access production for PAC17. The views and opinions expressed during this program are not necessarily those of PAC17 or PCAC. The producer is solely responsible for its content."

G. RSA Nh 505 and 650 apply as well as FCC regulations

IX. Community scroll

The Public Access Community Bulletin Board (scroll) is available for noncommercial messages and announcements of public, not private, interest.

B. Listings for events will be accepted only if the primary audience can view PAC 17.

C. Church sponsored events will be listed if open to the public

D. Space limitations may require listings for a shorter time period than requested.

E. The Town of Plaistow Cable Coordinator or his designees may edit announcements. Scroll for PAC 17 requests listings may be submitted:

X. Equal time

A. Public Access is by definition available to all, free of charge, on a first come, first served, non-discriminatory basis, as described in Section I., therefore PAC 17 is not subject to the 'equal time' statutes per FCC regulation.

XI. Waiver

PAC 17 and PCAC reserves the right to waive any self imposed regulation when such waiver is judged in the public interest of PAC 17, PCAC and the Town of Plaistow

XII. Violation of policies

XIII.Amendments