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PlaistowAccess Cable | Channels 17 and 23

Annual Report

PlaistowAccess – *Rising Together* for our Community

2021 continued to bring new challenges and opportunities as the year progressed. Although some Covid-19 restrictions remained in place, we continued to support additional needs, as well as refine many of our new offerings, which were hastily deployed in 2020, as-needed.

Our major project for 2021 was the installation of control room, cameras, sound equipment, and presentation systems at the Public Works Garage. This new facility is now a “turn-key” operation for hosting Deliberative Session, Candidates Night, and other major events. We would like to thank the Highway Department for their support, as it is a team effort to prepare the facility for these events.

In order to maintain accessibility to town government meetings, we have switched to the Zoom Webinar videoconferencing platform. Many of our end users have indicated a preference for Zoom, and we were able to make this accommodation. Although we are not currently hosting fully-remote meetings at the end of 2021, we are still providing supports for those unable to attend meetings in-person.

Towards the end of the year, we upgraded our external hard drives and storage related equipment. These purchases allow for increased backup capacity, as well as an improved workflow for offsite production work.

To increase visibility and access to our programming, we have begun cross posting our live broadcasts to our Facebook Page, via Facebook Live. It is our hope that this will assist in making our content more visible and accessible via social media.

Committed to Covering our Community and Government

On Government Channel 17, several Boards and Committees are televised on a regular basis - Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Zoning Board, Budget Committee, and Deliberative Session. These meetings are all available on Vimeo, Facebook, as well as Channel 17 rebroadcasts.

Special Government Programs and Meetings Broadcast in 2021:

- Plaistow Candidates’ Night at Public Works Garage
- Norman Major Town Hall Annex Dedication
- “Talking Trash and Recycling” at Plaistow Public Library
- Zoom Webinar Support provided to additional committees, such as TRAC and OHD

Rising Together:

PlaistowAccess has always looked forward to collaborating with other boards, departments, and organizations within our community. 2021 was no exception to this, as we continued to work with others to document events and provide technical supports as needed. The following are just a few examples as to how we were *Rising Together* in 2021!

- Working with **Highway Department, Town Hall Staff, and Elected Officials** to make special accommodations for an on-location Deliberative Session at the Public Works Garage.
- Supporting **Plaistow Public Library** with events such as Candidates' Night, "Trash Talk", and "What's it like to be a Rock Star", with guest John Savannah.
- Working with **Plaistow Recreation** to document the many seasonal events and special programs that were still able to take place in 2021.
- Coordinating with **Timberlane PAC** to receive and replay several Timberlane Community Music Association and Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra concerts on Channel 23.
- Spending the day with **Plaistow Fire Department** as they traveled throughout town with Santa. We were able to provide extensive coverage of the event this year.
- Assisting **Plaistow YMCA** in producing a virtual Education Celebration program for 2021.

In addition to our regular programs, these are just some of the following special events in 2021:

- YMCA Education Celebration
- Plaistow Recreation's Classic/Unique Car Show at PARC
- Plaistow Lions 5K Road Race

Our Staff, Volunteers, and Committee Members:

Special thanks to all who have been a part of our team this year. The Plaistow Cable Advisory Committee (PCAC) in 2021 consisted of **Susan Sherman** and **Darrell Britton** (BOS Liaison); New members are always welcome! PCAC typically meets at the Town Hall Basement Studio; meeting schedule can be found online or at Town Hall. **Frank Fiorella** is our broadcast operator who regularly handles live meeting coverage, and other special events as well. Sadly, **Bob Carolan** passed away in early May. Carolan served as Cable Coordinator from 2004-2009, and continued to be involved with the Plaistow Historical Society. We enjoy having many of Bob's videos and programs as a part of our extensive archives.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or comments about our programming, facility, or the station in general. As always, we welcome new volunteers and committee members to help shape our future!

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