Bowie Seniors Computer Club Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2018

Kelly Fagan (left) and Una Cooper (Photo courtesy of Dennis Edgington)

Kelly Fagan is the Executive Director of the Bowie Community Media Corporation (BCMC), which provides Bowie TV on Verizon channel 11 and Comcast channel 77. Una Cooper is the City's Communications Coordinator who oversees BCMC ("at arm's length", she says) as part of her duties.

BCMC delivers a full schedule of high-quality Public Access programs – including religious programming, science and nature programs, arts and culture programs, thought provoking documentaries, business programs, and educational children's programs. Programs are 30 minutes long. Longer programs are broken down to 30-minutes segments and aired in following weeks.

Kelly Fagan's presentation focused on inspiring us as individuals or group members to becoming producers of programs for Bowie TV. BCMC has two handheld TV cameras that can be loaned out to record programming and the studio located in the Kenhill Center (formerly Bowie City Hall) is available for programming, editing, and broadcasting with the assistance of TV technicians. Producers must

reside within the Bowie City limits and provide an annual fee of $100 for use of the facilities and technicians. Commercial sponsors may support some programming.

BCMC serves an audience of 17000+ households and is always on the lookout for community based content from residents who understand the audience and type of programs affiliated with BCMC. If you think you have content or want to produce content that may be a good fit, explore producing with BCMC. Call: (301) 814-3057 or email Info@MyBowieTV.org.

In addition to overseeing BCMC for the City, Una Cooper issues Bowie Alerts and oversees public access programming for the City on Verizon channel 10 and Comcast channel 71. We can also view City Council meetings online at www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings . Since the Washington Area TV stations do not provide much Baltimore area and Maryland state news, the City has also arranged with Baltimore WJZ TV to provide Baltimore and Maryland state news on Verizon channel 12 and Comcast channel 78 at 12noon-4pm-6pm-and 11pm.

Computer Problems and Issues

Tom McCabe brought in a bag of empty Epson Ink cartridges which he offered to anyone who could use them. He said that he gets his ink cartridges from third party suppliers advertising on EBay. He looks for those suppliers that offer low prices but advertise that they have thousands of users. This indicates that their remanufactured (refilled) ink cartridges don't have many problems. An advantage to third party suppliers is that they usually fully refill the cartridges. Another way to save money is to buy an inexpensive Brother Laser Printer for printing in black and white. On EBay Tom has bought extra capacity toner cartridges for $12.

Dennis Evans just bought a new desktop computer. He had questions concerning Backing Up and Transferring data from the old computer to the new computer. The discussion eventually ended up on how to backup and transfer emails, and then to iMap vs. POP3 email protocols. With iMap, if you delete a message on one of your devices, it will be deleted in webmail and, consequently, be unavailable on your other devices. With POP3, the message will remain on the web and be accessible later on the same or other devices.

Bob Blum had a list of comments:

For backing up email, he recommended Mail Store Home. For backing up Firefox and Thunderbird, he recommended MozBackup.

Mozilla's Firefox Quantum Browser (version 57) is much better than earlier versions and much faster than MS Edge and Google Chrome.

Linux is now only available with the Gnome interface with is inconvenient to configure.

AdBlockPlus should be replaced with the much better UBlockOrigin.

There was some discussion of WiFi connections. Comcast has a publicly accessible WiFi channel on its routers. To keep your download speeds up, turn off this channel to prevent neighbors from using up some of your bandwidth.