



FILM Advisory Committee Minutes-Fall 2015

Date: Friday, December 4, 2015

Number of Attendees: 11

Called to order: 11:40 am

Adjourned: 1:00 pm

Chairperson: Jim Graebner (Grubb)

Recorder: Jennifer Woods

Members present from industry: **Belle Allen**, NMFO State Outreach Coordinator; **Fritz Eberle**, Key Vision Media; **Ann Lerner**, Film Office, City of Albuquerque; **Brad Stoddard**, NM Post Alliance

Members present from CNM: **Amy Ballard**, Assoc. Dean; **Amanda Glennon**, CTE Outreach Manager; **Jim Graebner**, Film Instructor; **Charlie O'Dowd**, Film Instructor; **Marla Peters**, BIT Instructor; **Jose Velez**, BIT Instructor; **Jennifer Woods**, Academic Tech Asst.

Next scheduled meeting: To Be Decided

I. Welcome/Introductions: Introductions were made all around

II. Minutes: Minutes from spring 2015 approved

III. Reports:

- CNM has Crew Training and Post Production Certificates. AAS degree is being offered now. Grubb reiterated that one third of students will drop out, one third will go into union jobs and post production jobs and one third will get into above-the-line jobs (producing, writing, directing, and acting). Our Associate degree (62 hours) is designed so that students can go to a four-year college to get advanced degrees (Bachelor in Applied Arts and Sciences). ENMU is the institution that is developing its film program, and we are attempting to make sure that our program aligns with their program requirements. Amy said that it is a little more problematic for our students to transfer to UNM or NMSU. We now have a Construction for Film certificate. It consists of the first term of our Carpentry program and the first term of our Film Technician Certificate. This was an easy certificate to put together, because pre-production jobs are plentiful and get filled here.
- Ann L. asked about the class called Fabrication for Film, which is now called Art Department. Ann mentioned that we should have specialized classes in painting. She thinks the Union should sponsor a class like this. Grub said that New Mexico has very few people at the higher end of this skill set. We have mostly entry-level workers. The problem is that even though we teach these skills, the State Film Office is unaware, and is not in a place to recommend our students, who are actually very talented.
- Charlie reported on the last film conference, where there was a panel about how to break into the business. It was brought up that if you have a lot of experience in a certain field and can demonstrate competency, then you should be able to jump past the "wait list", and just jump right into a production. The Film Office disagrees with this procedure. There is confusion about the so-called union wait list. Ann suggested we talk with Nick Maniatis in order to clear up this issue. Inaccurate information is a problem. Charlie reiterated that CNM does a great job of teaching students how to create a resume. Amy suggested we have an open house event that allows the Film Office to learn about our program. Belle said that she would like clarification too. Grubb said that you must wait for 30 days after joining the union to get on the list (but this seems very flexible and based on politics and who- you- know). Jose



mentioned that volunteer hours will count toward the 30-day waiting period to get on the overflow (wait) list.

- Ann reported that she gave a talk to a group that thought that Governor Martinez has done away with film incentives which is not true. She agrees that there is a lot of misinformation out there. The Albuquerque Journal is going to run an insert called Frame by Frame and suggested that CNM should submit an article about the program.
- Belle asked: What jobs are production companies looking for from an entry level standpoint? Grubb said grip/electric and art department. Location PAs are needed too. Camera is **not** needed. General office workers are needed. Belle has a weekly radio show and can do a show just on clearing up misinformation about the resources that New Mexico has to offer the film industry.

IV. Old Business - None

V. New Business

- Grub asked Brad and Fritz about the need for post-production workers in NM.
- **Brad:** He is now editing a pilot for a new series and if the series gets picked up then the post work will stay here.
- Santa Fe may set up a post-production facility if more series work comes in. ***Almost Americans*** is a series that might be filmed here. There are also some independents doing post here. What is needed is for a professional editor who already has a clientele to come here and hire local people. This is the way to get editing to grow.
- The composer pool is growing. There are sound and audio-visual people here too.
- Jose asked about the skill set for our graduates: Brad said you need to know post production software, and the workflow would be proprietary, depending on the editor.
- Students need critical thinking, organizational, and computer network skills. An assistant to an editor needs to understand script notes, how to organize notes (file management). Good work ethics are important.
- NM needs colorists and quality control finishing.
- Ann thinks we should teach an accounting class. We already teach something similar in the Business of Film class.
- Belle wanted to put some of the previous topics into motion by A) Improving communication between entities that are looking for good workers and B) Doing a myth-busting radio show in order to clear up misinformation about the CNM film crew program.

VI. Adjournment 1:00 pm Next meeting to be decided.