



The WiWA Report

Volume I, Issue I

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February I, 2009

Board Members

- Sarah Berry - President
- Todd Anderson - VP
- Sharon Templeton - Sec.
- Ken Baumgardt - Treas.
- Jeff Roznowski - At Large
- Mike Long - Counsel

Committee Chairs

Membership

- Laura Halpenny
- Rachelle Steffes

Public Relations

- Rosemarie Shortino
- Carolyn Schamberger

Regulatory

- Matt Griffen

Membership Meetings

Inaugural

July 9, 2009

Eighty enthusiastic wireless professionals launched WiWA with a luncheon at the Delafield BrewHaus. President Sarah Berry welcomed the new members and outlined the mission of WiWA, which includes education, networking, and community support. Michael Fitch and Nancy Chrisman of PCIA - The Wireless Infrastructure Organization, gave keynote addresses, stressing the importance of wireless advocacy at the state and local level. Wisconsin became the 22nd state to launch a wireless association. The meeting was covered by cable network Wisconsin Eye.

Education

Sept. 18, 2009

Providing power at cell sites was the topic of WiWA's first educational session, held again at the Delafield Brewhaus. Bryce Walker of Verizon Wireless discussed the various ways that cell sites can be powered, including using alternative solutions such as solar. He also touched on the issue of backup power requirements advocated by the FCC.

An informal networking social took place the previous night at the Water Street Brewery - Lake Country, located in Delafield.

Community

Dec. 11, 2009

Fundraising and fun were themes of WiWA's Holly Jolly Trolley tour of Milwaukee. Dr. Ken Yen of Children's Hospital of WI gave a moving talk about Pediatric ambulance emergency kits for children, WiWA's designated charity. 50 hearty souls shared appetizers and refreshments at the Milwaukee Hilton and then jumped on the trolley to tour and sample several Milwaukee establishments. WiWA was able to present Pediatric Bags with a \$2000 donation. WiWA thanks its generous sponsors of this event: Verizon Wireless, Cellere, Valmont, Daniels Genreal Contractors, and Edge Consulting Engineers.

Advocacy

Want to Join WiWA?

Want to Chair or be a Member of a Committee?

Want to help plan a Meeting or an Event?

Send an email to:
Info@wisconsinwireless.org

Elmwood and Amery Ordinances

WiWA was asked by a member from Minnesota Towers to get involved with a tower ordinance issue in northern Wisconsin. Elmwood and Amery are requiring tower owners to pay a portion of the gross revenues as an annual fee. There is also a provision allowing the municipality to cancel the CUP, and require that the tower be removed, if the tower ownership changes.

Ken Baumgardt stepped in

and spoke with officials from both municipalities. They indicated that they were open to revision. Ken also contacted the PCIA and obtained their model zoning ordinance. The model ordinance has been supplied to both Elmwood and Amery officials, who are currently reviewing them.

WiWA intends to become more active with municipalities across the state in its education efforts

Wireless Broadband

WiWA was approached by State Senator Dale Schultz to discuss

their interest in UBRB (Universal Broadband for a Rural Region). Todd Anderson and Ken Baumgardt met with Sen. Schultz and Tom Jackson and learned of their desire to have the state play a facilitator role in encouraging private entities to improve the availability of wireless broadband in rural areas. Todd and Ken were able to use this opportunity to stress the importance of the role government entities have in easing the way for approvals of wireless deployments

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