

From: John Wykoff, candidate for Mayor of Maplewood, 773-5086,  
premiersigns@msn.com, campaign@peopleforwykoff.com

To: Cable Commissioners, Mr. Tim Finnerty

Aug. 31, 2009

Since mailing my letter of complaint dated Aug. 21, I discovered some more points that I would like to make:

I received an invitation by e-mail to attend their July 28 forum for mayoral candidates. Later, I found out this was not a live show but all taped. I was given a time of "6 to 10 pm". I had no idea when exactly I was supposed to arrive, so I got there when I could. Since then on the TCR web site (thecitizensreporter.com) I am referred to as the candidate who "came late". I only wanted to see who was in the studio, but Frederica Musgrave urged me to join the discussion, so I did.

Since then, the TCR people have made shows called "Evaluating the Candidates" which have aired recently on channel 15. There's one for the mayor candidates and one for the council candidates.

I was not aware that my participation in any Citizens Reporter candidate forums would be scrutinized by the Citizens Reporter again in another series of TV shows. I was not informed that this was their intent. (I wonder if any other candidates were aware of this.)

The "Evaluation" shows give no opportunity for candidates to defend themselves or rebut. Some of the comments made by the shows hosts Waters and Musgrave deserve some rebuttal from candidates.

A few days ago Joe Waters came up to me and said he was sorry about some of the nasty (?) things said about me on some show they did. At the time I didn't know what he was talking about because I didn't know yet about the "Evaluation" show. I have watched this show and didn't find me mentioned anywhere. Is there another show yet to come where I will be a victim of their negative comments? I don't know.

The idea behind these shows was to rate the candidates who responded to the TCR questionnaire. Any candidate who didn't respond to their written questionnaire (I did not respond) was not discussed and received a "zero". Musgrave made up a formula for giving from 0 to 3 points to each candidate as to how they answered the questions. No matter how you look at it, it was the opinion of Musgrave and Waters as to how well the candidate answered their questions. If they didn't like the answer, of course the score would be low. If they felt that the question could have been answered more fully, they would score the answer lower.

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30 seconds into the mayor candidates show, Musgrave identifies herself as an "educator" which gives a misleading impression to viewers that perhaps this show is going to present some kind of scientific results.

If Bob Zick's show always has to come with the label "These Are Opinions", then the same should be required of the TCR shows.

There are other things in the mayor's evaluation show that I want to point out:

2 1/2 minutes into the show -- Musgrave said 5 out of 7 candidates answered the questionnaire. This was just a mixup of words because as the show played out, it was clear that 2 candidates had responded, and 5 did not. After this, Musgrave asks co-host Waters about his opinion as to why 5 candidates had not responded. He said, "In my opinion, some of them don't want to be held accountable". At about 14 1/2 minutes into the show, there are more comments along these lines said by Musgrave regarding candidates who didn't respond to questions about transparency in government: "that is saying to me that they're not open and transparent..."

Comments like these are made throughout these two shows, as if to imply that candidates who did not respond to the TCR questionnaire or participate in their tv forums are evil, uncaring, devious candidates (or whatever disparaging names you wish to apply).

If the candidates who didn't participate had a chance for rebuttal, they would probably say the same thing I would: the Citizens Reporter group is just another "special interest" group of a handful of people that have a partisan agenda and they are not in the same category of organizations like the League of Women Voters or the Chamber of Commerce, etc. According to the TCR web site, they are a LLC corporation but what difference does that make? - it's still just a handful of people promoting partisan politics.

9 minutes into the mayor candidates evaluation show, Waters felt the need to make a disclaimer announcement: "She (Diana Longrie) is a contributor to The Citizens Reporter but she's getting no favorable treatment from you (Musgrave) or I."

At about 19 minutes, Musgrave calls candidate Cardinal "lazy" for not submitting the TCR questionnaire. She explained that he sent the Review questionnaire to Musgrave by mistake but that when told about this, he said "just go ahead with what I sent you..." Musgrave said that she wasn't going to bring up Cardinal during their show because they had nothing to discuss, but did, after prompting by Waters, which leads me to believe it was a easy way to "slam" Cardinal. (Musgrave also complained that Cardinal was "text messaging" during the forum)

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I also watched the "evaluation" show of the council candidates. At the beginning of the show, Frederica Musgrave made comments that campaign lawn sign rules had been violated in Maplewood, but she didn't give any details at all, or which candidates had been violating the city ordinance. No details at all as to which of the rules had been violated!

2 minutes into the show, Musgrave spends a couple minutes bad mouthing the candidates who did not submit questionnaires to TCR, saying "it was very interesting that the endorsed candidates who received the resolution of support from the DFL...did not submit anything to us..."

42 minutes into the show is the most important point I have to make in this letter:

Musgrave said "I don't know how I'm going to vote — this is a tough election". Then Waters responds, "Mayor Longrie is my candidate for mayor. Robert Martin is my candidate for city council and I'm looking closely at the other (council) ones, and I've eliminated some already, quite obvious."

For the TCR people to claim on their website and on all their tv programs that they are non-partisan and do not endorse candidates, is a misleading insult to the citizens.

TCR should practice full disclosure of some facts before they make negative comments about candidates they don't like:

The leader of this tiny group of 3 or 4 people is Frederica Musgrave, whom I don't believe has disclosed that she lives with one of the city council candidates.

Joe Waters's partisan activities are well known, but hiding behind words like "I'm a reporter", "organization", "non-partisan", etc. is a bit of a stretch.

They have announced that Diana Longrie is a part of this group and so it's assumed that her husband is as well since he and the other people I have mentioned spend a lot of time at "The Resource Center", which has an office space adjoining Diana Longrie's office.

What I object to is them identifying themselves as an "organization". I have never heard of an organization that has only 2 people out front and maybe 2 or 3 more in the background. This sounds more like a club to me. Instead of presenting "candidate forums" they should promote their favorite candidates only, in a partisan way. The way most candidates have to do it — with flyers, signs, and talking to residents.

Attached are my proposals for making some special policies for candidate forums at the SCC studios.

From: John Wykoff, candidate for Mayor of Maplewood, 773-5086,  
premiersigns@msn.com, [campaign@peopleforwykoff.com](mailto:campaign@peopleforwykoff.com)  
Address: 2345 Maryland Ave E, Maplewood MN 55119

To: Cable Commissioners, Mr. Tim Finnerty

## **PROPOSED NEW POLICIES FOR CANDIDATE FORUMS AT SCC STUDIOS**

Aug. 31, 2009

I would like to suggest the following ideas for a **new** set of policies that would be for **candidate forums**:

1. **Require** that candidate forums be televised *live*.  
This will prevent producers/sponsors of candidate forums from shelving a recorded forum and not airing it on the channel(s) in a timely fashion.
2. **Require** producers/sponsors of candidate forums to provide copies of forums when requested in writing by any candidate or their campaign staff.
3. **Require** that producers/sponsors of candidate forums use *U. S. postal mail* to invite all candidates to candidate forums, and all forums should be accessible to all filed candidates. E-mails, phone calls, etc. are optional.

There are 3 other policies I would like considered, but the language needed is perhaps more involved and may be better left to the commission, its subcommittees, or legal counsel:

- a) Organizations/producers/sponsors should be required to have a minimum number of people (3 or 4?) responsible for the set-up, televising and later production work of any candidate forum. This will ensure that no one person, or two people "bite off more than they can chew" by committing to too much work (see the attached excuses given me by Frederica Musgrave as to why I had to wait from July 28 to Sept. 1 to see the candidate forum in which I appeared, finally air on channel 15. Also, I was refused a copy of the program by her, citing "I'm too busy" and the like. My response to that is obviously the TCR political schedule has been too taxing for its handful of members, and this is unfair to candidates who participated in their events.
- b) Portions (clips) of candidate forums cannot be used for "commentary" programs such as the "Evaluation" shows that TCR did, unless those shows clearly have the labels "These Are Opinions" and claims such as "we are non-partisan", "we do not endorse candidates", and the like are not allowed to be made. Such programs should be clearly labeled as partisan and opinionated.

c) These and any other policies and rules that are adopted should perhaps come with a penalty if they are not followed: the organization/producer/sponsor not be allowed to produce candidate forums for television using the equipment of the SCC facility. They will still be free to privately produce with private equipment and facilities, any program they wish and channel time will be made available under the usual SCC policies. However, they will not be able to use SCC equipment unless such producers follow all rules and procedures for televising candidate forums. Whether the cable commission would want to extend this policy to include partisan political programming, would be up to the commission.

August 21, 2009

Mr. Tim Finnerty  
Executive Director  
Ramsey-Washington Cable Commission  
2460 E County Rd F  
White Bear Lake MN 55110

To: Tim Finnerty, and all members of RWSCC cable commission  
From: John Wykoff, candidate for mayor of Maplewood, MN

Dear Commissioners,

I wish to make a formal complaint against a group of people who call themselves "The Citizens Reporter", which held a candidate forum in the SCC studios on July 28. I participated in a portion of this forum but it has not yet aired on SCC channel 15.

This point is the main focus of my complaint:

I understand that on the night of July 28, a **portion** of the forum was aired live however there was another portion that was taped. The portion in which I participated **has not been aired** in replays on channel 15. I have contacted Frederica Musgrave of The Citizens Reporter about this numerous times and have been stonewalled.

A second point of my complaint is that I haven't been able to get a copy of the entire July 28th's taping/live program. Ms. Musgrave has refused to give me a copy. I understand that Bob Zick has also tried to get a copy from her on my behalf and we both have been stonewalled on this as well.

Would the Cable Commission please take the following action:

1. The cable commission directs The Citizens Reporter to give copies of the candidate forums they have done to any candidates who participated in those forums, upon their request.
2. That the cable commission make some policies regarding candidate forums that would guarantee copies of the forums to participating candidates and timely scheduling of the forums (including replays) on channel 15.

The "Citizen Reporter" group claims to be non-partisan but their delaying the airing of the candidate forum in which I participated (with candidates Cardinal and Longrie) makes me wonder if it isn't a deliberate attempt to put my campaign at a disadvantage.

From: FREDERICA MUSGRAVE  
To: xJohn Wykoff  
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2009 11:15 PM  
Subject: Invitation to Mayoral Candidates Forum

Hi, John! You don't have an email address posted for your campaign, so I am taking the liberty of contacting you via an old email. Will you be able to come for these sessions? Please let me know!

> The Citizens' Reporter would like to invite you to participate in two mayoral candidate forums that we have scheduled for cablecast at the SCC Studio. Could you please confirm that you would be able to attend.

> >

> > We will also be sending you a questionnaire shortly, after the filing for candidacy has closed. We would like to post your responses and photo on our website. We do not endorse candidates.

> >

> > If you have questions or concerns, please contact me (Frederica) and Joe Waters at The Citizens Reporter. Email works best for us. Thank you!

> >

> > Dates:

> > Tuesday, July 28th (main studio scheduled 6-10 PM)

> > Thursday, August 20th (main studio scheduled 6-10 PM)

> >

> > Location:

> > Suburban Community Cable,

> >

> > Format:

> > We are planning on taping two 1-hour each segments for cablecast on Channel 15 public access. We are not planning on editing the program. The first 1-hour segment will be for introductions and a question-answer format, questions to all candidates by TCR selected moderators. Each candidate will have one minute to respond to the same question, followed by a second one-minute response by each candidate. After this "warm-up," there will be another second question-and-answer program taped, using a live audience to ask questions of all the candidates. The response time will be the same as with the first taped segment.

> >

> > The audience will be reminded to be respectful and direct questions to all of the candidates. Each candidate is encouraged to invite friends and supporters to the SCC studio. We will let you know details about number of chairs available. There will be a mike for each candidate and a mike in the audience.

> >

> > Please review our website [www.thecitizensreporter.com](http://www.thecitizensreporter.com) if you are not acquainted with our community-based shared common values and expectations of local government. Our monthly newspaper has more lengthy articles. We will try and post some of the issue and election-related articles online.

----- Original Message -----

From: FREDERICA MUSGRAVE

To: premiersigns@msn.com

Sent: Saturday, August 08, 2009 11:36 AM

Subject: RE: I need . . .

You can copy the program for the 1st Mayoral Forum from Channel 15. The 2 City Council Forums will be aired starting next Friday. The second Mayoral Forum that you attended will be aired the end of August.

It is not really a matter of cost. This all takes time. I have to take care of the City Council Candidate Interviews first, which means maybe 5 hours of my time, probably more because I haven't used the edit booth that much and want the stuff done right.

I have to get out a big issue of TCR for August, then the Election issue, get The Taste of Maplewood booth organized. It is not easy for me to just sit down and write articles. The formatting of articles to put them into the newspaper format, a "simple job," can take 10 hours or more for me.

I also have to lit drop the neighborhoods with flyers to get more subscriptions AND awareness of TCR out there to support all of you guys. I am not doing that today, not because of the rain, but because Rossbach, Llanas and Juenemann are doing joint lit drops, increasing the chance of their supporters stealing the TCR flyers from the doorknobs. By the way, take photos of anyone stealing campaign literature. This is the greatest publicity AGAINST candidates and their supporters if someone sees it happen. People talk to their neighbors about the theft.

I need to prepare some other TCR programs with critical analysis to fight our common enemies (those against freedom, etc.). That means I have to do some research.

I have to review the upcoming City meetings and post something.

Aside from not running for Council, I have several good books to start for my summer reading and prepare for my new school assignments.

When I have the opportunity to copy the DVD's, I will try. I have nothing against you, I just don't have time. I hope you will understand.

email from Frederica Musgrave

From: premiersigns@msn.com

To: bearclaw0333@msn.com

Subject: I need . . .



----- Original Message -----

> From: FREDERICA MUSGRAVE

>

> Sent: Friday, August 28,  
2009 8:47 PM

>

> Subject: FW: taping and  
copies candidate forums

>

>

> email from Frederica

> Musgrave

>

>>> Date: Fri, 28 Aug 2009  
18:46:51

> -0700

>> From:

frederica@thecitizensreporter.  
com

>>

> Subject: taping and copies  
candidate forums

>> To:

campaign@peopleforwykoff.com;

mayorlongrie@yahoo.com;

> bob@calhouncompanies.com;

aonealpha@yahoo.com;

pintorm@aol.com; delray@q.com;

> dhaf3@yahoo.com;

jbinko007@mac.com;

elizabeth007@comcast.net;

> pepsiman0313@earthlink.net;

RebeccaCavel@hotmail.com;

> Mary\_Mackey\_2009@yahoo.com

>> CC: bearclaw0333@msn.com

>>

>>

> First of all, I wish you  
luck on your campaigns.  
Hopefully things are going  
well

> for you.

>>

>> Secondly, I just came back  
from vacation and find all

> kinds of work waiting for me  
to do. As you probably know,  
several people have

> been contacting me for  
copies of the mayoral and city  
council candidate forums

> as well as other copies of  
previous TCR DVD's. I

understand why you/they would

> like copies. Other people

see me with a copy of one of  
the programs - whether

> I've even reviewed it or not  
- and want a personal copy of  
it.

>>

>>

> I do not have employees.  
Kevin, Ellie and Leni do not  
work for me. Kevin has

> "been out of the picture"  
pretty much since the campaign  
officially started.

> There are several projects I  
would like Leni and Ellie to  
work on for TCR, if I

> had the choice. I don't mean  
to sound rude, but that is the  
truth: there are

> other pressing priorities  
with tapes that need to be  
prepared before Sept 15th,

> before I could even consider  
asking them to make copies of  
TCR programs for each

> and every person who asks.

"SIMPLE editing" of one  
program (fixing of sound from  
> interviews still not done)

can take 5, 10, 20 hours or  
more, when the equipment

> is available.

>>

>> I spent quite a bit of time  
this summer working

*The Citizens' Reporter* this week on Channel 15 cable access

**TCR presents: Maplewood Council Candidate Forums and Election Updates!**

Watch our informative Mayoral and City Council Candidate Forums on Public Access Channel 15.

**Fri. 8/21 6 PM - Council Forum B**

Sun. 8/23 3 PM – Council Forum A

Tues. 8/25 1 PM – Council Forum A

Thurs. 8/27 4 PM – Council Forum B

**Fri., 8/28 6 PM – Eval Mayor**

Sun. 8/30 3 PM – Council Forum A

Tues. Sept. 9/1 1 PM – Mayor Forum B

Thurs. Sept. 9/3 4 PM – Eval Mayor

**Fri. Sept. 9/4 6 PM – Eval Council**

Sun. Sept. 9/6 1 PM – Eval Council

Sun. Sept. 9/6 11 PM – Eval Council

Tues. Sept. 9/8 1 PM - Eval Council

**Fri. Sept. 9/11 6 PM – Council Interviews**

Sun. Sept. 9/13 1 PM – **Council Interviews**

**Episode #37: "Evaluating City Council Candidates"**

Reporters Frederica Musgrave and Joseph Waters used a rubric to evaluate all 11 City Council candidates. The categories (1) Submitted the TCR questionnaire; (2) Expressed commitment to openness & transparency in government; (3) Does own reserach above and beyond City packet, talking to City staff, and discussing with friends; (4) Believes in citizen input and citizen involvement.

Friday, Aug 14 at 6 PM (night)

Sunday, Aug 16 at 3 PM (afternoon)

(other dates to be posted later)

**Episode #36: "Evaluating Mayoral Candidates"**

Reporters Frederica Musgrave and Joseph Waters used a rubric to evaluate all 7 Mayoral candidates. The categories (1) Submitted the TCR questionnaire; (2) Expressed commitment to openness & transparency in government; (3) Does own reserach above and beyond City packet, talking to City staff, and discussing with friends; (4) Believes in citizen input and citizen involvement.

Friday, Aug 14 at 6 PM (night)  
Sunday, Aug 16 at 3 PM (afternoon)  
(other dates to be posted later)

### Episode #35: **"City Council Candidate Forum B"**

All 11 candidates running for the 2 seats on City Council in Maplewood were invited (twice) to the candidate forum. "A" will also be cablecast during the month of August. Which candidates really answered the questions? Which candidates will advocate for the citizens? Which candidates will sit back and just let the City Manager and staff run the City (business as usual)?

Tuesday, Aug 18 at 1 PM (afternoon)  
Thursday, Aug 20 at 4 PM (afternoon)  
Friday, Aug 21 at 6 PM (night)  
(other dates to be posted later)

This is the second taped program which aired live from 8:30-9:30 PM on August 5th (Thank you Bob Zick and *Inside Insight* for allowing us to use your LIVE time slot! Note: Mr. Zick had **no** input into the Candidate Forum.)

### Episode #34: **"City Council Candidate Forum A"**

All 11 candidates running for the 2 seats on City Council in Maplewood were invited (twice) to the candidate forum. This is the first taped program. "B" will also be cablecast during the month of August. Which candidates really answered the questions? Which candidates will advocate for the citizens? Which candidates will sit back and just let the City Manager and staff run the City (business as usual)?

Friday, Aug 14 at 6 PM (night)  
Sunday, Aug 16 at 3 PM (afternoon)  
(other dates to be posted later)

This is the first taped program which aired live from 7:30-8:30 PM on August 5th (Thank you Mayor Diana Longrie and *Off the Record* for allowing us to use your LIVE time slot! Note: Mayor Longrie had **no** input into the Candidate Forum.)

Episode #32: **"Mayoral Candidate Forum A"** All 7 candidates running for the office of Mayor in Maplewood were invited (twice) to the candidate forum. This is the first taped program. "B" will be cablecast later in the month of August. **Which candidates really answered the questions?** Which candidates will take a leading role as Mayor? Which candidates will advocate for the citizens? Which candidates will sit back and just let the City Manager and staff run the City (business as usual)?

Friday, Aug 7 at 6 PM (night)  
Sunday, Aug 9 at 3 PM (afternoon)  
Tuesday, Aug 11 at 1 PM (night)  
Thursday, Aug 13 at 4 PM (afternoon)

Episode #27: **"Banning the Ring of Fire":** The Smoke Task Force. Different discussion and excerpts from the City Council meeting of May 28th.

Tuesday, **Aug 4 at 1 PM** (afternoon)  
Thursday, **Aug 6 at 1 PM** (afternoon)

Link here to see the [actual reports](#) (4 pages) submitted by Mr. Rossbach to Council on May 28th City Council meeting. This issue and potential ordinance changes may re-appear in January 2009, so keep your eyes open!

Episode #26: **"Slap in the Face"** After the Smoke Task Force met, Council Member William Rossbach came up with his own list of recommendations to Council. Excerpts from the City Council meeting when their recorder summarized their group's work and how Mr. Rossbach ignored the group's decisions.

Tuesday, **July 28 at 1 PM** (afternoon)  
Thursday, **July 30 at 3 PM** (afternoon)  
Friday, **July 31 at 6 PM** (night)  
Sunday, **Aug 2 at 3 PM** (afternoon)

Link here to see the [actual reports](#) (4 pages) submitted by Mr. Rossbach to Council on May 28th City Council meeting. This issue and potential ordinance changes may re-appear, so keep your eyes open!

### *Previous TCR episodes*

Episode #31: **"Hazy Crystal Balls"** What do you know about the Maplewood Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) for 2010-2014? Looking at the descriptions for many of these

From: John Wykoff, 773-5086; [premiersigns@msn.com](mailto:premiersigns@msn.com)  
To: Cable Commission, Mr. Tim Finnerty, interested parties

Attached is the press release that was sent to me by postal mail for the DFL Candidates Forum on July 30.

Since I received this press release/invitation, I assume all candidates did.

On the Bob Zick show of Aug. 26, 2009, I am convinced it was Joe Waters, trying to disguise his voice, who called in to the show and asked Zick's guest, mayoral candidate Ken Smart, as to why Smart attended this forum because he isn't in the DFL (according to Waters).

The question was out of line because we candidates probably all received the attached official invitation from the DFL Party.

I include this only to give another example of Joe Waters' partisan activities in the Maplewood campaign season that conflict with the "Citizens Reporter" promise of "we don't endorse candidates and are non-partisan".

Nothing could be further from the truth in my opinion.

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Pat Williamson, DFL SD 55 Chair (651) 738-6953 or  
David Galchutt, DFL SD 55 Associate Chair (651) 770-1320

## DFL Senate District 55 to Host Candidate Forum For Maplewood Municipal Elections On July 30

The Democratic Farmer Labor (DFL) Party encompassing Senate District 55 will host a City of Maplewood Municipal Election Candidate Forum on Thursday, July 30, 6-8 pm, at the Ramsey County Library, 3025 Southlawn Drive, Maplewood.

All candidates who have filed for Maplewood City Council or Mayor are invited to attend the Candidate Forum to answer questions and give a brief statement on why they are running for public office.

Afterwards, the party will consider resolutions of support for candidates who identify with DFL values, issues and platforms.

The public is invited to attend the Candidate Forum. There is no charge to attend. DFL Senate District 55 is open to DFLers who reside within the district, which includes the cities of Maplewood, North St. Paul and Oakdale.

DFL Senate District 55 organizes DFL Precinct Caucuses bi-annually in conjunction with federal, state and county elections. In recent years, the party has also been involved in local elections, including municipal and school board races within Senate District 55.

For more information regarding DFL Senate District 55, please contact Pat Williamson, Senate 55 Chair at [willi056@umn.edu](mailto:willi056@umn.edu)

###

Please join us for our Candidate Forum on Thursday, July 30, 6 pm  
at the Ramsey County Library, 3025 Southlawn Drive, Maplewood  
to discuss why you are running for office with your fellow citizens!

*The attached press release has been sent to area newspapers.*