Chris Horne to Everyone (4:02 PM)
I'll be right back!
Carla Murphy to Everyone (4:05 PM)
Hi everyone. Glad to be here. Off cam while tooling around the house.
Jo Ellen Kaiser to Everyone (4:05 PM)
Be great to have someone on from New Economy Coalition to talk about knowledge of economic cooperation. I always learn so much from them
Nathan Schneider to Everyone (4:06 PM)
+!
+1
kate maxwell to Everyone (4:12 PM)
That was so nice but so short!
Sylvia Pu to Everyone (4:12 PM)
+1
Bryce Rudow to Everyone (4:13 PM)
(that link was for Paul, but anyone feel free to click)
Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (4:17 PM)
Ifyou have questions, please throw them in the chat. I'm today's "discussant" so I'll be tracking your questions for a conversation at the end
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (4:18 PM)
I know that feeling. Googling the local races.
Jo Ellen Kaiser to Everyone (4:23 PM)
Because I have to run I'd love a recording if the group votes in that direction!
Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (4:24 PM)
Thank you Jo Ellen!
I'm curious what legal entity type Block by Block is right now…
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (4:24 PM)
I have to say: it's rare to hear anyone say that the application process *itself* was helpful as a planning/thought exercise.
Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (4:24 PM)
right
Dominic Mathew to Everyone (4:26 PM)
@Kevon - excellent initiative! What prompted you to look at an app as a medium?
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (4:27 PM)
Put a pin in that: I've not been supported by any journalism organizations. Def want to come back to that.
Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (4:27 PM)
^+1
kate maxwell to Everyone (4:28 PM)
i definitely feel like thinking through these questions are helpful for business owners both for grants and out in the world
Adrian Fernandez Baumann to Everyone (4:29 PM)
that's very interesting
Louis McGill to Everyone (4:30 PM)
Totally agree! You can waste a lot of energy designing cooperative structure before planning the business.
Alec Saelens to Everyone (4:32 PM)
Good points. Launching a product/organization and incorporating as a coop are two different things, the timing of which can vary. I would agree that the best strategy is to get going and then build the coop structure.
Louis McGill to Everyone (4:34 PM)
Thank you so much! Great presentation
kate maxwell to Everyone (4:34 PM)
Super excited to see it launch
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (4:34 PM)
Thank you Kevon
Alec Saelens to Everyone (4:35 PM)

Thanks, Kevon. Great to hear about your journey
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (4:41 PM)
This is really speaking directly to the conditions, habits and fears of the underserved news consumers in my neighborhood in Brooklyn
kate maxwell to Everyone (4:45 PM)
we have talked to our local SBA and banks about loans and it is so amazing to hear about lenders who are approaching financing this way, thanks for sharing all this Jeanette
Louis McGill to Everyone (4:45 PM)
Thank you!!
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (4:46 PM)
Thank you, Jeanette
Heather Bryant to Everyone (4:46 PM)
"Pissed off and tweeting" is a frequent hobby of mine too :)
Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (4:48 PM)
jeanette, a question for later - do you support both conversions and start-ups?
kate maxwell to Everyone (4:48 PM)
Fund the study group!
Adrian Fernandez Baumann to Everyone (4:49 PM)
FYI
CalMatters is doing something like that
Louis McGill to Everyone (4:49 PM)
Heck yeah, Chris! Congrats for 6 years!
Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (4:50 PM)
do you have more info adrian?
Louis McGill to Everyone (4:52 PM)
I'm a J-school grad who wishes J-school was less of a thing. One of my goals for my co-op is to create a legit apprenticeship program to expand journalism training opportunities for folks who can't afford college.
Adrian Fernandez Baumann to Everyone (4:53 PM)
I'm a j school flunk out and firmly thing they should be abolished. I don't think there's been any org more harmful to journalism than Columbia j school
Me to Everyone (4:53 PM)
I love that Louis. Fellow J-school (grad school) and your idea is awesome and necessary.
Adrian Fernandez Baumann to Everyone (4:54 PM)
Olivia: CalMatters now allows members to automatically upload their stories to a back end portal where other orgs can use the story with attribution
we've signed up and are uploading some articles (especially Lana's stuff since it's more regional)
Nathan Schneider to Everyone (4:55 PM)
That's huge: "a co-op is not a business model"
Adrian Fernandez Baumann to Everyone (4:55 PM)
but it's still kind of buggy
Nathan Schneider to Everyone (4:55 PM)
I see a lot of people make that mistake, thinking that forming a co-op is some kind of secret sauce for making the business work.
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (4:56 PM)
You're excellent at presentations, Chris
Nathan Schneider to Everyone (4:57 PM)
Great point. In this article, I argue we need to expand the financing/policy legacy of rural electrics to all other industries: ntnsndr.in/TechNewDeal
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (4:58 PM)
I really like pointing to historical precedent. I think it also helps to communicate "foreign" ideas to many folks in newsrooms.
Dominic Mathew to Everyone (4:58 PM)
pub as a social infrastructure!
Louis McGill to Everyone (4:58 PM)

That's so cool
Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (4:59 PM)
Actually heard about vaccination sites at pubs in the UK
Alec Saelens to Everyone (4:59 PM)
+1 Nathan and Carla! And, Louis +Kevon, in this piece for MPP I looked at how some news organizations tried to democratize the production of information: https://membershippuzzle.org/articles-overview/reinventing-journalism-education
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (4:59 PM)
Did he only freeze for me?
Nathan Schneider to Everyone (5:00 PM)
Me too
Max Resnik he/him to Everyone (5:00 PM)
Me too
Louis McGill to Everyone (5:00 PM)
Thanks for sharing, Alec! Love what y'all do at MPP!
Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (5:00 PM)
he's back for me
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:00 PM)
Thanks for that link, Nathan
Louis McGill to Everyone (5:00 PM)
Same for me
Heather Bryant to Everyone (5:01 PM)
Awesome, everyone!
Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (5:03 PM)
tom, I see your hand up!
Max Resnik he/him to Everyone (5:03 PM)
I'd love to break down that fund idea as a working project for the study group if anyone is interested in working on that with me
Louis McGill to Everyone (5:04 PM)
I saw in Chris's presentation that he's gotten traction with journalism orgs. Any advice from your experience, Chris?
Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:04 PM)
I notice that since people like Kevon have been working with CDFIs (Community development finance institutions) one thing we should consider is how we can use CDFIs and the small business money flowing to CDFIs through the Biden administration rescue bill and create a vehicle through CDFI's—local economy preservation funds—to make equity investments in news start-ups and acquisitions. Would love to explore this option.
Max Resnik he/him to Everyone (5:04 PM)
++
Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:05 PM)
"deeply entrenched culture"
kate maxwell to Everyone (5:05 PM)
*1 to both max nd Isaiah, we have a local mendocino county co-op study group starting here and have been talking about how we could get local funding support on the county-level across industries
Max Resnik he/him to Everyone (5:06 PM)
@Kate awesome!
Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:06 PM)
Yea Mendocino!
Chris Horne to Everyone (5:08 PM)
I'm about 99% certain the reason we got Knight funding is because we're in Akron, which isn't just a program city but is where the Knight Bros. started their empire.
Me to Everyone (5:10 PM)
Here's my contact: kevon@blocbyblocnews.com if you want to connect or ask a follow-up question.
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:11 PM)
Understood, Chris. Thanks for sharing. (great presentation btw)
kate maxwell to Everyone (5:11 PM)

It seems like there is increasing state and federal funding options that could be useful for co-op development esp in "rural" areas although Jeanette would know better than me! I would love to see a national level org that was news specific because it can be a different model than other kinds of co-ops, there is only so much we can learn from the local grocery orr ag co-ops

Chris Horne to Everyone (5:12 PM)

Thank you, Carla! I'm happy to be open and transparent about our experience.

Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:12 PM)

^^^

Kate is dead-on.

Louis McGill to Everyone (5:13 PM)

Definitely, Kate!

Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:15 PM)

Curious how the "save journalism" bills in Congress relate to this group, but specifically community-ownership of local news.

kate maxwell to Everyone (5:17 PM)

carla my understanding is those are largely based on existing payrolls, subscriptions, and metrics that may or may not help these kinds of local news orgs

Max Resnik he/him to Everyone (5:17 PM)

That would be awesoome

Louis McGill to Everyone (5:17 PM)

Would definitely be interested, Isaiah!

Nathan Schneider to Everyone (5:17 PM)

Start.coop and Zebras Unite are both setting up co-op-compatible investment funds. Start.coop is interested in this space, and ZU is founded largely by journalists. (I'm on the baords of both.)

Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:19 PM)

lol

Thanks, Kate

Nathan Schneider to Everyone (5:20 PM)

infodistricts!

kate maxwell to Everyone (5:20 PM)

olivia wrote about one of the bills

Bryce Rudow to Everyone (5:21 PM)

with earmarks being allowed back into congressional legislation, I keep thinking about how funding for local news could be tied to (snuck into) the infrastructure bills centering around funding rural broadband development

Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:22 PM)

So there is a rich guy who gets huge amounts of money from dogital infrastructure and then gives a slice of that to local journalism and we all feel good about the crumbs off the table. The reality is that information bandwidth shouldn't be a private profit center. It should be a public utility. Full stop.

Nathan Schneider to Everyone (5:22 PM)

amen.

Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:23 PM)

Then the revenue from information bandwidth in whatever form is poured back into communities to support local news and information.

Louis McGill to Everyone (5:23 PM)

Thanks for joining us, Jeanette!

Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:24 PM)

lol

thanks, kevon

Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (5:24 PM)

carla is amazing

Heather Bryant to Everyone (5:24 PM)

Carla makes every space better

Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:24 PM)

"We have to inspire people to want to get involved."

Heather Bryant to Everyone (5:25 PM)
Competitive waste is one of our industry's big failings. We're only going to make progress in collaborating. Not just on producing news but through everything.
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:26 PM)
Isaiah was making me think of a campaign linking the high cost of telecommunications + their local monopolies with the dearth of local news options.
Nathan Schneider to Everyone (5:26 PM)
Or it will die because reactionary politics are strangling it:)
Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:26 PM)
High cost, high profits concentrated in the hands of an extractive oligopoly
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:27 PM)
And, Kevon, I personally think the journalism industry suffers from parochiallism. The insider-ness is real.
Max Resnik he/him to Everyone (5:27 PM)
Thanks to all!!
Me to Everyone (5:27 PM)
The Cavs looking impressive this year Chris.
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:27 PM)
+1 Heather re collaboration
kate maxwell to Everyone (5:27 PM)
We should continue all these conversations! obvs
Heather Bryant to Everyone (5:27 PM)
So grateful for this group, glad these conversations are happening
Nathan Schneider to Everyone (5:27 PM)
Yes, Democracy Collaborative is an amazing orgnization and resource.
Max Resnik he/him to Everyone (5:27 PM)
Woo!
Chris Horne to Everyone (5:27 PM)
Kevon, don't try to get my hopes about these Cavs. But next year! Watch out!
Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:27 PM)
Chris Horne has a big heart which makes up for whatever brain deficiencies he thinks he has
kate maxwell to Everyone (5:28 PM)
you could save the chat too
Chris Horne to Everyone (5:28 PM)
Thank you, Isaiah!
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:28 PM)
This was so much food for thought. I'm grateful to the presenters and everyone here.
Isaiah J. Poole to Everyone (5:28 PM)
"You betta" wasn't an option, unfortunately.
Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:29 PM)
lol
paul bowman (he/him) to Everyone (5:29 PM)
haha
Tom Stites to Everyone (5:29 PM)
Rich ideas, good humor, challenging ideas. Thanks!
Jeanette Cuevas to Everyone (5:29 PM)
Yes, I can send my notes and also links to anything I mentioned.
Nathan Schneider to Everyone (5:30 PM)
Thanks so much, Olivia—great discussion, really useful. It's so good to hear from y'all.
Dominic Mathew to Everyone (5:30 PM)
Thank you Olivia and the rest of the presenters! Brimming with ideas after these sessions :)
Olivia Henry (she/her) to Everyone (5:30 PM)
Thank you to everyone fro coming!!
Jason to Everyone (5:30 PM)
Thanks Kevon, Jeanette, Chris &

Max Resnik he/him to Everyone (5:30 PM)

These are consistently wonderful, thanks to Olivia and all the presenters

Jason to Everyone (5:30 PM)

& Olivia!

Carla Murphy she/her to Everyone (5:30 PM)

Have a good wknd!

Louis McGill to Everyone (5:30 PM)

Always energizing to trade ideas with y'all!

Me to Everyone (5:30 PM)

Thanks

Libby O'neall to Everyone (5:31 PM)

Thank you!

Alec Saelens to Everyone (5:31 PM)

"National push for Community ownership of journalism", KP. Thanks all!