



Meeting Minutes for May 25, 2006

Meeting convened at Madison Community TV

Present:

Branford	John Elliott, Pat McGlashan , Marvin Zimmerman Billye Bradley
East Haven	Marie Saddig
Guilford	Pete Garafolo, Jeff Lincoln
Madison	Stephen Fuest
North Haven	Carolyn Spetland
North Branford	Mary Bigelow, Joanne Wentworth
Wallingford	Susan Huizenga
Library	Ken Donadio
COMCAST	John Bairos
Regrets:	Carolyn Spetland, Pat McGlashan, Joanne Wentworth as relayed by M.B.
Guests:	C. Huizenga, A. White (2 nd ½)

I. Call to order/roll call.

Chairman Huizenga called the meeting to order at **7:10PM**.
6 Towns represented, **Nine** Advisors present

II. Public Comments no comments;

Stephen Fuest welcomes council to Madison Community TV. He reviewed Madison related items CACSCC 2005-06 agenda items and provided the following DPUC and docket outcome that corresponded with original CACSCC reply; Town Budget issues: Money from town only goes to insurance. The lease/rental option was not exercised by Selectman. Budget line item will be clarified to be related to Insurance costs. 2006 DPUC Report given to CACSCC.

III. Review of Agenda:

- Roll Call
- Call to Order
- Welcome/Public Comments
- Enter Log of Correspondence
- Executive Committee (EC) Report – Status Of Advisor Terms, Customer Action Survey, ACM Registration Treasurer Report (CD Rollover Action), Review Key Correspondence inc. Legislative Action Federal & State
- COMCAST REPORT
- Committee Reports - Nominations
- Any remaining Deferred Business
 - DPUC PEG Reports
- New Business:
 - Annual Meeting Prep – Nomination for Awards
 - By-law change merge VP/Sec roles
- Public Comments
- Town Reports (activities reported in relation to responsible party Board, Staff, Volunteers)
- Public Comments

IV. Minutes & Correspondence Log - Action: Chairman Huizenga asked that the Minutes of the March 2006 be reviewed for acceptance. No discussion/correction: **Correction: April- Pete should be listed under regrets. March attendance needs correction: Marie Saddig was present. Council was asked to pay particular attention to Shared Services Committee summary as it detailed actions to be taken by treasurer once the March minutes are ratified.** **M.S.** called the motion to accept as corrected. **P.G.** second. The motion carried. Stephen Fuest abstained but offered no concerns about Shared Services summary.

Note: There was no official action taken at the April Meeting. April Minutes were distributed for review. No corrections.

No concerns raised by Advisors about entering correspondence as a log

In brief: Several Inquiries related to TV Guide Channel, Updated Program Changes from Comcast, significant Legislative Action correspondence,

Discussion: Consumer Correspondence: About a dozen e-mails regarding the lack of the TV Guide Channel –not having the same expanded basic cable after moving, etc. John Bairos will correspond to each person; therefore **SH will forward the correspondences to Customer Care and cc: JB.**

V. Executive Committee (EC) Report

Pete Garofolo reports: Suggestion for opening up another CD, move some of the money from Guilford Bank to an account with a higher yield interest rate such as Webster Bank. The move would require the presence of both PG and SH. Discussion regarding how much money would be moved. **Motion by M.Z. to withdraw \$15,000 and move it to Webster assuming the rate would apply and there would be no unforeseen conditions.** John Elliott seconds this. Motion passes unanimously.

Chairman Huizenga: Requests for checks: \$75 recording secretary, Allocation of \$50 for filing/organization. \$25 to pay for the secretary of state business. SF moves, MZ seconds. Motion passes unanimously. Distribution handled at meeting.

Status of Advisors: Marvin Zimmerman will no longer be serving; KD and SH have been reappointed; there have been no other official reappointments or status updates. Check S.F.'s status. **Advisors are asked to be aware their status and resolve in order to be eligible to vote at next meeting which is Annual Meeting.**

In March, all advisors were asked to submit questions for the Comcast customer survey. (CACSCC is eligible to submit 2 questions.)

Chairman Huizenga drafted 3 questions for Council review/discussion as follows:

1. How important is it to you that Comcast provides "like" programming packages wherever Comcast is available?

Rational/context: Comcast was attempting to establish state-wide programming, and there are discrepancies among towns and across states identified in customer complaint correspondence including subscribers with multiple home locations or relocating customers. Discussion: John Bairos: Question may be too complex and issue is known but alignment obstacles are nearly impossible to address. SF example of differences – location of PEG Channel or channels.

2. How interested are you in family / sports / religious / educational program packages?

JB reports that the survey does ask consumers whether there is too much / not enough of each of these categories.

3. Do you know anyone that produces programming or volunteers at your local community access center?

Rational/context: Prior years question was related to 'are you aware or do you watch', this question intended to focus on awareness that citizen involvement is essential to Community Access TV.

M.Z. suggests an additional question specific to TV Guide channel question such as "How important is restoring TV Guide channel to the customer?" Discussion: John Bairos: TV Guide. JB reports this topic has been covered in the survey asking customer their source for program info i.e. TV listings online/magazines /newspapers; also, some digital tier customers already have something similar to a TV Guide channel.

Clarifications: Survey is particular to this franchise, done by phone with 400 random customers, Answers use a scale of 1 – 5, and thus there is a time limit restricting the questions asked / wording of questions.

Demographic data: Suggested that the customers interviewed identify the level of service they subscribe to as it may impact their replies. **Questions 2 & 3 to be referred to Comcast by Chairman Huizenga with demographic data request.**

ACM REGISTRATION – review of PEG grant criteria as it is possible that participants can not incur the full expense or same individual could be affiliated with multiple stations. Grant is for reimbursement of expenses so Receipts and copy of registration confirmation would be required.

There had been an inquiry from Guilford re: how to list themselves in registration.

Reply: Organizational member CACSCC/(Local Access station name)

Discussion for clarification of grant: If one member attended, listed under two towns, how will the reimbursement be divided? This situation will depend upon how the towns choose to submit for reimbursement. Potentially, one person could use up both town's grants, if they attend for 3 days and have accommodation expenses one individual could cost at least \$700. The same expense will not be reimbursed to multiple towns.

REVIEW OF KEY CORRESPONDENCE – Leg. Action, Fed & State (Alerts have been distributed to Advisors and PEGs. All information is being added to Web site.) Refer to Website for details. Note: Info on Net Neutrality is kept on the website because it is a component of all legislative initiatives that include telecom franchising. Please note some bills also have 911 capacity for communications. So if you have particular interests in these items review the legislation as it extends beyond PEG or Cable consumer matters. Advisors are asked to review information including calls to action on site and encourage others to do so (i.e. writing letters or call representatives asking to 'kill the COPE Bill'. All CACSCC testimony on DPUC IPTV docket and legislative action has been rooted in the previously developed and adopted FCC dockets testimony.

VII. COMCAST Report. Comcast Representative

Updates on open issue: Contact Information has been corrected, bill statement insert reviewed and verified and change initialed by Chairman Huizenga.

Recipients of the scholarships in the amount of \$1000 given to area high school seniors announced. **The names will be listed on the 7TownTV website.**

Price Information Brochures updated as of May: new enhanced cable tier and pricing.

Advisors given article copies: Cable companies cannot release private information of its customers to government or otherwise without permission. (Provided due to recent telecom item is news about consumer data.)

DPUC IPTV Dockets: DPUC hearing held yesterday. All 5 commissioners were present, as well as representatives from Cable Vision, AT&T, R. Blumenthal's office. CTN covered the hearing and, on request, agreed to prepare it for video streaming. Clips will be available from Vernon as well as CTN for [video roll ins for our ed program meeting in August](#). Link to video streaming to be added to 7towntv.org when available from CTN. Docket Issue: How do you define a cable company? Legal criteria, franchise requirements for an internet company vs. a cable company are different. Final decision expected June 7th. OCC used analogy in testimony of internet mail and IPTV. "if you can not access your IPTV from any location – i.e.coffee shop, neighbors home, work – then IPTV it is not like other Internet services".

IX. Old Business

Committee Reports: Peter said he would continue as treasurer, SH as chairman, and CP as secretary. By-laws changes prior to annual meeting: Over last several years only 3 offices have been filled, leaving gaps. SH suggests vice chair and secretary positions are merged. CP is willing with the acknowledgement that she will have attendance issues but will be able to handle meeting correspondence related tasks. Motion to change the by-laws to merge these two positions into one has to be put forward formally at annual meeting. MZ motions that action be taken on this point at the annual meeting. [So moved for Annual Meeting prep.](#)

VIII. New Business

Direction by the chair to handle Annual Meeting awards with executive committee. No objections.

Annual meeting will be held at 7 pm in Wallingford, June 22nd. No program, business only. Budget allocation for food and program costs will be used in August. Business focus will be Web site walk thru and/or planning discussion. Projector needed for web site review. [SF can provide if needed.](#)

VIII. Town Reports

Town Reports as time allows

GUILFORD –Jeff- annual meeting, no by-law changes. Changes to review tapes before airing them, scheduling issues, decision to move away from VHS, getting more digital > DVDS and DVD equipment

EAST HAVEN – MS- EHTV 15th anniversary: Special events, such as a name-the-mascot contest, culmination in December. New producers, two new members on the board of directors.

WALLINGFORD –Issue covered by channel 18 on 'How to use particular pieces of town property, because of channel 19 decision not to televised. Item will be a referendum as a result of community engagement. Good example of purpose and potential of community access. Some new producers and new programming including a Sci-Fi talk show that appeals to teen audience. Discussion of addition of more editing systems in process due to demand.

BRANFORD – JE- police presentation at a rotary meeting will be televised.
The Branford open house program went very well; several people who had not
Previously visited the studio came.

No. BRANFORD – held Annual Meeting and established new Board of Directors.
Meeting publicized but No significant membership attendance just new Board and
existing active members. Did not have speaker.

VIII. Public Comments

None.

IX. **Adjournment Steve Fuest** moved to adjourn. John Elliott seconded.
Motion carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm

Respectfully submitted:
Liz Frager