

Date: **08/27/09** 

Scheduled Time: 7:00 -9:00 PM MONTHLY Location: BCTV - Branford

Call to Order 7:16 PM Adjourn 8:04 PM Motioned by John E. Seconded by Bill G.

Roll Call 4 towns/entities, represented by 8 Members [Quorum Metrics: 4 Towns, 7 Members]

#	Attendees	Town	✓	#	Attendees	Area	✓
	John Elliott	Branford	✓		Not represented	North Haven	
	Peter Hugret	Branford	<b>✓</b>			North Haven	
	Pete Lombard	Branford	<b>✓</b>			North Haven	
		Branford BOE				North Haven BOE	
	Marie Saddig	East Haven	<b>✓</b>		Mary Bigelow	North Branford	R
	Bill Golambiski (aka) Bill Biski	East Haven	<b>V</b>			North Branford	
	Frances Foley	East Haven	✓			North Branford BOE	
	•	East Haven BOE			Susan Huizenga	Wallingford	✓
	Joel Parker	Guilford	R			Wallingford	
	Pete Garofalo	Guilford	<b>✓</b>			Wallingford	
		Guilford				Wallingford BOE	
		Guilford BOE			Guests	Roger Buckridge, Totoket TV/Madison	
	Not represented	Madison				Walter Mann – NHTV, BCTV	
		Madison				Margo Hardenburgh	
		Madison BOE				Curt Huizenga, WPAA	
		Library				Stephen Fuest, Madison	
	John Bairos	Company-COMCAST	<b>V</b>				

Legend: ✓ attend, R regrets, N No Status, P proxy provided

# ---- AGENDA TOPICS -----

	Subject	Lead	In Brief
1	Roll Call / Welcome	Chairman	Site visit BCTV Host, welcome
	Public Comments	Site Representative	
2	Log of Correspondence	Chairman	Chairman Updates
3	Review / Accept Minutes	Advisors	Minutes distributed – as needed
4	Executive Committee Report	S.H./ M.S./P.G	Treasurer
5	Comcast Report	John Bairos	Government & Community Relations Manager
6	Deferred / Old Business (Including	Advisors	Insurance & Policies
	Committee Reports)		
7	New Business / Town Reports	Advisors	Sept 24 <sup>th</sup> meeting at GCTV
8	Public Comments & Adjournment		Motion by
			Seconded by All

### ---- MEETING MINUTES ----

### Description

1 BCTV welcome by Board President Margot Hardenburgh. Her remarks included reference to new BCTV facility equipment acquired via PEGPETIA process, the potential of relocation to better facility accommodations on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, the same address and her participation with a group of Community Access advocates planning to reinstate CT-ACM.

No public comments.

2

- a. DPUC Draft decision Guilford/Madison town line case draft ruling favors Comcast.
  - b. Banking Statements: Received and confirmed the deposit of Madison insurance payment
  - **c.** ACM Fall Video Festival entry notice sent to PEGS. All producers are eligible via CACSCC Members # 20459. Only a few days left to submit entry –postmark date 9.4.09.
  - **d.** Customer complaints include Berlin resident with issues when it rains, Turner classic move to sports package. Gulford by resident. One referral to Comcast about inability to pay even the basic amount of \$15.00 was



- handled via the new customers due to DTV Special rate.
- e. Cable Advisory Notice was in Cable Bill. This usually caused an increase in correspondence to us.
- 3 July Minutes Draft has been available online. Chairman Huizenga has copies for anyone needing a copy. Cannot fully accept them due to a lack of a fourth town for the quorum. Main points reviewed at the beginning of the meeting. Upon Pete's arrival at 7:43, there is a quorum. July Minutes have been accepted.
- 4 a. Pete reported that the CD rolled over for months.
  - b. Banking statement received. Shows monthly meeting expense and deposit for Madison. Refer to 2b.
- a. Update Guilford/Madison town line case: Comcast submitted written exceptions. A hearing is scheduled for Sept 17, Discussion. Per Comcast, the intent to provide select programs via Madison TV evolved into making copies of several programs. Since MAG policy does not cover making copies for such purposes each copy process needed producer permission. Sometimes requested programs did not actually play which the customer would not know. The copy processed ceased when Comcast sent a notice that reimbursement would be discontinued. Comcast was paying \$15 a copy for cost associated with process. CACSCC continued with decision not to be officially part of docket as no motion was made to participate.
  - c. A couple channels moved to Basic Tier: WEDH (Create), Shop NBC. Comcast position is that changes are intended to recognize interests of older generation which has higher likelihood of subscribing to Basic and comply with regulations to provide broadcast and PEG channels. There was some discussion that Comcast gets revenues from shopping channels and that some believe shopping channels are not a service to older generation but rather more like a gambling//temptation. d. DTV Transition subscription special has gotten some interest, but not much since cable penetration in tis market is pretty extensive.
  - e. TCM has been in Sports pack for about a year. See correspondence log for reference to Comcast complaint. (John thinks it is work with Basic and box for additional \$1.95. This customer will get details from Exec Customer Care.
  - f. Advisors are encouraged to explore this discrepancy in opinion of shopping on basic tier in public forums. Chairman Huizenga suggests a forum in newspapers; Marie suggests a survey both trying to investigate the community's opinion for the basic Comcast package which notably does not have a comparable package via U-verse with lowest tier 120 channels for about \$50 per month.
  - g. AT&T U-Verse has local as channel 99 and takes time to load, which loses many channel surfers. ETV has discussed ways to support U-verse subscribers once PEG on U-verse including having staff or volunteers going to home to set-up PEG on favorites especially for Seniors.
- 6 Broadcaster Insurance: Policy document available for review. (passed around) Stations should budget \$575. Renewal is March 2010. Application and other related information can be found on 7towntv.org site. Search insurance. 1<sup>st</sup> link in search has page with all document links.

PEG Policy Documents and Forms: (continuing discussion began in May in Madison)

Chairman Huizenga identifies that the current cable release forms do not cover PEG stations that have U-Verse or Internet distribution. The discussion of Madison case identified that mandates or other compliance support distribution are also not covered via policies. Wallingford's draft forms are extension of policy updates previously reviewed in May CACSCC meeting. Key points.

- a) Forms are extension of policy document.
- b) Form and policies are important component of Media Broadcast Insurance coverage.
- c) Updates need to recognize that stations now may distribute via cable (Comcast), Video (ATT) and Internet Recommendation: Change cablecast form to Media Distribution Release Form. A check for if station was used to produce program supports procedures and follow-up on station references in the submitted program. Draft is similar to current cablecast but slightly less legalese.
- d) Standardization of format and language makes procedures more reliable and understandable.
- e) Information about the station can be at top or bottom of form but if at bottom it does 2 things
- f) Allows for specific reference to full policy document and lets the top of the form include form title,
- g) reason for use and information the station needs.
- h) Forms should include area for Station representative to initial and date now that stations have more staff/interns etc.
- i) This will help follow-up on any issues, if needed.
- j) Forms that allow regular submitters to provide several programs at once are not suitable. Each program needs its own release.
- k) Draft forms are on the Wallingford page of 7TownTV.org
- 7 a) Margo is on an ACM committee for the video festival in CT in November. Brief discussion. Cable cast last year for year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. Follow submission preparation rules. Reminder: Make a Difference category needs supplemental info about how program was received. Also there are 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3rd prize recognition.



- b) John E asked for clarification as to why ATT was not represented at these meetings. Reminded that this is cable council and they participate in Statewide video council meetings for video providers. Chairman Huizenga attends those meetings. Replacement representation sought. No one volunteered.
- PEGPETIA New submissions.
  ETV has been approved for second PEGPETIA grant application for lighting and sound cut system for 17k.
  North Haven's has recently refilled for more extensive upgrades/costs.
- 8 No additional public comments. Adjourn at 8:04

# ---- MOTIONS / ACTION ITEMS -----

Business	Motion	Ву	Vote
Old	To accept July 2009 minutes.	Pete 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Fran	Unanimous
New		2 <sup>nd</sup> by	Unanimous

# ---- NEXT STEPS / ACTION ITEMS -----

	Description	Assigned To	Due Date
1	Think about how to promote ACM conference in Nov.	All	
2	Contact information changes need to be provided to Marie.	Pete L. and any others if applicable	Was an issue for last meeting planning, etc. ASAP
2	Next Meeting in Guilford	Marie	