

Cable Advisory Council of South Central CT, Inc.
P.O. Box 248
Northford, CT 06472-0248

MINUTES-February 27, 2020

Attendance:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

David Weinberg (Guilford), Steve Fuest (Madison), John Ward (Madison), Mary Bigelow (North Branford), Thomas Dacey (Wallingford-Via Skype), Laura Parisi (Wallingford), Michael Parisi (North Haven), Rob Becker (East Haven), Margot Hardenbergh (Branford), Alden Mead (North Haven). (Seven Towns Represented).

GUESTS/PUBLIC PRESENT:

Walter Mann (North Haven), Janet Betta (North Haven), Curt Huizenga (Wallingford), Jeff Kuhan (Wallingford), Herb Jackson (Wallingford).

Call To Order: David Weinberg(Chairman) called the meeting to order at 7:13pm. Mary Bigelow stated that seven towns were represented at this evening's meeting with ten members present (including Dacey/Skype). Walter Mann welcomed everyone to Totoket TV/North Branford Community Media Center.

Public Comment: Public introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes of December, 2019 CACSCC Meeting:

Chairman Weinberg asked if there were any comments or corrections to Minutes. No comments/corrections.

Tom Dacey made a motion to approve. John Ward seconded. Chairman Weinberg said motion passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Mary Bigelow mentioned this is the first meeting of the year. She re-stated the mission of the Cable Advisory Council of South Central CT, Inc.

Treasurer's Report:

-Report distributed.

-Deposits: \$2,300.00

-Expenses: \$43.98 (2 months website-now \$21.99 monthly), \$90.00 (Recording Secretary), \$40.00 (Website upkeep).

Total Expenses Paid: \$173.98

-Checking Balance: \$5,937.53

-Interest On CD:

12/30: \$4.59

1/30: \$4.74

-CD Balance: \$11,185.16

Total Cash Reserves: \$17,122.69

Old Business:

Frontier/Statewide Council Report:

Steve Fuest mentioned that at the most recent Statewide Video Advisory Council (SVAC) that PURA Docket 20-01-09 (Annual Community Access Support Review) and Raised Bill 176 were discussed. Walter Mann gave a report of the hearing held today at the Capitol in which he testified, and explained Raised Bill 176 (Mann is part of the Regional CT Community Access Groups that is spearheading this effort, with the assistance of lobbying firm Sullivan & LeShane). Mann also further explained Docket 20-01-09.

New Business:

-Secretary Bigelow reminded GCTV and NHTV that they each owe their annual payment (\$300) towards the Media Liability Insurance Umbrella Policy.

-Secretary Bigelow stated that they have only received Annual PURA Reports from ETV/East Haven and WPAA/Wallingford.

Chairman's Report: Chairman Weinberg gave a brief update, mentioning some of the Comcast channel changes. Weinberg said he would go into detail under Correspondence.

Town Reports:

-BCTV/Branford: Walter Mann mentioned that BCTV has a new Board Member who is a teacher at Branford High School. Mann said this will further enhance BCTV's relationship with the school system. Mann also mentioned BCTV now has three interns, and also just submitted its PEGPETIA Grant Application. As well, BCTV is planning the 6th Annual BCTV Tour de Branford Bicycle Tour (September), and is also working on contingency planning to address a worst-case scenario related to FCC issues.

-NHTV/North Haven: Mike Parisi (North Haven) stated that NHTV currently has two interns, and has submitted their PEGPETIA Application.

-GCTV/Guilford: David Weinberg mentioned GCTV interviewed John Sayles, author of Yellow Earth. Weinberg said three students serve in a non-voting capacity on GCTV's Board of Directors. Weinberg stated, like BCTV, GCTV has formed a "GCTV at the Crossroads" committee to address things if FCC actions create a bad scenarios for stations like GCTV.

-ETV/East Haven: Rob Becker said high school hockey coverage is entering its 30th year on ETV. Becker also said a meeting was scheduled with the new East Haven Mayor.

-MCAG/Madison: Steve Fuest said 2019 marks 35 years of Madison TV covering high school football games.

-WPAA/Wallingford: Curt Huizenga, Member of the Public, said WPAA recently paid off their mortgage. Huizenga said WPAA won Best Media Center in Under \$300k Budget in the Northeast. Huizenga said WPAA currently has two interns from Quinnipiac University, and one from Middlesex. Huizenga discussed the Supreme Court decision (June 17, 2019) in the Manhattan Community Access Corp-vs-Halleck case.

-Totoket TV/North Branford: Walter Mann said the North Branford Police Department just completed a new video to air on Totoket TV focusing on the need for a new Police Headquarters. Mann said Totoket TV continues to do studio shows, including "I Wanna Know with Dan Armin," that feature North Branford residents and issues of importance to residents. Mann said Totoket TV just taped a special on the reinstallation of a steeple at North Branford Congregational Church. Mann said the Town of North Branford just installed new gutters on the Totoket TV building. Mann said he presented a proposal to the Town Council on Totoket TV, requesting consideration of some annual financial support of Totoket TV from the Town.

Correspondence:

-Chairman Weinberg said Comcast sent notice of non-Hispanic, international programming only being available on new cable boxes. He added that Comcast reminds everyone to check their website for content provider renewals at: MyXfinity.com/ContractRenewals. Weinberg said Comcast has announced price increases for certain subscription channels, including Starz and Epix.

Public Comments:

-Herb Jackson of Wallingford asked for information about the CACSCC Media Liability Insurance. Curt Huizenga of Wallingford, gave background on \$25k CD used partially for Media Liability Insurance Policy. Huizenga said WPAA chose not to participate in shared umbrella policy due to insurance issues at WPAA. In 2016, CACSCC sent check for \$300 to WPAA in lieu of WPAA's decision not to participate/receive coverage in the CACSCC media policy. Steve Fuest said one year, CACSCC took no payments for policy from PEG groups. Chairman Weinberg said GCTV has two Media Liability Policies (one from CACSCC, and one of their own). Weinberg said it is a dis-incentive to go out of the CACSCC policy. Discussion ensued. Weinberg said WPAA and GCTV have compelling reasons to not participate in the CACSCC Media Policy. Discussion on previous year's Minutes ensued. Curt Huizenga said the June, 2016 CACSCC Minutes state that "motion

would be voted on each (contribute \$300 from CACSCC).” Fuest said one year (2017?), no insurance subsidy was given to any of the seven-town PEG stations.

Executive Session:

****No Minutes Taken**** CACSCC Member Participants: Bigelow, Weinberg, Meade, M. Parisi, L. Parisi, Fuest, Becker, Hardenbergh. No others (public) participated.

New Business:

-Margot Hardenbergh made a motion to ask Chairman Weinberg to investigate the insurance subsidies and report back at the next CACSCC Meeting (April 23, 2020). Mike Parisi seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

-Mary Bigelow asked that letters be composed and sent to appointing authorities to fill vacancies on CACSCC.

Reminder: Next CACSCC Meeting is April 23, 2020 at GCTV/Guilford.

Adjournment:

Tom Dacey made a motion to adjourn. Alden Meade seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:18pm. Chairman Weinberg said motion passed unanimously (including vote via telephone from CACSCC member Tom Dacey).

Respectfully submitted,



Walter L. Mann