

CACSCC MEETING NOTES

Thursday, December 18, 2014
Branford

David Weinberg called the Cable Advisory Council of South Central CT meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Meeting: 6 Members/ 5 Towns present

Those present were: Mary Bigelow, North Branford; Laura Parisi, Wallingford; Steve Fuest, Madison; Chad Roy & Margot Hardenbergh, Branford; John Bairos, Comcast; David Weinberg, Guilford; Chairman of BCTV and Streeto of East Haven videotaping. Guest speaker Vin Candelora

Those absent were: Joanne Wentworth & Bill Choti North Branford; Bill Biski, East Haven; Tom Dacey, Wallingford; Terri Fiondella, Guilford.

David Weinberg called to order an informational meeting since there were not enough members present to make a Quorum. He thanked those who were present for coming to the meeting. There were no public comments.

COMCAST REPORT

John Bairos reported on the Leadership Scholarship application period. He spoke about the new channel changes and the increase in costs of several services.

Council member Chad Roy-Branford read an email he had sent to John Bairos about an ongoing problem at the Walsh Intermediate School in Branford. It is a signal problem involving Channel 19. He indicated this had been referred to the company in June of this year and it is 6 months later with no solution. The quality of the station is rapidly deteriorating. The BCTV Board, station manager and Chad Roy Council member are disappointed on how this problem is being handled. They are hoping for a fiber instillation to the school soon. They feel that this should be moved to the highest priority.

SPEAKER :State Representative Vincent Candelora about how the process of the Bonding Commission is done and who is on the Commission. The PEGPETIA money has been authorized by DEEP and endorsed by many legislators. He felt that it is primarily in the hands of the Governor. He hopes that it should be addressed at the January meeting of the Bonding Commission. If it does not appear on the agenda then the PEGS need to again get their Legislators to force the issue. It was discussed maybe doing Public Service announcements of network TV stations, involve the schools, and do announcements on Public access channels. This is a bipartisan issue. In response to questions how it happened that this earmarked money (which is not taxes)was taken, Rep Candelora said it is called defunding of the account. It

was the moneys of 2013 and 2014 but he feels that those moneys will continue to go into the general fund because there was no legislation to stop this process from continuing year after year. State Rep Candelora will keep CACSCC advised of the status of the Grant.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The October 23, 2014 minutes were postponed to February Council meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman David Weinberg referred to a letters from PURA regarding costs changes in Comcast services and channel changes. Also a mailing from Comcast indicating the quarterly payments to the 7 PEGS was noted.

A letter was received from WPAATV regarding a problem they have been experiencing with a "Producer". Members present at the meeting were provided with a copy of the letter for discussion purposes. The council members indicated that this is not an issue for this body to address. It was agreed that the party aggrieved, if not satisfied with the WPAA-TV position should take it to PURA for their review. The Chairman indicated that if other similar situations should occur with any of the 7 PEGs in the future, then we may need to review the Councils position.

It was noted that Bill Biski has withdrawn from the Council as has Terri Cain. Discussion about getting the Towns to appoint representatives was addressed. The Chairman will send a letter to East Haven's Mayor and North Haven's First Selectman advising them that they currently do not have a representative.

PEGPETIA STATUS was discussed earlier in the meeting.

TREASURER 'S REPORT:

The report, submitted by Treasurer Thomas Dacey, for December 18, 2014 is as follows:

Total Expenses: \$ 41.98 (2 months website)

Checking Account Balance: \$5, 826.29

CD Account Balance: \$14,661.84

Total Cash Reserve: \$20,488.13

Interest on CD Account: .62 for 10/31 and .60 for 11/30

A vote could not be made on report due to lack of quorum.

OLD BUSINESS

Steve Fuest, Council's representative to AT&T Council reported that their last meeting was cancelled due to anticipated weather conditions. He noted that the next meeting is in February.

Bylaws Committee had email communications regarding how best to address the issue of updating the document. The Chairman will join the committee to work on this. He will provide the committee with Guilford's recently updated Bylaws where they have noted electronic type communications.

Speakers Committee- no report.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

TOWN REPORTS

Madison: Steve Fuest continues with broadcasting football games.
North Branford: n report.

Wallingford: no report.

Guilford: David Weinberg related that Guilford has won the recent debate with Madison. He feels this is a good sign of progress. The former debate coach has retired.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments to be made.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, meeting was adjourned at 8p.m.

Transcribed by
Mary Bigelow- Vice Chair

