**Cable Advisory Council of South Central CT, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 248**

**Northford, CT 06472-0248**

**MINUTES-JUNE 23, 2016**

**Attendance:**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margot Hardenbergh (Branford), Chad Roy (Branford), Donna Palmieri (East Haven), David Weinberg-Via Skype (Guilford), Steve Fuest (Madison), Mary Bigelow (North Branford), Alden Mead (North Haven), Mike Parisi (North Haven), Thomas Dacey-via Skype (Wallingford), Laura Parisi (Wallingford), John Bairos Ex-Officio-Comcast),

GUESTS:

Janet Betta (North Haven), Walter Mann (North Haven), Mike Streeto (East Haven), Dan Morris (North Haven) Kenn Venit (Guest Speaker-Hamden), Dave Yaccarino (Guest Speaker-North Haven).

**Call To Order:** Mary Bigelow (Vice-Chairman) called the meeting to order at 7:08pm. Dan Morris NHTV/North Haven President, welcomed everyone to the NHTV Studios.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Comcast Report:** John Bairos (Comcast) thanked NHTV/North Haven for hosting this meeting and for the hospitality.

 Comcast “Leaders & Achievers”:

Comcast awarded 45 students throughout Connecticut scholarship awards. Two students in the Branford franchise were recipients. Those students attend Lyman Hall, and Sheehan, respectively.

Comcast Customer Care:

The Xfinity store in North Haven is doing very well. Comcast held extended hours on Memorial Day weekend. Also, this past weekend, Comcast held an “Ask the Expert” event where customers could come in and get technical questions answered.

Programming Updates:

NFL Network is moving from the Digital Preferred tier to the Expanded Basic.

PURA PEG Rates:

John Bairos reminded people that the PURA has adjusted annual P.E.G. subscriber fees (as it does annually) from $7.98 to $8.02 per subscriber.

**Guest Speaker#1: Kenn Venit:**

CACSCC welcome Kenn Venit, longtime CT TV anchorman (WTNH-8 Action News) who also teaches at Southern CT State University, Quinnipiac University and University of New Haven. First, Kenn praised the customer service and efficiency of the Comcast/Xfinity store in North Haven. Kenn then provided his career timeline, from starting work in Philadelphia, to his arrival in CT at then-WTIC-TV Channel 3 (Now WFSB) in 1969. Kenn shared some great stories about his career, as well as how TV has changed, especially how the loss of locally-owned TV and radio stations to large conglomerates has affected the public service value of those stations. He also spoke about the arrival of cable TV and how that changed the TV landscape. A short question and answer session followed.

**Approval of Minutes of April 27, 2016 CACSCC Meeting:**

Margot Hardenbergh moved to approve the minutes with noted correction. Laura Parisi seconded. Chad Roy, Steve Fuest and Alden Mead abstained. Motion carried.

**Chairman’s Report:**

Chairman Weinberg stated he had filed the CACSCC Annual Report with PURA.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

EXPENSES:

-Paid $90.00 (recording secretary).

-Paid $41.98 website (Intuit) for two months.

-Total Expenses: $131.98

INCOME:

-CD Interest was $2.11 for April, $2.18 for May.

-Checking Account Balance: $7,677.47

-CD Account Balance: $12,908.42

-Total Cash Reserves: $20,585.89

Laura Parisi made a motion to accept the report. Margot Hardenbergh seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Tom Dacey mentioned that he spoke with Jen Curran (insurance agent) about the Media Liability Insurance, and that she was moving forward on renewing it. Tom asked how the CACSCC prefers he handle the addition of a WPAA subsidy for that insurance (as the addition of WPAA increases the total umbrella subsidy from $1,800 to $2,100 annually. David Weinberg said he would help Tom in terms of how to add that to the budget.

**Correspondence:**

-Re-Appointment Letters for CACSCC Members were received for the following individuals:

\*Chad Roy (Branford)

\*Joanne Wentworth (North Branford)

\*Margot Hardenbergh (Branford)

\*Tom Dacey (Wallingford)

\*Laura Parisi (Wallingford)

-A reminder from Alliance for Community Media (ACM) about their upcoming Boston event 8/18/16-8/20/16.

-Letter from Guilford Savings Bank regarding their chip-card offerings and policies.

-Ballot from ACM N.E. for their Board of Directors.

**Old Business:**

-Mary Bigelow stated that CACSCC still has not received an annual report for 2015 from Guilford Community TV. David Weinberg state he would forward it shortly.

-East Haven issue with Comcast noted by Robert Becker was discussed. Comcast was addressing the issue.

**New Business:**

Mary Bigelow asked for approval of proposed CACSCC meeting dates/locations for 2016-2017. Margot Hardenbergh made a motion to approve as proposed. Tom Dacey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

August 25, 2016-WPAA/Wallingford

October 27, 2016-NHTV/North Haven

December 22, 2016-GCTV/Guilford

February 23, 2017-BCTV/Branford

April 27, 2017-MCTV/Madison

June 29, 2017-Totoket TV/North Branford

**Other Business:**

-Mary Bigelow mentioned she hasn’t yet received a re-appointment letter from Guilford for David Weinberg.

**Town Reports:**

-ETV/East Haven: Donna Palmieri stated that ETV will be taping upcoming concerts on the East Haven Green, as well as the fireworks and a program on the 20th anniversary of the East Haven-Branford football rivalry. ETV is partnering with the library on a Teen Night event, and taping a “What’s Happening in East Haven” program.

-BCTV/Branford: Walter Mann mentioned that BCTV garnered a grant from Frontier for $11,528.15. Also, BCTV had another successful day with the BCTV Booth at the Annual Branford Festival on June 18. Also, BCTV continues efforts at it’s Second Annual “BCTV Tour de Branford” fundraiser. Also, Chad Roy mentioned they taped both the Middle School and High School graduation ceremonies.

-NHTV/North Haven: Michael Parisi (North Haven) stated that NHTV was approved for a grant in the amount of $19,000.94 from Frontier Communications. As well, NHTV is receiving a $1,000.00 grant from the North Haven Rotary Club in July. The NHTV internship program is going along well. Dennis Blader (longtime Director at WTNH-TV and now teaching at University of New Haven) spent a few hours at NHTV this week providing advice to staff and interns on Directing of studio shows. NHTV plans to start airing selected Town of North Haven meetings live later this year

-MCAG/Madison: Steve Fuest had no report.

-WPAA/Wallingford: Tom Dacey had no report.

-Totoket TV/North Branford: Walter Mann stated that Totoket TV received a grant in the amount of $1,933.24 from Frontier Communications. Also, Totoket TV and the North Branford High School Media Department’s instructor, Nick DeLizio completed the student video competition and scholarship, and awards will be presented soon.

-GCTV/Guilford: David Weinberg stated GCTV has a paid intern from Services for the Blind. Also, GCTV recently held a video competition for students in Guilford Public Schools. There were three winners for the following programs:

\*First Place: “The Last Dorito”

\*Second Place: “Valuing Youth” (PSA)

\*Third Place: “Do You Smell That?”

**Guest Speaker#2: Dave Yaccarino:**

CACSCC welcomed David Yaccarino, State Representative (R-87th) to discuss the history of PEGPETIA, how the funds have been swept by Governor Malloy, and the unknown future of PEGPETIA. Yaccarino also discussed State budget issues. CTN was also discussed. A question and answer period followed.

**Committee Reports:**

-Nomination Committee: Margot reported that the Committee proposes the following slate for the 2016-2017 year:

David Weinberg, Chairman

Mary Bigelow, Vice-Chairman

Alden Mead, Secretary

Tom Dacey, Treasurer

Chad Roy made a motion to approve the slate as proposed. Steve Fuest seconded. Mary Bigelow abstained. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Adjournment:**

Margot Hardenbergh made a motion to adjourn. David Weinberg seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter L. Mann