



Meeting Minutes for April 27, 2006

Meeting convened at –Totoket TV No. Branford

Present:

Branford	John Elliott , Pat McGlashan, Marvin Zimmerman Billye Bradley
East Haven	Marie Sadding ,
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:	Ken Donadio, Mary Bigelow,
Expect to be late:	Joanne Wentworth, Carolyn Spetland
Late regrets –went to wrong location:	John Elliott, Jeff Lincoln
Guests:	No. Branford PEG Members: Nancy Lappie; Roger Buckridge, Dave DuFourny, Bonnie Symansky

Discussion about CACSCC Annual Education Meeting/Program and coordination with Annual Meeting: Outreach Committee update - the Producer invited to develop program identified a preference of for use of Branford facility. Because the BCTV facility is small, coordination of Ed Program with Annual Meeting is to be reconsidered. While waiting for other Advisors to arrive their was discussion on potential quests/speakers for program segments at a August 24th educational program in Branford: Suggested Format three 20 minute segment with roll-ins.

Walter Mann – station manager – how a station runs, which stations are available... possible clip WPAA Award winning PSA streaming on Web site Commissioner Jack Goldberg, alone, or trio of various aspects of legislative landscape...Possibly a PEG rep / or viewing of a clip of SBC "consumer" ad & discussion – awareness that this is not a grassroots movement...depending on who can be confirmed –i.e., an SBC rep- ...to wrap up the segment.
Outreach Committee to continue dialogue with Producer.

Action Items to support Ed Program include:

Request to each PEGs for cable casting: which channel 18 Or 19, and cablecast paperwork to be completed by local advisor
Request to Comcast for router schedule update for event: JB indicated this should not be a problem.

I. Roll call.

Chairman Huizenga called the meeting to order at **7:22 PM**.
4 Towns represented, **5** Members present. No Quorum.

II. Public Comments No Branford's representative providing update on their PEG for site visit (N. Lappie) will be arriving late.

III. Review of Agenda:

Roll Call
Enter Log of Correspondence
Executive Committee (EC) Report – Status Of Advisor Terms, Treasurer Report (CD Rollover Action)
Committee Reports – Outreach
Updates only on Deferred or New Business: ACM Registration, Legislative Action Federal & State
Public Comments

IV. Minutes: Chairman Huizenga asked that the Minutes of the March 2006 be reviewed for accuracy for the record only. Distributed copy had meeting location error which is corrected in on-line version.

**action moved until May meeting because there is not a quorum

Review of March Minutes Action items(red text):

Advisors requested to give personal contact info to M. Saddig.
Billye Bradley will continue to be asked for this info
Education committee did not meet.
Nomination committee received only one e-mail per last month's request/form.
Email notifying each PEG about ACM early-bird registration was sent out with notice about CACSCC Grant.
Letter on Insurance premium status from Treasurer will be delayed pending approval of March minutes.
WPAA should request a second extension for submission of their Annual Report citing extenuating circumstances.
Congressional delegation contacted regarding Barton/C.O.P.E. Bill.
ACM conference: East Haven, Wallingford, and Branford will be sending reps...others TBD. No. Branford – unlikely.
Outreach committee – survey questions needed by next meeting for customer satisfaction survey ...should be relevant / tied to correspondence such as program changes: finalization of question task postponed for one more month.

SITE VISIT Report– Nancy Lappie

Discussion about preparation for 2006 Totoket TV Annual Meeting:
Bonny Symansky introduced as their newest member, Board status to be ratified at Totoket Annual Meeting.

Date of Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of Month (current Adhoc Board Meeting Schedule)
May Ninth meeting advertised in Totoket Times, request for the public to attend, get involved in video taping / editing.

Members 18+ who have joined within the year will be eligible to vote at next meeting. All will be notified via letter or by telephone.

Press release advertising the presence of Comcast representative, suggestion to invite a producer, suggestion to run a LONG meeting notice on the station.

Franchise requirement: by-laws ratification & Staff hours. **Staff Hours for employee Abigail White will be established and confirmed to CACSCC for Web Site.** Predictable

staffing expected per current franchise agreement. By-law updates to recognize franchise wide producers also expected.

Studio accepting DVD, VHS, SVHS formats from members / community to be reviewed for airing.

*note- North Branford High School extends a "Thank You" for the World Map to Comcast.

V. Correspondence – See Feb-Mar CACSCC Correspondence

As reviewed In brief as shared with Advisors: –Incoming

- From Comcast
 - March 27 New England Comcast 2005 Community Investment Report (Note: Community Access Support referenced – however other franchise requirements like school video/Internet listed)
 - March 31 Program changes Effective April 4: For New Customers and Enhanced Cable Service and name change fee. Additions, amendments clarifications to March 3 Rates & Charges DPUC Filing
 - Customer Bill insert: Cable Advisory Council specific
 - Bill Statement **Important Account Information**: Address correction needed. No Branford to be Northford.

- Customer Complaint
 - Customer that moved from Comcast Classic franchise to No. Branford. Dissatisfied with loss of program options
 - East Haven – lots of changes but no improvements - program option Expanded Basic is expensive for Senior with limited incomes.
 - More and More infomercials with scam advertising. Chairman sampled some Fox Infomercials and found 2 out of 3 that were running 'call now' with time or number limits using call center technology that supports this type of advertising. One was not: Reported advertiser to Steve Rabb Fox Advertising Dept. for Action

- From DPUC
 - April 3-13 Comcast Scientific Atlantic Converter Customer Interrog correspondence
 - Docket Correspondence _ as updated on Web site – Intention to have 05-06-12 VOIP -Final decision no later than May 31, 2006. Comment period extended.

Other correspondence:

- a second check rec'd from iGive – see Treasurer report
- Inquiry from Comcast about Annual Report Filing Status for WPAA
- Reappointment Letters: S. Huizenga, Ken Donadio
- Office of Secretary of State: Bus#0233043 Corporation (1996 issue)
- Bank correspondence – business taken care of by Treasurer
- Medicare D Videos: distribute at this meeting

Outgoing

- Filed Comments on Docket 05-06-12
- Several action items on COPE Bill sent to Advisors and PEGS
- Contacted Congressional Delegates about COPE as citizen and CACSCC Chair
- EH Reporter inquiry on PEG extinction 'rumors' – discusses cable landscape – referred to Website for details
- Chairman made call to Madison Finance Dept. about Insurance coverage as requested. Contact no longer with Town. Status provided to current Head

of Finance that Media liability coverage became effective 3.2006 and that a proportional bill will be submitted to Madison for 2007 and ongoing.

VII. COMCAST Report. Comcast Representative John Bairos

- marketing products – April 4th launched a new tier between basic & advanced. Customer able to rent a cable box for \$54.75 which gives access to music choice, on-demand video –some programs are still pay-per-view on top of the fee.
- Update- quarterly checks sent out
- Concern on religious programming – as was already stated, no jurisdiction on this matter, must be taken up by customer with the Supreme Court.
- Question posed- Why doesn't Comcast consider its support of community access television part of its franchise agreement for community service? JB will address this issue.

VIII. Executive Committee (EC) Reports

PEG Annual Reports: **Members are asked to find out if their towns have filed DPUC by next meeting. Bring CACSCC copies to MAY Meeting.**

Treasurer report was by email distributed. CD Action still being researched. Better rates appear to be available. No change in this pending task.

Follow-up from last Month: Customer Satisfaction **Surveys:** contract with vendor recently signed, survey will be conducted in Branford franchise after May.
Advisors can email Questions to Chairman@7towntv.org

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted:
Elizabeth Frager