



Date: **04/17/08**  
 Scheduled Time: **7:00 -9:00 PM MONTHLY** Location: **Arts Barn – Madison**  
 Call to Order **7:13 PM** Adjourn **8:53 PM Motioned by J. E. Secoded by F.F.**  
 Roll Call **4 towns/entities, represented by 7 Members** [Quorum: 5 Towns, 7 Members]

#	Attendees	Town	✓	#	Attendees	Area	✓
	John Elliott	Branford	✓			North Haven	
		Branford				North Haven	
		Branford				North Haven	
		Branford BOE				North Haven BOE	
	Marie Saddig	East Haven	R		Mary Bigelow	North Branford	✓
	Bill Golambiski (aka) Bill Biski	East Haven	✓			North Branford	
	Frances Foley	East Haven	✓			North Branford BOE	
		East Haven BOE			Chairman Huizenga	Wallingford	✓
	Joel Parker	Guilford	✓			Wallingford	
	Treasurer Garofalo	Guilford	✓			Wallingford	
		Guilford				Wallingford BOE	
		Guilford BOE					
		Madison				No. Branford	
		Madison			Steve Fuest	Guest 3	✓
		Madison BOE			Abigail White	Guest 4	✓
4	Ken Donadio	Library	R		Curt Huizenga	Guest 5	✓
	John Bairos	Company-COMCAST				Guest 6	

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

----- AGENDA TOPICS -----

	Subject	Lead	In Brief
1	Roll Call / Welcome Public Comments	Chairman Site Representative	Quorum, Guest from Madison the PEG site
2	Log of Correspondence	Chairman	DPUC Reports/ LegislationUpdates/Video Council
3	Review / Accept Minutes	Advisors	Quorum
4	Executive Committee Report	S.H./ C.S./P.G	Insurance. Treasurer Rpt. Chairman
5	Comcast Report	J. Bairos	Attending late due to another council's schedule change
6	Deferred / Old Business (Including Committee Reports)	Advisors	State Legislation
7	New Business / Town Reports	Advisors	-Town Reports

----- MEETING MINUTES -----

Description	
1	Roll Call / Welcome Roll called. Advisors were welcomed by Abigail White President and staff at Madison. She describes what is new at the Madison Arts Barn. New lighting system, replacing channel 19's controller possibly putting something in that is server based, and a lot of kids are doing production with parental involvement which is the newest program development. She announced that the station will be doing a community survey again in June of 2008 asking people what they like and what they want to see more of. Abigail will be person of the week in the shore publishing newspaper which will be the media opportunity to announce the survey.

	<p>PEG Internet Distribution discussion occurred during welcome: Frances asks if Madison had done any uploading of their meetings to Internet.. So far it is free on some sites and ETV is posting shows up to a few hours in length. (ETV government TV producers are uploading government programming on to the government website via <a href="http://easthavenpolitics.blogspot.com/">http://easthavenpolitics.blogspot.com/</a> )</p> <p>Chairman Huizenga comments about how there is currently no limit or price for video uploads but there is limits and pricing for images on some sites like Google. Other than Wallingford [channel 18 <a href="http://www.vbricktv.com/wpa/">http://www.vbricktv.com/wpa/</a> Channel 20 <a href="http://wallingfordgovtv.blogspot.com/">http://wallingfordgovtv.blogspot.com/</a>] no other town responded affirmatively to participating in Internet distribution. John from Branford says he knows nothing about it. Chairman Huizenga indicates that U-verse discussions (IPTV for subscribers) had begun with Branford and No. Haven based on ATT source. Chairman Huizenga had requested of John Erma ATT that a copy of the 'standard' contract be distributed to the eligible interconnect sites at the April Video Council Meeting. This was follow-up to a similar request at Vernon Public Hearing in March. WPAA has not entered discussion but they are confident that their current VBrick technology makes them interconnect ready. Frances will document Google Internet Posting procedures and distribute.</p>
2	<p>STATUS of 2007 Reporting: CACSCC Advisors need to confirm ETV, Guilford and North Branford Annual Reports are completed for 2007 (due February). Wallingford 2006/2007 were provided to Comcast at this Meeting. .</p> <p>Chairman Huizenga reads a letter she received from a producer concerned about 1<sup>st</sup> amendment rights violation based on incident at Wallingford Public Access Library. The attendees with producer experience reported that they have never been required to provide advance notice to appear at meetings open to public. Historically in there collective experience here is the process: 1) notification of intent upon arrival at an event, 2) request for taping (talent releases forms) and honoring requests of attendees not to be on video, 3) adhering to regulations about not impeding access to entrances/exits and 4) a visible sign on or near camera about taping. Advance notice was a courtesy not a requirement. The citizen producer is expected to be treated as a reporter.</p> <p>Based on the producer report there appears to be a violation as the meeting had public invitations to participate, was underwritten in part by taxpayer funds and no access to speaker was allowed to request permission to tape. CACSCC Library Advisor was advised of complaint and is to determine Library perspective on complaint. (See discussion about Annual Meeting)</p> <p>Other Correspondence: Monthly Bank statements, NHTV Insurance payment, North Haven member bill error given to Comcast.</p>
3	<p>Joel makes a motion to accept the minutes as recorded. And Pete seconds. Everyone votes in favor to adopt the minutes. John from Branford wasn't here (but he read them and he agrees to vote in favor of accepting them)</p>
4	<p>Update from Treasurer on Media Liability Insurance: just sent out invoices this month for reimbursement. Already got the check from North Haven, Madison is in the works, everyone has been directed to "send it to the mailbox". Hopefully should receive everything by the year end meeting. Last months activity: check for the ACM, paid the monthly meeting, and Secretary of state fees. And all of that is reflected in the financial statement. Pete did change the projection for the budget in regards to insurance ... it came in less than what had originally been anticipated. Projected to have a surplus of about 19,000 dollars.</p> <p>John motions to accept the financial report as recorded. Frances seconds. There are no abstentions or nays.</p> <p>Direction from Advisors to Budget Committee Discussion: We will retain the same budget committee as before (Pete and John). The main thing that will</p>

affect the budget for next year is the Insurance. There will be no net expense to the council as the PEGS will be assuming full costs.

John proposes a motion, with the thought of increasing the Comcast budget for the 7town group and providing a travel stipend to advisors based on receipts.

John makes Motion for reimbursement plan for traveling expenses. There is no second. There is discussion that advisors felt these expenses were part of their commitment to their community. The Chairman told advisors that this expense was eligible to be claimed as a deduction when you itemize your income taxes.

Chairman asks how many people on the council have free long distance. A few hands go up. She proposes the potential of having some of these meetings via phone conference. With the ability to share documents via the internet.

Steve proposes yahoo group conferencing for free on the web with an inexpensive headset. Chairmen asks Pete to look into this as part of the budget to see if a few meetings a year can be handled that way and if there are any expenses associated with that process and asks Steve to share his knowledge of yahoo group conferencing with Pete.

**REPORT FROM CHAIR:** How do we handle the status of the advisors as of Annual Meeting? Ken and two newbies who (we now discover were only appointed temporarily) would be the only advisors as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. To officially continue to transact business and based on precedent set in 2003, the chairmen sent out communication to all communities who have appointees with the following message: Appointees are interested in continued service. Until such time as they are replaced or re-appointed the council will operate as if their appointment has been extended. So absent a new appointee or official re-appointment current advisors will constitute CACSCC.

One course of action is to identify this as an issue to the statewide video council. They are interested in general in reviewing the gaps in community access statute. For example, there is a dependency for service on the state wide council on being appointed by the franchise level. If the franchise level appointment changes de facto the state wide appointment ceases and must be re-established. The Chair entertains a motion that this is an issue for further action.

Motion: as statewide rep CACSC Chair should bring to the state wide council the need for review of the inter-relationship of councils and to determine if the processes ensure corporate sustainability of these organizations within the rules of the appointment process.

Motion by John seconded by Pete, no further discussion or questions. All vote in favor.

**Annual Meeting Preparation Status:** The speaker that was invited to address the topic: history of communication technologies is of particular interest as the consumers we represent are getting media blitzed about bundled 'phone-Internet-TV' was Professor Sharon Kleinman from Quinnipiac.

**Outcome:** *Thanks so much for the invitation to speak at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Cable Advisory Council. I've recently accepted new responsibilities as Interim Director of Quinnipiac's new Interactive Communications Online Graduate Program, which we're launching in August 2008, and I'm working on a new book for Peter Lang Publishing, The Culture of Efficiency, with a very tight production deadline. In short, I'm juggling a few more plates now, and I so unfortunately I won't be able to accept your invitation this summer.*

Alternative and fallback discussed.

Based on the Producer letter about Wallingford Library this topic seems more urgent to get up to speed on than the a historical perspective on the technologies.

**FIRST ADMENDMENT PROGRAM:** Chairman discusses that she emailed and proposed the idea

	<p>to two lawyers who have loose ties to Wallingford: Mary-Rose Papandrea, assistant prof Boston College Law Faculty. and David Ardia is a fellow at the Berkman Center and the director of the Citizen Media Law Project , which provides legal education and resources for individuals and organizations involved in citizen media.</p> <p>Fallback plan: Perhaps getting the website up to date and then doing a walk thru with interesting digital media and short films but this doesn't become cable cast because it is too hard to manage (as a result it would not be going to the education channel)</p> <p>IDEAS: John: Open panel discussion with the station managers where they can discuss the programming from all the various towns. Frances: Educational tutorial to show people how to turn their ideas into shows. Chair responds that such a shows would need to be scripted and therefore require a committee.</p> <p>Frances suggests a media law professor from Quinnipiac named Cooper may be an back-up on the citizen reporter 1<sup>st</sup> amendment topic. If there is a zero response from the couple the chair suggests that she follow up with Frances and see if this professor can come in and discuss the same topic.</p>
5	<p><b>COMCAST REPORT :</b></p> <p>Every year Comcast foundation provides leaders and achiever scholarships. This year there were three 1,000 dollar scholarship provided in CT. Website to be updated.</p> <p>2 years ago Comcast offered PEG stations the option to have residential Internet in order to keep their costs down. WPAA requested procedure to apply as they are now interested. Paperwork was provided to WPAA representative. Discussion: Question from WPAA: is there a limit for upload on that plan for residential subscribers? WPAA wants to put both AT&amp;T and Comcast in their facility and designate one as primary for Internet Upload use. John asks that he send an email with the details and he will be able to give a response.</p> <p>Next step the advisors need to follow up on the residential internet option available from Comcast to determine I there may now be interest.</p>
6	<p>Discussion of Two DPUC dockets: Wallingford PEG Allocation 08-04-09 and Comcast basic tier regulation docket - 080409.</p> <p>Status on Wallingford docket – CACSCC did respond timely but the Town of Wallingford asked to be a party to proceedings and was granted it but they said they didn't have enough time to respond to the draft decision and therefore were granted an extension until May 29<sup>th</sup>. As a result CACSCC requested the right to re-submit comments.</p> <p>Question from chair to John – Do you believe that Comcast will be weighing in on the Wallingford docket ? John – I don't think so. There was no scheduled public hearing. Chairman Huizenga indicated that WPAA filing referenced COMCAST positions on topic in prior dockets.</p> <p>Comcast basic tier regulation docket - 080409. Comcast never threatened to take the basic tier away because it is a violation of federal law. Office of Consumer Council comments and CACSCC: Comcast has every right based on the legislation that was passed to ask for regulatory relief. Comcast isn't playing on a level playing field since AT&amp;T isn't even being asked to provide a similar subscriber option. Other councils submitted comments about loss of basic tier and some engaged consumers in a letter writing campaign.</p> <p>HB 5814 – Chair did write on the councils behalf to the E&amp;Tech Committee all of our objections</p>

	<p>toward it because it was decisive to the community. It is currently dead but could be brought back to life again if session re-opened. But generally speaking item is dead and would need to travel through legislative process again. Web site will be updated with details.</p> <p>Open docket regarding annual funding for community access. CPI index increase, 2 cents more for each subscriber per month.</p> <p>Joel reports that he has had very polite response from Comcast on questions related to bundling. Every case appears to be very specific to subscriber needs, Bundling does not appear to be responsive to the customers interest in selecting less services at a lower cost.</p>
7	<p>Town Report: Guilford is being audited by the IRS. Asks if any other town is experiencing the same thing. No was the reply.</p> <p>Based on questions posed in April Meeting Guilford's town government is paying for 2 part time staff to cover staff meetings. Role of PEGs will be reviewed more extensively by CACSCC based on the information on how towns are coordinating PEG aspects of Community Access including the reference to the word 'create in PA 07-253.</p> <p>John Otto from Guilford posed the question for CACSCC: "Why are people from the town of Branford going to Guilford for training. Is Guilford expected to provide this training? A legitimate concern was expressed that GTV does not have the manpower to continue to do this. Why are they coming to Guilford from Branford. John from Branford is unsure because they have their own training nights. John from Branford said he will ask at their next PEG meeting.</p> <p>Discussion of PEG expectations based on 2002 Inter-town cablecast facility use: The only requirement is to accept cablecast materials from local producers of local content within the seven towns without a local town sponsor. Each town can allow use of their resources on 1<sup>st</sup> come 1<sup>st</sup> serve basis based on a confirmation that out-of-town users have been certified in equipment use. Policies can be more liberal at the discretion of each town facility.</p> <p><b>Bottomline:</b> Video Production Training is expected to be done by the town of residence or employment if applicable of the prospective producer.</p>
8	No public comments. Adjourn.

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

	Description	Assigned To	Due Date
1	Lock down Annual Meeting Plans	Chairman/Francis	ASAP
2	Statewide council – motion items	Chairman	As Statewide council agendas allow
3	Budget Committee – review web meeting options Steve may have info about Yahoo.group	Pete/John	For July
4	Internet at residential rate – remind PEGS of offer from Comcast	Advisors	
5	Follow Open dockets including WPAA	Chairman	As needed
6	Research the current status of citizen producer rights	All	As interest in topic leads
7	Procedure for Internet distribution on google video for PEGS	Frances	As time allows
8	Meeting on digital transition-Invite PEGS	C. Huizenga	In June