



Town of Fairhaven

Meeting Notice

Cable Advisory Committee

Place of Meeting East Room Town Hall

Date & Time Tues JUL 24 7 PM

Meeting of _____ Cancelled / Postponed to _____

Barbara D. Hsu

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

JULY 24, 2018

FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

2018 JUL 20 P 3:39

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK

1. REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW ACCESS CABLE DIRECTOR, DEREK FRATES
3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW CABLE ADVISORY MEMBERS. MARIA CARVAHLO AND KENNETH SOUZA
4. CABLE DIRECTOR'S REPORT; UPDATE ON PEG FUNCTIONING, 95 UPDATE, NEXT STEPS
5. UPDATE ON STATUS OF LICENSE
6. RFP FOR OTHER CABLE SERVICE PROVIDERS
7. PROPOSED JULY 31 CAC MEETING TO DISCUSS BULK BILLING OPTIONS AND SENIOR DISCOUNT
8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS NOT ANTICIPATED PRIOR TO AGENDA



Town of Fairhaven

Town Hall 40 Centre Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

TOWN CLERK

Minutes of Meeting SEP 26 P 12:17

Cable Advisory Committee

PLACE OF MEETING: **Town Hall East Room**
DATE AND TIME: **July 24th, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.**
MEETING OF: **Cable Advisory Committee**

(Signature)

9-25-2018

(Date Signed)

Present: Barbara Acksen, Ex-officio Selectman Bob Espindola, Maria Carvarlho, , Ronnie Medina, Mike Merrolla
Absent: John Methia

Guest: Derek Frates

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 P.M

Meeting notes from the prior meeting, held on May 31st were reviewed.

Ronnie made a motion to approve the meeting.

Bob Espindola Seconded the motion

Mike Merrolla abstained (was not at the meeting) and Maria Carvalho (was not on the committee at that time).

There was no further discussion

The motion passed unanimously (3-0)

Barbara Acksen introduced Derek Frates. Derek outlined all the things he has been working on for the Town, including work for the 4th of July Parade, working with the Board of Health on Public Service promo, Fairhaven Road Race, Music in the Center events, working with CGI Communications out of Rochester New York to re-film the 7 chapter video series highlighting

the Town's Quality of Life, Real Estate, Education, Tourism, Economic Development, etc.

He said he is also planning to go on the Harbormasters' boat the USCG vessel and planning to cover community events like the West Island Regatta.

He said he has been searching through footage left behind by Bobby Bruso to use, including footage of events, Drone Footage, etc.

He said he spoke at a Rotary Club event about things they can do with Public Access.

Barbara introduced Maria Cavarlho, who recently moved to Fairhaven from New Bedford and is involved with such things as Real Estate Law, has worked with Derek prior in Dartmouth, has 35 years of experience in radio, etc.

She said she has been in Town for about a year and wanted to give back to the community where she lives.

Another member, Ken Souza, also appointed recently, was not available for this meeting.

Ken was also a member of Old Rochester Regional Community Television and also Fall River Cable Television.

Derek would like to hold an Open House Event in September. He said there is an outlet through Social Media in the meantime.

Derek said that the issue with the cable issue with the modulator had been resolved by working with the Town IT department to have them run the cable. The project has not been done yet but seems like it will be moving forward.

Barbara Acksen mentioned that she had obtained the password for the telephone that was held by Bobby Bruso in the past. Derek said he would work with Mark Rees regarding that password and Bobby's files.

Derek said that what he found so far is that Bobby had

Derek said he could use help getting the word out to non-profit groups to let them know that the Public Access station will be going live soon and they can take advantage of it.

Derek said that he is looking to work with Anne Obrien to find ways to boost the number of people who are Facebook friends with the Cable Department vs. friends with the Town in general.

Bob Espindola suggested that if Derek needed support for advertisement for the Open House that he should let the CAC know how we can support him

Bob mentioned Wix and other services that provide training and workshops for people looking to get people comfortable using equipment for filming, editing footage, etc.

Derek said that in Dartmouth he ran training classes himself.

Bob Espindola suggested that Derek reach out to Wix to see if they will attend the Open House and to see if their service is something Derek could use.

Bob Espindola suggested the CAC should work with Mark Rees to understand better the role of the CAC vs. Mark Rees, Derek, etc, when it comes to voting on or making recommendations on spending.

Derek brought up the Policies and Procedures document that

Bob Espindola announced that the Board of Selectmen had signed the next ten (10) year Contract with Comcast. He explained that the contract was, by and large, the same as the last ten (10) year contract but that there were certain areas that were different this time around.

He explained that the contract had provisions for the Town to Buy out the "Inet" service from Comcast such that the Town would build-out, own and operate a Fiber Optic network. That work would be paid for, in part, by funds paid out by Comcast as negotiated in the contract by the negotiating committee.

Derek asked about the "Inet build out" and Bob Espindola explained that the effort would be led by Nicole Potter-Verneau and that an outside firm would be hired for the design and construction.

Bob suggested that Derek check with Mark Rees on the details and to see if he can assist.

Barbara Acksen asked about the RFP for other cable service providers. She reminded the CAC that special counsel Attorney Solomon indicated that this should not be done until after the contract was completed.

Bob explained that Attorney Solomon suggested that, because the infrastructure to set up throughout Town is costly, we may not see much interest from competitors of Comcast. Bob indicated that he felt that we owe to the people in the community to run through the RFP process to see, non-the-less.

Bob Espindola made a motion to ask Mr. Rees to work with *Cathy Solomon to issue the RFP.*

Maria Cavarlho seconded

There was no further discussion

The motion carried unanimously.

Bob explained that there would be a meeting with Comcast in the near future to discuss Senior Discounts available (\$2.00 per month) and bulk purchasing that could be available for people living in places like condominiums, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, etc

Bob Espindola reminded people that Bob Sullivan from Comcast is our contact person to help assist with service quality issues. Bob Sullivan was our Comcast representative during Comcast Contract negotiations.

The meeting will be next Tuesday night at Oxford Terrace in the Community Center.

Bob asked about advertising the event.

Mike Merrolla suggested we advertise on Cable Bulletin Board.

Derek offered to make up a flyer to be distributed at the various facilities.

Bob indicated that it was important for the Town seal to be on the document to show that this is being sponsored by the Town.

Bob Espindola said that Comcast Rep Mike Pascarella will provide information regarding bulk purchasing.

Bob indicated that he had contacted the Neighborhood News already about the event.

Mike Merrolla suggested that the committee again go to a set date each month for consistency.

The committee decided that, until further notice, the meetings would be on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Next meeting will be Tuesday, August 21st at 7:00 P.M.

Mike Merrolla motioned to adjourn at ohn Methia made a motion to adjourn at 8:06 P.M.

Maria Cavarlho Seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion

The motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Bob Espindola, acting Secretary