



Town of Fairhaven

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Meeting Notice

2017 MAR -3 P 3:48

Cable Advisory Committee

Place of Meeting

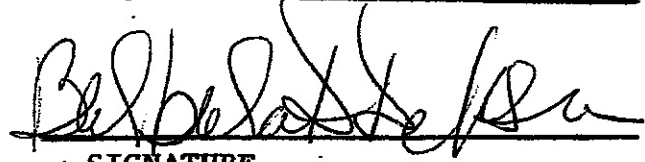
East Room Town Hall

Date & Time

Tues March 7 2017 7

Meeting of

Cancelled / Postponed to



SIGNATURE

CAC

Agenda

March 7, 2017

- I. Review of minutes from previous meeting
- II. Meeting at 7:15 with Robert Sullivan, Senior manager at COMCAST and Government affairs colleague Cathy Maloney
- III. Update from Cable Access Director Bobby Brusco, including PEG functioning
- IV. Continued discussion of PEG matters
- V. Continued Discussion of timetable planning for license
- VI. Any other business not anticipated prior to meeting agenda



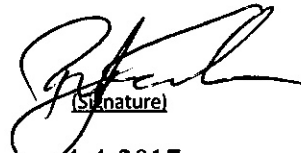
Town of Fairhaven

Town Hall 40 Centre Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719

Minutes of Meeting

Cable Advisory Committee

PLACE OF MEETING: **Town Hall Banquet Room**
DATE AND TIME: **March 7th, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.**
MEETING OF: **Cable Advisory**


(Signature)
4-4-2017

(Date Signed)

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

Guests, Bob Sullivan and Cathy Malone from Comcast.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M

Meeting notes from the February 2nd Meeting were reviewed.

John Methia motioned to approve
Ronnie Medina seconded
There was no further discussion
The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Sullivan and Ms. Malone were introduced.

Mr. Sullivan indicated that a number of issues brought to his attention had since been addressed, including a resident on Mill Road and a woman in a Condo Association.

In the case of the Condo association, Comcast did visit the residence and found that the issue was related to exterior wiring that was the responsibility of the Condo association. Comcast notified the resident of this and she will take the issue up with the association.

There was also an e-mail from a Mr. Fisher, regarding certain fees on his bill but Mr. Fisher was not able to make it to the meeting.

Mr. Sullivan also indicated that they had done work at the residence of Ms. David, editor of the Neighborhood News and that her immediate concerns had been resolved.

Mr. Sullivan reminded the CAC about flyers that had been sent to Town Hall previously about the "Internet Essentials" program. He indicated that he would like to see them distributed in the Schools and at HUD Housing authorities. The program allows those on a limited income to be able to afford Internet Access for \$9.95 per month.

Mr. Sullivan indicated that Comcast is investing a lot of money in new technology, such as their "X1" platform and that those costs were reflected in pricing.

He also indicated that retransmission of signals, from channels such as local channels like 6, 10 & 12 and certain sports channels was unbundled on the bill for transparency reasons, starting in 2014. He said that Comcast is just passing those costs through to customers.

Mr. Sullivan indicated that the lowest tier pricing – Basic Service does not see an extra charge – that is considered a "legacy" rate.

Mr. Sullivan said the web site has a link to "Frequently Asked Questions" that might answer a lot of questions people have.

He pointed out that there is a link on their web site to a free speed test that can be used to check performance of a subscribers' equipment in the area of downloading and uploading.

Mr. Sullivan indicated that Comcast does not own any telephone poles in MA

Bobby Brusco indicated that the new Castus server that had been ordered is due to arrive on Thursday. He indicated there was a connectivity issue with Comcast he was working on. He said that Comcast came for a site visit and indicated that the cabling was probably twenty (20) years old and in need of replacement for quality and reliability reasons.

He indicated that by just replacing that cable, there may be a picture quality improvement in the broadcast.

Mr. Brusco demonstrated the new "Mr. Mevo camera that is very small, sits on a stand and can be controlled remotely from a portable device (like a smart phone).

Bob Espindola reminded the Committee about a prior meeting where Mr. Wayne Heyward, Chairmen of the Planning Board, had attended a CAC meeting and suggested that a good goal for programming would be to have all meetings that are not aired live be posted for viewing on

the web site within 24 hours and that we increase the percentage of meetings covered.

There was a general discussion about the need to hire 1-2 additional people part time.

The budget that Mr. Brusio is working on will reflect staffing needs.

There was a discussion about using Google Calendar to catalog all public meetings that need to be recorded and using that to track who is recording them.

Mr. Brusio revealed that he had a new Logo for Channel 18.

John Methia mentioned use of Facebook and other social media for uploading but said that those methods should be considered secondary to the channel and the channel should always be maintained (i.e. to serve those who do not have access to the internet).

There was a general discussion about Ascertainment documents . Mr. Brusio and Mr. Furtado will continue to work together to develop those documents and Bob Espindola will reach out to Attorney Solomon for copies of the original Ascertainment documents (from the current contract issue about nine (9) years ago).


The committee discussed Policies and Procedures. Ms. Acksen is still working on the review of examples that she has received and has not completed that work. She indicated that she was not comfortable committing to having a draft document for the CAC to review in April.

Bob Espindola expressed concern about much further delay now that the equipment issues will soon be behind us and we will then be prevented from going live with Public Access only by not having written procedures. He suggested Ms. Acksen request assistance from someone like Mr. Sherwood to help bring the Policies and Procedures into a Draft form.

Ms. Acksen indicated that she had already had the assistance from Mr. Sherwood and that she needed to take the next step of consolidating the documents into one for Fairhaven but that the task was very time consuming.

Bob Espindola expressed concern that not lighting the Public Channel could impact negotiations with Comcast which are to take place in the next couple months. He suggested setting a date we wished to light the channel by and work our way back to when the Policies and Procedures must be completed and he suggested that they need to be completed and adopted in the next month or two at the latest to demonstrate to Comcast that we have actual Public programming.

Bob Espindola motioned to allow Ms. Acksen to evaluate the need for funding for consulting services and to review those with Town Administrator Mark Rees to request funds as needed to accelerate draft of Policies and Procedures.



John Methia seconded.

There was no further discussion.

The vote was unanimous in favor.

Ms.Acksen indicated she would reach out to Mr. Tapper regarding his quotation for the sound system in the auditorium to see if he could update in time for the next meeting.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 4th at 7:00 P.M.

John Methia made a motion to adjourn at 9:03 P.M.

Ronnie Medina seconded.

There was no further discussion

The motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Bob Espindola, acting Secretary