



CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COUNCIL OF
SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT
MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2013, Regular Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Groton Public Library, 52 Newtown Road, Route 117,
Groton, CT 06340

IN ATTENDANCE: Jim Kelley, Bill Hakkinen, Jim Loughlin, Steve Garmon, Bruce Edwards, Roger Roy, Leon Palmieri

ABSENT: Paul Kadri, Greg Pont, Jason Jones, Richard Delorenze

COMCAST REPRESENTATIVES: Sharon Codeanne, Frank Facchini

THAMES VALLEY COMMUNICATION REPRESENTATIVE: Absent

SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT TELEVISION: Helen Rush

Recognition of members of the public for public comments – None.

I. Reports

A. Secretary's Report: Acceptance of 9/13/12 Meeting Minutes. Garmon made motion, Edwards seconded. Passed unanimously.

B. Treasurer's Report:

This statement reflects the activity on Council's checking account during September-December 2012.

<i>Beginning balance 8/23/12</i>	\$41,408.49
CREDITS	
Combined interest earned 9/26, 10/24, 11/27, 12/26/12:	\$3.17
EXPENSES	
Jim Loughlin ck#771 (9/13/12)	\$50.86
Val Koschmieder ck#769 (9/13/12)	\$100.00
James Kelley ck#770 (9/13/12)	\$156.00
<i>Current checking account balance</i>	\$41,104.80

C. Comcast Progress Report – Sharon Codeanne reported on several Marketing items including the addition of the BeIN SPORTS channel added to the Sports Entertainment Pack and price adjustments which will take affect on 1/22/13. Notice to PURA was handed out. Also, The PEG support check in the amount of \$2,500.00 was hand delivered to Kelley.

PEG Operation Report by Frank Facchini was given. An overview of upgrades and equipment installed in the studio's control room was given along with details of the successful annual open house held on 12/6/12. Twenty-five programs were listed as produced and/or in production at the studio or in the community.

D. TVC Progress Report: Richard Delorenze was absent. Val Koschmieder gave a brief overview of where the sale of TVC is at. Hakkinen noted that the news reports indicate the buyer of TVC intends to expand service; in that light, he asked that Koschmieder try to obtain an answer as to whether the buyer of TVC plans to expand service into other areas, such as northeast Ledyard.

Deleted: B

II. Old Business

A. Status of the third party public access: Helen Rush spoke.

SECTV moves forward with grant money and they are using newly purchased equipment. SECTV asked the Advisory Council for some funds to upgrade their editing software. Kelley responded that the second round of the grant process may be extended and needs to complete before they may consider SECTV request for funds. Rush added that a workshop in Voluntown was held on Intro to Public Access and was very successful with Comcast's help. 8 people attended. Workshops in other towns are planned but no schedule as of yet, has been set.

B. Second grant process

Grant letters have been sent out. No requests have been received as of today. Kelley suggested we extend the program by 4 months until the May meeting and would like to remove the restriction of matching funds, as this may be causing towns to not apply.

Loughlin is strongly in favor of requiring matching funds for all grants or limiting non-matching grants to \$2,000.00. Several suggestions by other board members were given in the spirit of a compromise.

Motion was made by Garmon to drop the matching funds requirement, extend the deadline until the May meeting, and leave the grant amount at \$7,000.00. Seconded by Hakkinen. Another letter will be generated and mailed out to the towns within a week. Approvals will be granted at the May meeting. Vote: 1 no, 7 yes, passed.

C. Increase Membership

This effort has not been successful as towns are having difficulties fillings their own boards/committees.

Kelley stated direct personal recruitment by board members is the best way to increase membership.

Kelley will get in touch with Voluntown library to see if someone is interested. Loughlin will approach the Groton School's Interim Superintendent about a Groton BOE rep.

D. Review of Council goals

III. New Business

A. Sale of TVC – Discussed briefly during TVC's Report.

B. After Codeanne left the meeting it was asked that she, or a Comcast rep, speak at our next meeting in March on how to understand the Comcast bill, along with an explanation of fees and tier structures. Edwards will contact Codeanne about this.

IV. Survey of councilors

Edwards: Thanked Council on vote about the 2nd round of grants.

Garmon, Roy, Palmieri, Hakkinen, Kelley: None

Loughlin: AT&T starting up on this side of the river? Kelley stated, the sense is they are working on infrastructure but not available here yet.

V. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. March 14, 2013 is the next meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



