

Fremont Cable Committee Meeting

August 1, 2017

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Bill Millios, Chair

Bruce White, Coordinator

Felicia Augevich, Committee Member

Leo Danjou, Committee Member

Neal Janvrin, Committee Member

Chairman opened the meeting at 5:30 pm.

No Chairman's Report.

No Minutes have been typed up for approval.

No Coordinator's Report.

For Discussion:

Bruce White nominated Neal Janvrin as the Cable Committee's 5th member. Felicia seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Bruce gave some background on Neal and commented Neal would be a big help in the upcoming cable contract negotiations.

Bruce explained the 4 issues he and Neal had worked out with the Committee:

- a. Subscriber fee
- b. Second channel
- c. Making public access available to residents not currently receiving Fremont Public Access
- d. Leo also mentioned reducing dwelling per mile from 20 down to 10 dwellings per mile.

Bill asked Neal to give some background on the original discussions with Comcast. Neal mentioned the committee size and said the original committee was too big and had too many issues and made the negotiations more complicated. He also felt the issue of public access for all residents had been resolved in the past.

Bruce spoke about the need for he and Heidi to impress upon Jay Somers the need for a meeting ASAP and would be working on a letter or email to send out.

Felicia asked when the current contract expired. Bruce said he thought it was 2019. Bill confirmed that, showing Bruce the contract.

Neal said initial negotiations took over a year and he'd like to press Jay Somers on making this a more timely process.

Neal asked 5, 10 or 20-year contract? Felicia said 5 would be good because of so much new technology. The Committee agreed 5-year contract may be a good idea.

Bill brought up the fact that the second channel is already in our current contract. Bruce explained eventually most public access have three channels. He also explained the need for a second channel and why.

Felicia asked where the franchise fee stood and the schedule of payments. Bruce explained he wasn't sure at this point. We've been waiting five months with no confirmation yet. He also said it was his understanding the fees are paid quarterly.

Neal said he'd report to the Selectmen on the issues we'd like discussed and see if they have any additional concerns.

Bruce mentioned a copy of our current contract is available to all members at the Selectmen's Office.

Bill said he felt, concerning the contract, Sections 6, 7 & 8 were worthwhile to review.

A short discussion about the progress on the meeting room renovations took place near the end of the meeting.

With no additional business Bill motioned to adjourn the meeting; Felicia seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.