

FIVE TOWN CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representing the Towns of Great Barrington, Lee, Lenox, Sheffield and Stockbridge

Minutes

June 14, 2011

6:15 p.m.

Sheffield Town Hall

21 Depot Square

Sheffield, MA

Members Present: Linda Miller, Chair, Great Barrington
Malcolm Chisholm, Lee
Thomas Hatch, Great Barrington
Steve Moritz, Lee
Richard Burow, Stockbridge
Stephen Miller, Stockbridge
Paul O'Brien, Sheffield

Others Present: John Mucha, Time Warner
John Fogarty, Time Warner
Rhonda LaBombard, Recording Clerk

Chairman Miller called the meeting to order and determined that four towns were represented, Lenox was missing.

MINUTES: Mr. O'Brien moved to waive the reading of the minutes from the March 8, 2011 meeting and to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Mr. Moritz. The motion carried unanimously.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT: Mr. Chisholm updated the Committee on the progress of the subcommittee as follows:

1. Negotiating process-building upon existing agreement with changes outlined in red
2. Negotiating schedule-one meeting will be held in between the regularly scheduled Committee meetings
3. A strand map was provided for each town.

The following priorities were determined:

- a. Universal access
- b. Substantial capital funding for CTSB
- c. 5 to 10 year expiration date
- d. Senior citizen discount
- e. Broader liquidated damages clause
- f. Modern technology

Discussion ensued.

TIME WARNER REPORT: John Mucha from Time Warner was present to give the report and to answer questions.

DVR Program Issue: Mr. Mucha reported that a DVR program issue was received and has been resolved.

Programming: Mr. Mucha discussed two channels that do not have agreements with Time Warner, but negotiations have begun.

Compliment: Mr. O'Brien complimented Time Warner on their fast response to damaged wires. Mr. Chisholm also complimented Time Warner on their service.

Chairman Miller suspended the meeting at 6:48 pm.

Chairman Miller reopened the meeting at 7:20 pm.

CTSB REPORT: Chairman Miller read the report and stated that all five towns have signed the CTSB license agreement.

WIRED WEST: Discussion ensued regarding Wired West.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Chisholm resigned from the Five Town Cable Advisory Committee and stated that he no longer has the time required to serve. Chairman Miller presented Mr. Chisholm with a letter of thanks and a plaque acknowledging his many years on the Committee. Mr. O'Brien will replace Mr. Chisholm on the negotiating subcommittee.

The next meeting will be held on September 13, 2011 in the Lenox Town Hall beginning with a second public hearing at 6 pm.

Discussion ensued regarding legal counsel for the negotiations. Mr. O'Brien moved that legal counsel will not exceed \$25,000 (\$5,000 per town), seconded by Mr. Miller. The motion carried unanimously. It was the consensus of the Committee that each member will bring this issue to the town's that they represent.

Mr. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. O'Brien. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Rhonda LaBombard
Recording Clerk