

Cable Advisory Minutes 03/09/05

Selectmen's Cable Television Advisory Committee Minutes of Meeting of March 9, 2005

Meeting began @ 7:45 p.m. in the Selectmen's Chambers, Town Hall Members Present – Phil McCarthy, Bob Chebator, Paul Berg, Jim Walsh and Mike Quinn Also Present – John Maher, Glenn Koenig and Steve Gilligan

The draft minutes of the November 10, 2004 meeting and public hearing were VOTED (5-0) approved on motion of Mr. Berg, seconded by Mr. Quinn.

As the Needs Assessment report was delayed and only 7 copies of a draft were available for first time at the meeting there was little discussion on the report pending a review and the agenda item was continued to the next meeting. Mr. Sherwood left a note with the drafts that 20 copies of the completed report would be delivered to the Selectmen's office on Monday, March 14, 2005. Mr. McCarthy stated that he would see to it that copies were delivered to the Selectmen, TM, TC and committee upon its receipt. One item which Mr. Berg noted in the completed technical audit section of the draft report referenced that of 42 residential drops inspected, 7 were found to be ungrounded.

Mr. Maher said that Jane Lyman of Comcast had been advised of those ungrounded drops when Mr. Sherwood received the technical audit and that they would take corrective action. There was discussion that if $1/6^{\text{th}}$ of those drops tested were found to be ungrounded that the real number of ungrounded drops must be much higher than the 7 found. It was agreed that this would be brought to Comcast's attention during the negotiations and a corrective plan asked for.

It was agreed that Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Maher would schedule a meeting with Bill Solomon, Esq. regarding his drafting of the town's RFP to Comcast and report back to the committee.

Discussion with ACMI president Glenn Koenig and Board member Steve Gilligan followed and they stated that they would have a draft of ACMI's business plan for the committee's review by March 30th. Mr. Berg noted that the ACA PEG access needs assessment was not final as to equipment needs. Mr. Gilligan asked whether the school department or ACMI would manage the media arts center proposed for the H.S. Mr.Koenig said that it hasn't been determined yet. Mr. Koenig stated that ACMI would need some funding for continued consultant assistance, membership in the Alliance for Community Media, general expenses and outreach. Mr. Maher said that a business plan would be needed before approaching the Selectmen with a funding request.

The committee set its next meeting for Wednesday, March 30, 2005 @ 7:30 p.m. and the meeting adjourned @ 9:10p.m.