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Cable Advisory Minutes 05/09/05

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

Meeting began at 6:30 pm in the Community Meeting Room, Robbins Memorial Library
Members present- Phil McCarthy, Bob Chebator, Jim Walsh and Mike Quinn
Also present- John Maher Bill Solomon, Steve Mazolla, Dan O'Connol, Kathy Colw ell, Glenn Koenig

The draft minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2005 were VOTED (4-0) approved on motion of Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Chebator.

Mr. McCarthy then moved to item 3 on the agenda, The ACMI Business Plan. Mr. McCarthy reported on a meeting he attended at John Maher's office with Glenn Koenig, Kathy Colw ell, Bill Solomon, Steve Gilligan and Nancy Richard, Executive Director, Plymouth Area Community Television at which a realistic representative budget for ACMI's assumption of PEG access operations was presented and vetted. The committee having reviewed the ACMI Business Plan and representative budget and having found much improvement over prior submissions and considering Comcast's shortfalls, lack of interest, testimony received at the Nov. 10, 2004 public hearing and findings of the Needs Assessment Study as well as the fact that more and more communities are moving to a private, non-profit public access corporations to re-energize what cable providers have allowed to become moribund, the vastly increased level of service expected, and the fact that a private access corporation would deliver all PEG broadcasting to all Arlington's cable subscribers regardless of service provider VOTED (4-0) on motion of Mr. Quinn, seconded by Mr. Walsh to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that ACMI be designated subject to the requirements of public procurement laws, if applicable, and the execution of an agreeable contract as the entity responsible for PEG access services in Arlington.

The committee then heard from Bill Solomon on his draft RFP of the Comcast renewal. Bill explained his approach for the I-Net portion of the RFP and otherwise reviewed portions of the draft. Bill agreed to have a final draft ready by Friday, May 13, 2005 and the committee set Tuesday, May 17, 2005 @ 6:30 as its next meeting date for a final review before presentation to the Board of Selectmen at a date later in the week to be secured by John Maher after discussions with Chairman Hurd.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm