

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT
for PURA DOCKET # 14-01-18
Annual Community Access Support Review
Public Utility Regulatory Authority
Ten Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

Twelve-month period ending December 31, 2014

Name of Advisory Council	Charter Western Cable Advisory Council PURA Cable Franchise Map area 19
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 87, Newtown, CT 06470
Telephone	
E-Mail Address	CableAdvisoryCouncil@gmail.com
Contact Person	Gregory G. Davis, Chairman
Towns Served	Barkhamsted, New Fairfield, New Hartford, New Milford, Bethlehem, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Colebrook, Harwinton, Kent, Monroe, Newtown, Roxbury, Sherman, Southbury, Trumbull, Washington, Winchester, Woodbury
Cable Franchise Holder	Charter Communications Cable Company
Names of Council Members	Titles – Towns – Appt CEO or BOE rep

Gregory G. Davis KB1YHW	Chairman, Roxbury CEO rep
Michael Muttitt	Vice Chair, Monroe CEO rep
Carmella Amodeo	Newtown BOE rep
Paul Katzmark	Treasurer, Southbury CEO rep
Kevin Burns	Secretary, Newtown CEO rep
Stephanie O'Rourke	Kent -Reg1 BOE rep
Douglas Branson	Kent CEO rep
Donald S. Stein	Barkhamsted First Selectman
Kathy Colavito	Brookfield BOE rep
Ken Swain thru Dec 2014	Bridgewater CEO rep
Ray Juskiwicz thru Dec 2014	New Fairfield CEO rep
Gerard L. Belanger WA1HOZ	Newtown CEO Alternate
Eugene Rosen	Newtown CEO rep
Robert S O'Keefe	Newtown CEO rep
Tom Joyner	Sherman BOE rep
George Fletcher	New Milford CEO rep
Charles Rubano	New Milford CEO rep
George Linkletter	Sherman CEO rep
Donna Cassidy	Trumbull BOE rep
Jim Lang	Trumbull CEO rep
Joe Mustich	Region 12 BOE rep
Jonathan Bernon AJ1U	Woodbury CEO rep

Council Meeting Dates	Location
January 14, 2013	Charter Communications offices, Newtown, Ct
March 11, 2013	Charter Communications offices, Newtown, Ct
May 13, 2013	Charter Communications offices, Newtown, Ct
July 8, 2013	Charter Communications offices, Newtown, Ct
September 09, 2013	Charter Communications offices, Newtown, Ct
November 11, 2013	Charter Communications offices, Newtown, Ct
April 08, 2013	Strategic Action Comm, Newtown Town Hall
June 10, 2013	Strategic Action Comm, Newtown Town Hall
August 12, 2013	Strategic Action Comm, Newtown Town Hall
October 14, 2013	Strategic Action Comm, Newtown Town Hall

This report is mandatory per § 16-331c of the General Statutes of Connecticut and § 16-333-30 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES & Chairman Report for Jan-Dec 2014:

- 18 Major Decisions Passed. <http://cableadvisorycouncil.com/motions/index.html>

Including: Advisory Council Decisions for PEGPETIA, PURA, Charter Cable Rates, Charter Cable Policies, Charter Cable Support for the Designated Community Access Provider, ATT U-Verse Interconnection initiatives, Frontier Takeover of ATT U-Verse, Basic Service Tier Promotion, Travel Expense Reimbursement, Comcast Takeover, Cord Cutting, Community Access Funding, All Digital Service Transition, Officer Elections, SOCAP Legislative Initiative, individual subscriber connection request, and more....

- Council Approved Minutes of All Council and Committee Meetings: <http://cableadvisorycouncil.com/minutes/index.htm>

Accounting of Financial Activities Twelve-month period ending December 31, 2014	
Beginning Cash Balance Jan. 1, 2014	\$ 21,974.63
Total Cash received in calendar year	\$ 2,043.82
Total Cash disbursed in calendar year	\$ 3,459.98
Ending Cash Balance Dec. 31, 2014	\$20,558.47
REVENUE/INCOME	

	Budgeted/Actual	
Cable Company Cash Contribution	2,000.00	2,000.00
Other Contributions		
Grants		
Dues		
Fundraising		
Interest Income	:	43.82
Other		
Total Revenue/Income		2043.82
EXPENSES		
Office Supplies-Chairman Expenses		\$867.83
Printing Costs		
Postage fees		
Recording Secretary		\$1,925.00
Bank Fees		7.50
Legal Fees		
Member Travel Mileage		\$505
Website Costs		
Dec 2013 CD Interest, Correction		-(\$3.35)
Other – USPS Mailbox		158
Total Expenses		3,459.98

FINANCIAL NOTES:

1. The council will expenses exceed the annual \$2000 budget. The Council expects that travel expense reimbursement for members will add \$1000 additional costs for 2015.
2. The council cash asset reserve will cover the operating deficits for through 2014-5 per council Decision R19CAC-13-01-09-V1.
4. All Cable Advisory Council Records & Documents are posted at: www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.org.

Submitted, Gregory G. Davis, Chairman 31 Jan 2015

2014 PURA Reconciliation		
Income & Expense Summary		
Beginning Cash Bal 1 Jan 2014		21974.63
Cash Income Jan1- 31 Dec 2014		2043.82
Cash Expenses 1jan - 17Dec 2014		-3459.98
Ending Balance		20558.47

Expenses		
Office Supplies	867.83	
Recording Secretary Fees	1925	
Member Travel milage	505	
Audit/legal/bank fees	7.5	
Mailbox	158	
Unreported CD Interest-Dec2013	-3.35	
Total Expenses	3459.98	

Cable Advisory Council -2014 Rep

Peoples Bank Statements	
792.6	CHK Ending Balance thru 31Dec2014
6166.05	MMKT Bal Thru 31Dec2014
13599.92	CD (31 dec 2014)
20558.57	Bank totals 31Dec 2014
Bank Interest	
37.28	CD Jan thru 30Nov 2014
3.08	MMKT thru 31Dec2014
3.46	Dec2104 CD Int
43.82	Total Interest

CHECK REGISTER EXPENSE DETAILS - Bank Cleared as 31Dec2014							
ck#	Rec Sec	ck#	Off Supl	ck#	Trm Exp	ck#	Mailbox
183	175	184	476.02	185	105	190	158
186	175	194	391.81	188	400		
187	175	total	867.83	total	505		
189	175						Bank fee
191	175					12-10 S/C	7.5
192	175						
193	175						
195	250						
196	275						
197	175						
total	1925						
198	Voided ??			Prepared by			
199	125	uncleared as of 31Dec2014			GGDavis 6Feb2015		

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

14 January 2014 :

R19CWAC-14-01-14-M1

Tom Cohan
Director, Government Relations, New England/NY
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com
Charter Communications
95 Higgins Street, Worcester, MA 01606

Kinson B. Perry
Area Manager, External & Legislative Affairs, AT&T Connecticut
860.947.7198 kinson.perry@att.com
111 Trumbull Street 1st Floor, Hartford CT 16103

Re: R19CWAC-14-01-14-M1-PreSaleCAP-Interconnect Decision

Greetings Gentlemen

The Advisory Council advises you to complete the interconnect contract for the Area 19 Community Access Provider programming prior to the sale of ATT-Uverse to Frontier Communications.

Yours truly
Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

cc:

Kimberly J. Santopietro
Executive Secretary
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
10 Franklin Square
New Britain CT 06051
dpuc.executivesecretary@po.state.ct.us

Chairman, Statewide Video Advisory Council
Merja H Lehtinen, ctmlhr@yahoo.com
860-537-3389

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

14 January 2014

R19CWAC-14-01-14-M3

Tom Cohan
Director, Government Relations, New England/NY
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com

Heidi Vandenbrouck, Director of Marketing Communications, New England
heidi.vandenbrouck@chartercom.com cell 508-479-3998

Charter Communications
95 Higgins Street, Worcester, MA 01606
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com

Re: R19CWAC-14-01-14-M3-CordCutters - Decision of the R19 Charter Western Advisory Council

Greetings Tom & Heidi

The Advisory Council advises Charter to make the lowest-cost Basic Cable Service both easy-to-find and fully accessible to all current and future subscribers. We believe this approach will help stem the slide toward 'cable cord cutting' and assure that Public Access TV continues to serve our communities as a vital and valued channel of information and opinion.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

14 January 2014

R19CWAC-14-01-14-M4

Kimberly J. Santopietro, Nicholas Neeley
Executive Secretary, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
10 Franklin Square
New Britain CT 06051
dpuc.executivesecretary@po.state.ct.us

Re: R19CWAC-14-01-14-M4-ChairmanSupport Decision

Greetings

The Advisory Council supports the Citizen's Response from GGDavis,
Chairman of the R19 Charter Western Advisory Council to the PURA request for
comment on PURA Docket 11-07-09, Motion No. 9.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

cc:

Chairman, Statewide Video Advisory Council
Merja H Lehtinen, ctmlhr@yahoo.com
860-537-3389

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PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

14 January 2014

R19CWAC-14-01-14-M5

Tom Cohan
**Director, Government Relations, New England/NY
Charter Communications**
95 Higgins Street, Worcester, MA 01606
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com

Re: R19CWAC-14-01-14-M5-FutureVisions

Greetings Tom

The Advisory Council requests advice from Charter about its vision for the future on the following topics:

1. Discussion of Basic Cable accessibility now and in the future.
2. Discussion of quality of signal across all channels, compression policies, must-carry policies, Charter's commitment to signal quality and availability.
3. Discussion of Charter's current data mining operations and privacy policies.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

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PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISION
R19CWAC-14-03-11-M1 SVAC TRAVEL EXPENSE

11 March 2014

Chairman, Statewide Video Advisory Council
Merja H Lehtinen, ctmlhr@yahoo.com
860-537-3389

Re: Cable Advisory Council CAP region 19 - Charter Communications Western,
Motion R19CWAC-14-03-11-Mx-SVAC Travel Expense.

There was a brief discussion of whether or not the Cable Advisory Council should be the entity to reimburse their chairman for mileage to attend the Statewide Video Advisory Council.

Paul Katzmark made a motion to advise the Statewide Video Advisory Council to reimburse attending members for mileage for attending the SVAC meetings. George Linkletter seconded the motion. Vote: All in favor except Jim Lang

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Cable Advisory Council, R19CWAC

cc:

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

Kathleen Quinn Abernathy, EVP External Affairs
Kathleen.Abernathy@FTR.com 203-614-5600
3 High Ridge Park Road, Stamford CT 06905

11 March 2014

Re: Cable Advisory Council Decision R19CWAC-14-03-11-M2-UVerse
Interconnection with the Designated Community Access Providers

Greetings Kathleen

The Cable Advisory Council advises Frontier Communications that ATT U-Verse interconnection with the Designated Community Access Providers needs to be accomplished before ATT hands off operations to Frontier Communications.

The Cable Advisory Council confirms that ATT has collected subscriber fees from ALL U-Verse Customers, as required by Public Act 07-253 effective in 2008. These fees have been delivered to the Designated Community Access Provider (CAP). However, ATT has not interconnected the Programming feeds of the Designated CAP in PURA areas 10 & 19 to its U-Verse subscribers. Charter Communications is the designated CAP in PURA areas 10 & 19.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

Distribution

Maggie Wilderotter, Chairman & CEO Maggie.Wilderotter@FTR.com
Daniel McCarthy, President & COO Daniel.McCarthy@FTR.com
Brigid Smith, AVP, Corporate Communications Brigid.Smith@FTR.com

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For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISION
R19CWAC-14-03-11-M3-BSTPR

Tom Cohan

11 March 2014

Director, Government Relations, New England/NY
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com
Charter Communications
95 Higgins Street, Worcester, MA 01606

Re: R19CWAC-14-03-11-M3-BSTPR Lowest Cost Basic Service Tier PR

Greetings Tom

The Advisory Council will help Charter Communications promote the availability of the lowest cost Basic Service Tier in the Towns of PURA area 19.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

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For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

Advisory Council Decision
R19CWAC-14-03-11-M4-PURA-LETTER

11 March 2014

The R19 Cable Advisory Council – Charter Western, has decided that the Council Chairman will send a letter to the PURA for submission as communications to active PURA Docket # 14-01-46 - Joint Application of Frontier Communications Corporation and AT&T Inc. for Approval of a Change of Control. This letter will explain the current status of the lack of interconnection between ATT U-Verse and the designated community access provider.

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISION

13 May 2014

R19CWAC-14-05-13-M1

Tom Cohan
Director, Government Relations, New England/NY
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com
Charter Communications
95 Higgins Street, Worcester, MA 01606

Re: R19CWAC-14-05-13-M1-Charter-Comcast Exchange of CT areas 10 & 19
CCFA Licenses.

Greetings Tom

Please advise if Charter plans to transfer Cable-Internet-VoIP services in CT franchise areas 10 and 19 to Comcast, pursuant to the announced Comcast-Spinco-Charter mega merger spin-off deal.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

13 May 2014

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY
10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051
Nicholas E. Neeley Acting Executive Secretary (860) 827-1553

Re: R19CWAC-14-05-13-M2-Investigate Comcast Takeover – The Cable Advisory Council – Charter Western Decision to Request a PURA Investigation of the Proposed Comcast takeover in the CT Charter Franchise areas 10 & 19.

Greetings

If the Federal Government gives a green light to the Comcast-Charter-Spinco National Cable Consolidation deal, the CT Cable Advisory Council – Charter Western, believes that a Comcast takeover of Community Access in the Charter franchise areas within the State of CT is NOT in the public interest. The Council hereby requests that PURA open a docket to investigate if Comcast intends a takeover of the Charter Franchise in CCFA areas 10 & 19.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

Distribution
Tom Cohan, Charter Communications Director of Govt. Relations
Merja Lehtinen, Chairwomen, Statewide Video Advisory Council

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISION

13 May 2014

R19CWAC-14-05-13-M3

Channel 13 Charter Communications Western CT

www.ctv13.net 860 738-5090

140 Willow Street, #3

Winsted, CT 06098-1114

Attn: Mike Nelson, Michael.Nelson@chartercom.com,

Channel 14 Public Access Studio Charter Communications

207 Tuckie Road North Windham, CT 06256

PA Studio Supervisor: Michael J. Nelson

860-456-8500 www.ctv14.com

Charter Communications of Western CT

Community Vision 21 203 304-4050

11 Commerce Road

Newtown, CT 06470-1655

Senior Coordinator: Greg Van Antwerp

Re: R19CWAC-14-05-13-M3-Future Vision

Greetings Greg & Mike

The Advisory Council is requesting an understanding of your vision of the future for community access in a market that may become dominated by internet delivery of "Over the Top" video programming.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

Copy to: Tom Cohan – Charter comms, Merja Lehtinen, SVAC

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISION

13 May 2014

R19CWAC-14-05-13-M4

Tom Cohan
Director, Government Relations, New England/NY
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com
Charter Communications
95 Higgins Street, Worcester, MA 01606

Re: R19CWAC-14-05-13-M4 Legislative Repairs Initiative

Greetings Tom

Please advise if the list of proposed legislative initiatives suggested by the advisory council helps to promote a secure future for community access television.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

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For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

A Secure Future for Community Access Television – The May 2014 View Legislative Initiatives to Repair PA 07-253

- A. The CT geographical regions associated with the 24 CT cable franchise territories upon adoption of PA07-253 define the 24 independent franchise service areas for PURA Designated Community Access Providers.
- B. The PURA will conduct a full investigation of programming and operations of each designated community access provider and their advisory council, at least once every five years.
- C. The PURA may reorganize the CAP regions to better serve Community Access producers upon completion of regular PURA investigations.
- D. The PURA will include advisory council funding during the annual support review of the of the designated community access providers. If no CCFA license holder exists with a CAP region, the CVFA license holders may be designated by PURA to provide the annual support.
- E. The PURA will manage the conversion of a Designated CAP into an independent Not-for-profit Corporation. Legal costs will be funded by the license holders party to CCFA/CVFA franchise territory reconfiguration. The PURA will review and facilitate this process in the public interest.
- F. CVFA license perpetuity is conditional upon a minimum qualification for the Certified Statewide Video Provider license to be set by the PURA and to include not less than 51% of the population, towns or residential homes in the State of Connecticut, or automatically convert to the CCFA license after a probationary period not to exceed 7 years.
- G. The Designated CAP is responsible for community access studio programming and operations funded by access subscriber fees collected within the region. Independent studio operations supported and operated by Educational or Governmental entities within the CAP region shall have formal PURA approved MOU/MOA with the designated CAP.
- H. Any Entity reselling Internet service connectivity which bills on a regular and recurrent schedule to any private citizen or address within the Designated Community Access Provider Territory, will collect an access fee of ½ of 1 % on the recurrent retail ISP billing for minimum access speeds, and will be adjusted annually by the PURA in the annual community access support review. The community access subscriber fees will be electronically transmitted to the Designated Community Access Provider prior to the 16th day of each month. An Annual report information relevant to the PURA is required prior to the 16th day of January every year by the ISP for the annual community access support review.

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISION
R19CWAC-14-09-09-M1 PEGPETIA RESTORE DECISION

09 September 2014

Re: Decision of the Cable Advisory Council CAP region 19 - Charter Communications Western, R19CWAC-14-09-09-M1 supporting a 2015 legislative initiative to restore PEGPETIA Funding.

The Cable Advisory Council hereby resolves to support a legislative Initiative to restore the funds diverted from the Public-Educational-Governmental-Programming & Educational Technology Investment Account.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Cable Advisory Council, CWAC R19

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

COUNCIL DECISION

09 September 2014

R19CWAC-14-09-09-M2

Tom Cohan
Director, Government Relations, New England/NY
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com
Charter Communications
95 Higgins Street, Worcester, MA 01606

Re: R19CWAC-14-09-09-M2 - All Digital Cable Transition Advisory Decision

Greetings Tom

Please do the most you can do to put the fears of the all digital change to rest, and include the 1st converter box in the basic cable rate. Extra boxes are extra value, and customer loyalty will skyrocket if they too are at no extra cost. You can require the customer to subscribe to the "inside wire maintenance" service to get the extra boxes free of charge.

The temporary Charter Announcement greeting each viewer upon converter box power up, proclaims the superior picture and services.... Yet the announcement is Low Def Bad Picture and Sound.... Totally annoying your customers! Make your announcement as Snazzy as your internet website!

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

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For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISION
R19CWAC-14-09-09-M3 ESSENTIAL BST

09 September 2014

Via First Class Mail and Electronic Filing
To: PURA Chairman, Dr. Arthur House
c/o Kimberley J. Santopietro &
Nicholas E. Neeley Acting Executive Secretary (860) 827-1553
dpuc.executivesecretary@po.state.ct.us
PURA.ExecutiveSecretary@ct.gov
Executive Secretary, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
10 Franklin Square New Britain CT 06051

Re: Cable Advisory Council CAP region 19 - Charter Communications Western,
Draft Motion R19CWAC-14-09-09-M3 Essential Basic Service Tier

The Cable Advisory Council supports the town of Roxbury's request for a PURA investigation to rule that the Basic Service Tier is an essential Public Service to be provided free of charge to the designated Emergency Operations Center and Senior Centers of the all area 19 towns.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Cable Advisory Council, CWAC R19

cc

Tom Cohan
Director, Government Relations, New England/NY
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com
Charter Communications
95 Higgins Street, Worcester, MA 01606

Chairman, Statewide Video Advisory Council
Merja H Lehtinen, ctmlhr@yahoo.com
860-537-3389

Barbara Henry, First Selectman, Town of Roxbury

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Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISION
R19CWAC-14-09-09-M4 SAVE THE INSTITUTION DECISION

09 September 2014

Re: Decision of the Cable Advisory Council CAP region 19 - Charter Communications Western, R19CWAC-14-09-09-M4 supporting a 2015 legislative initiative to save the CT Institution of Community Access..

The Cable Advisory Council hereby resolves to support a 2015 CT legislative Initiative to preserve the funding for the CT Institution of Community Access Television.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Cable Advisory Council, CWAC R19

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PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

DECISION

11 November 2014

R19CWAC-14-11-11-M1

Tom Cohan
Director, Government Relations, New England/NY
508-853-1515 x 72857 Tom.Cohan@chartercom.com
Charter Communications
95 Higgins Street, Worcester, MA 01606

Re: Cable Advisory Council Decision: R19CWAC-14-11-11-M1-Service Please

Greetings Tom

The members of the Cable Advisory Council decided to request that Charter Communications should reconsider service connection to homeowners Steven and Mary Schinke of Roxbury upon hearing their presentation at the council meeting during public input.

Quoting from their written statement:

"In short, we would pay for the cable, Charter would own the cable, and Charter would charge us for the use of the cable that we paid for....We remain puzzled as to why Charter would not install high speed service if we pay the installation costs...."

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

cc:
Mr. Nicholas Neeley
Acting Executive Secretary
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

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Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

DECISION

11 November 2014

R19CWAC-14-11-11-M3-SOCAP

Connecticut Legislators
Legislative Building, Hartford CT

Re: SAVE OUR COMMUNITY ACCESS PROVIDERS
CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL DECISION **R19CWAC-14-11-11-M3-SOCAP**

Greetings Senator Duff and Representative Reed, E&T Committee Co-Chairmen

We the members of the Area 19 Cable Advisory Council request the Energy & Technology Committee to draft a bill that will stabilize funding for the CT Institution of Community Access Television by language clarification to CGS 16-331a(k) in the 2015 CGA legislative session.

CGS 16-331a (As written)

(k) The department shall establish the amount that the company or organization responsible for community access operations shall receive for such operations from subscribers and from multichannel video programming distributors.

(Proposed draft revision)

(k) The department shall establish the amount that the company or organization responsible for community access operations shall receive for such operations from subscribers ***to any services of*** multichannel video programming distributors.

The sole funding source for designated community access providers is collapsing.

Community access funding is directly reduced by MVPD companies deciding not to collect fees from subscribers "Cutting the Cord", i.e. abandoning the bundled video package in favor of less expensive "Over-The-Top" video services with "a la carte" video programming. Multichannel video programming distributors have been allowed to limit their collection of community access subscriber fees to the rapidly declining pool of bundled video programming package subscribers.

The existing law must be clarified and reinforced.

The original intent of the law requiring multichannel video programming distributors to collect community access fees from all subscribers must be reinforced to include all subscribers to any services of a company granted the MVPD license. A simple clarification in the existing law will save the Institution of Community Access TV from certain destruction.

Yours truly,
Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19

PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470

Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT

Gregory G. Davis

16 January 2014

Kimberly J. Santopietro, Nicholas Neeley
Executive Secretary, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
10 Franklin Square
New Britain CT 06051

Greetings

Final Comment PURA RQ 11-07-09 Motion # 9 from Gregory G. Davis

Final Comment submission to the PURA 6 Jan 2014 Notice to Merja H. Lehtinen, chairman for the SVAC, communicating an official PURA Request for comment on 5 questions, by 17 Jan 2014 with regards to the Area 2 Cable Advisory Council request that subscriber funding for community access be set aside for legal fees to be used in its defense in the legal proceeding before the Hartford Superior Court docket HHD-CV-12-6034434-S, Attachment A.

5 PURA Questions RESTATED FOR REFERENCE FROM THE PURA NOTICE:

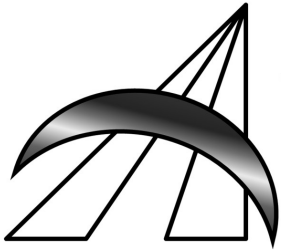
The Authority hereby seeks Written Comments on the following 5 issues:

- 1) What is the legal basis to grant or deny this request
- 2) If granted, what source of funding would be set aside and in what manner?
- 3) If granted, how would the amount of funding be determined?
- 4) If denied, how could the Council fund its legal defense?
- 5) Any other information in this matter that may be useful to the PURA

Opinions and comment by Gregory G. Davis, Chairman - Area 19 Cable Advisory Council, Charter Western, Member SVAC, as Submitted on or before 10 January, with final comment including the endorsement of the Area 19 Cable Advisory Council, Charter Western, on or before 17 January 2014.

Document is attached.

Yours truly
Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council



GGDAVIS.COM

Photography

GGDavis.com
Photographic Arts
203-510-4817 mobile,
860-355-4122 office
email ggd@GGDavis.com
57 Squire Road Roxbury CT 06783

**A Citizen's Response from CT Area 19 to the Request for
Written Comment on PURA Docket 11-07-09, Motion No. 9**

8 January 2014

Merja H. Lehtinen, Chairman
Statewide Video Advisory Council
Email: ctmhlhr@yahoo.com

Nicholas E. Neeley, Acting Executive Secretary
Executive Secretary, State of Connecticut PURA
10 Franklin Square, New Britain CT 06051

Greetings

I have read an email letter from Merja H. Lehtinen, chairman for the SVAC, communicating an official PURA Request for comment on 5 questions, by 10 Jan 2014 with regards to the Area 2 Cable Advisory Council request that subscriber funding for community access be set aside for legal fees to be used in its defense in the legal proceeding before the Hartford Superior Court docket HHD-CV-12-6034434-S, Attachment A.

5 PURA Questions RESTATED FOR REFERENCE FROM THE PURA NOTICE:

The Authority hereby seeks Written Comments on the following 5 issues:

- 1) What is the legal basis to grant or deny this request
- 2) If granted, what source of funding would be set aside and in what manner?
- 3) If granted, how would the amount of funding be determined?
- 4) If denied, how could the Council fund its legal defense?
- 5) Any other information in this matter that may be useful to the PURA

Opinions and comment by Gregory G. Davis, Chairman
Chairman - Area 19 Cable Advisory Council, Charter Western, Member SVAC

Q1 What is the basis:

i. PURA, as the franchising authority under the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, P.L. 102-385, has all the power and authority to make such rulings and orders as are required to serve the public interest, convenience and necessity. The request from the Area 2 Cable Advisory Council implicates this power as the pending court case deals directly and exclusively with public access to community programming and the existence or non existence of competitive providers of community access programming.

Area 2 Cable Advisory Council is established pursuant to the mandate contained in Section 16-331(c)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes. Consistently with that

mandate, PURA has adopted regulations 16-333-25 that provide for the appointment of advisory council members by specified appointing authorities, to wit: chief elected officials, boards of education and public library boards. When these authorities have acted, the advisory council exists. No one disputes the fact that appointments have occurred with regard to the Area 2 Advisory Council.

To answer the question of advisory council legitimacy under PA07-253 in an area which lacks a service provider operating with the Certificate of Cable Franchise Authority License, can be summarized as follows:

1 Every designated community access provider has an advisory council married to it with duties and functions as specified by CT Law, in at least nine different statements under CGS 16-331-16-333. (<http://cableadvisorycouncil.com/motions/R19CAC-12-09-11-M1.htm>) Therefore - If the Designated Community Access Provider legally exists, the advisory council has duties to perform to serve the public interest, convenience and necessity.

2 Ambiguity regarding the funding source for an advisory council in the event that an access region does not have an active CCFA license, does not, in any way, delete/cancel/remove/ or dissolve the legally delegated functions and duties of the advisory council.

3 The Area 2 Cable Advisory Council is an intervenor in this case as direct result of the requests by PURA and the other defendants that it be joined. In that request PURA and the other towns have made a judicial admission that Area 2 Cable Advisory Council is an indispensable party without which the Superior Court can not render a valid judgment. It would be a gross in-justice for the Council to not have proper representation to carry out the responsibilities delegated to it by the law.

Q2: What is the source of the funding to be set aside:

The Region 2 Advisory Council should be given the order by PURA to set aside a portion of the subscriber fee funding required by Section 16-331gg, for its legal representation in this case. Alternatively the designated community access provider should be ordered to pay over to Region 2 Advisory Council sufficient funds for the legal representation.

Q3: How should the amount of the funding be determined:

The amount of funding should be determined by reference to the prevailing rates for legal services of this kind in the Hartford Judicial District and be sufficient to provide for a thorough representation by Region 2 of the public interests that it represents.

Q4: If denied how could the Council fund its legal defense.

It appears that the Council would not be able to represent the public interest in this lawsuit unless it can locate an attorney willing to proceed on a pro-bono basis. Section 51-88 of the Connecticut General Statutes expressly prohibits the representation in court of any entity, by a person who is not admitted as an attorney to the practice of law in this State.

Q5: Any other information that may be useful?

A Summary Review of PA 08-159 codified into CGS Chapter 289 Sections 16-331(ff) and 16-331(gg) and what it accomplishes by GGDavis: (Ref: <http://cableadvisorycouncil.com/reports/FutureOfCommunityAccess-7.html> and <http://cableadvisorycouncil.com/reports/FutureOfCommunityAccess-8.html>)

Section 1 (a) Specifically targets the designated community access provider in Region 2 and reassigns its Educational and Government access provider operations to town / municipal / educational entities upon their request, whether Sound View Community Media agrees or not.

Section 1(b) Further provides Sound View Community Media the incentive to officially agree to reassign Educational and Government access provider operations within 3 days of official request, or have their own designated access provider status terminated in 180 days, followed by a re-application process, open to all suitors, to become the new designated community access provider.

Section 2(a) requires the incumbent cable company - Cablevision - in Region 2, to divert \$100,000 of the community access subscriber fees which it collects to the Cable advisory council for Region 2 to be used for the support of Government and Educational access provider operations.

Section 2 (b) The cable advisory council is required to distribute all of the funds to the government and educational access producers, according to grant policies established by the advisory council.

Section 2 (c) The cable advisory council will annually account for the funds and guarantee that all of the funds were used specifically for the government and educational access provider operations.

Part B: Analysis and Review of PA 08-159, in context with PA 07-253 and the impact on the Institution of Community Access Television as Created by CGS Chapter 289, Sections 16-331 – 16-333.

1) PA 08-159 specifically targets one entity with the use of the following language:

" Any third-party nonprofit community access provider serving six municipalities, one of which has a population of more than one hundred thirty thousand,..."

Only PURA map area defined as Region 2 meets the 6 municipality total, with Bridgeport being the one larger than 130,000 population. The other 23 PURA defined map area regions are UN-effected. The third-party nonprofit community access provider is Soundview Community Media.

2. Even though PA 08-159 has this controversial foundation, the adoption of the act has provided a direct and beneficial short term outcome: Preservation of an evolved legacy infrastructure of community access television providers within Region 2, and helped to defend them against predatory actions on the part of legacy designated community access provider - Soundview Community Media. SVCM fully intends to once again monopolize all funding for community access production in the Region 2 territory.

In short, this special interest act, had the immediate good result in saving the smaller community access providers in Region 2. The downside of PA08-159 has been the profligate waste of Region 2 community access subscriber fees on legal maneuvers and law suits specifically targeted to derail and repeal the act by Soundview Community Media.

3. There is a far bigger issue that must be resolved: the shortcoming in PA 07-253 which allows for legacy / incumbent cable companies to freely choose between two operating license categories without qualification. This freedom has invited a distortion first adopted by the management of Cablevision, the new license category of "STATEWIDE VIDEO SERVICES PROVIDER". Cablevision found it to their advantage to choose the CVFA instead of the CCFA operating license, even though it clearly was a legacy franchise Cable TV business. There is no provision in the law to qualify for CVFA, except to pay the fees and make the financial contributions to specified government accounts. The license is good forever, as long as the fees are paid.

4. PURA regulation could of course address this implementation of the license structure, and in my opinion, it is fully within their domain to do so as the executive to enforce the spirit of the law. PURA, however, is taking the conservative approach, choosing only to take action on specifically legislated tasks. This has made the PURA impotent in the carnage and damage that continues to occur to community access television. The in-action of PURA on this matter has made it the defendant in an on-going lawsuit filed by Soundview Community Media.

It must be recognized that Region 2 community access subscriber fees are directly supporting the legal costs of the plaintiff instead of community access programming and operations. Soundview as the plaintiff, has demonstrated the following goals of its strategy:

1. Overturn 16-331ff & 16-331gg as UN-constitutional on a number of principles
2. Regain full control of all community access subscriber fees in Region 2.
3. Deny any future subscriber fee funding for the other legacy community access providers in Region 2.

4. Encourage the state-wide adoption of CVFA operation by all video services providers, and render the CCFA license as obsolete to the following effects: No more harassment or meddling by pesky advisory councils because:

- a. All Cable Advisory Councils disappear do to lack of funding from CCFA license holders. CVFA license holders only fund 1 Statewide Video advisory Council.

- b. The Statewide Video Advisory Council will have ZERO members - ie... 24 or so empty chairs, because the law requires that the local Cable Advisory Councils nominate/appoint the representatives to the SVAC. The statewide video advisory council would then have all of its representative seats filled by ghosts... Insuring complete advisory council impotence in the performance of its legislated duties

and functions. "Finally - No More Meddling with the Access Provider operations or policies by those pesky advisory councils!"

And Finally: HOW DO WE FIX THIS MESS

Legislative Repair initiatives to PA 07-253
(<http://cableadvisorycouncil.com/reports/FutureOfCommunityAccess-5.html>)

The Bigger Picture: The future of community access television is not secure due to several oversights and shortcomings of Public Act No. 07-253, An Act Concerning Certified Competitive Video Service. Clarification and addendum's to this act need to consider the following :

1. The designated community access regions must become institutionalized in CT law to provide a minimum basic level of "Local" community access. The 24 cable franchise territories which existed at the time of PA07-253 adoption is a logical and functional framework.
2. The advisory council which serves each of the designated community access providers will be funded by the regional video providers/cable providers/community antenna license holders which serve the region per guidelines established by the PURA and reviewed annually under the community access support review docket.
3. The PURA will promote and protect a secure future for community access television, through the annual support review of the designated community access providers, and their advisory councils. The PURA will conduct a full investigation of programming and operations of each designated community access provider and their advisory council, at least once every five years.
4. PURA will encourage and assist the transition of legacy cable company sponsored designated community access providers to become independent third party not-for-profit status operations upon request of either party.
5. The CVFA license will require a minimum qualification for the Certified Statewide Video Provider license to be set by the PURA, ie... After 5 years of build-out, the CVFA licensee will offer services to either 51% of the towns or residential homes in the State of Connecticut, or automatically revert to the CCFA license.
6. PEGPETIA grant funding sources will expand to include the CVFA license holders.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Director of Photography, GGDavis.com Photographic Arts
Managing Member, Audio Engineering Services, LLC
Chairman, Region 19, Charter Western Cable Advisory Council,
Representative Member on the Statewide Video Advisory Council for Region 19
President, Northville Amateur Radio Association Inc.
ARRL CT ARES Region 5 Roxbury Emergency Coordinator

Cc:

Kevin Burns, Esq; R19CWAC Secretary,
George Linkletter, Vice Chairman, R19CWAC
Paul Katzmark, Acting Treasurer, R19CWAC
Ed Pizella, SVAC Legislative subcommittee
Marlene Silverstein, SVAC Legislative Subcommittee
Thomas Sholtes PURA

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Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

14 January 2014

R19CWAC-14-01-14-M4

Kimberly J. Santopietro, Nicholas Neeley
Executive Secretary, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
10 Franklin Square
New Britain CT 06051
dpuc.executivesecretary@po.state.ct.us

Re: R19CWAC-14-01-14-M4-Chairman Support Decision

Greetings

The Advisory Council supports the Citizen's Response from GGDavis, Chairman of the R19 Charter Western Advisory Council to the PURA request for comment on PURA Docket 11-07-09, Motion No. 9.

Yours truly,
Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

cc: Chairman, Statewide Video Advisory Council

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Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

Roxbury First Selectman,
Barbara Henry
Town Hall, Roxbury CT 06783

11 March 2014

Greetings Barbara:

It has come to the attention of the Advisory Council that many of Charter Communication's customers are not aware of the low cost *Basic Service Tier* option in their offerings. I am writing to request your help in distributing the information in the attached documents to seniors and/or other fixed- or low-income residents in your Town.

One way for these citizens to save money and still stay up-to-date on news and current events is to switch from an expensive and comprehensive Cable TV subscription to a limited and low-cost *Basic Service Tier* option. The total cost of the *Basic Service Tier*, taxes included, is less than \$40 a month.

The *Basic Service Tier* is not for everyone. For Cable TV viewers on a fixed- or low-income, or for viewers who only want the lowest cost cable TV service, the *Basic Service Tier* can be an economical and cost-effective option. More elaborate Cable TV options can cost five times that amount.

Additional detail is in the attached documents. We would appreciate your forwarding this information to any senior centers, religious institutions or consumer advocacy groups in your community.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Charter Cable Advisory Council

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For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

Roxbury Senior Center
Linda Wahlers, Director
Roxbury CT 06783

11 March 2014

Greetings Linda

I am writing to request your help in distributing the information in the attached documents to Seniors in your Town.

One way for Seniors to save money and still stay up-to-date on news and current events is to switch from an expensive and comprehensive Cable TV subscription to a limited and low-cost *Basic Service Tier* option.

However, the most economical option available – called *Basic Service Tier* -- can be hard to find: Charter Communications could do a better job of promoting the *Basic Service Tier* option on either its website or via its Customer Service Representatives.

The savings can be substantial. The total cost of *Basic Service Tier*, taxes included, is less than \$40 a month. More elaborate Cable TV options can cost five times that amount.

The *Basic Service Tier* is not for everyone. But for Cable TV viewers on a fixed- or low-income, it can be economical and cost-effective option.

Additional detail is in the attached letter. We would appreciate your forwarding this information to any Seniors in your community who may need to reduce unnecessary expenses.

Thank you and Best Regards,

Gregory G. Davis
Chairman, Charter Cable Advisory Council

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PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

9 April 2014

Nicholas E. Neeley, Acting Executive Secretary,
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
10 Franklin Square
New Britain CT 06051
dpuc.executivesecretary@po.state.ct.us

Re: PURA DOCKET 14-01-46 – Joint Application of a Change of Control.

Greetings

Please review the statewide status of designated community access provider programming interconnection between the legacy cable company hosts and ATT U-Verse as part of Docket 14-01-46.

The cable advisory council for PURA area 19 requests this issue be added to the docket to recognize the protracted LACK of ACTION between ATT U-Verse and Charter Communications to interconnect the Designated Community Access Television Programming. The result has been denial of service for 5+ years to local customers and volunteer representatives serving the Cable Advisory Council.

Specifically all ATT U-Verse subscribers, including active members (approximately 25%) serving on the Cable Advisory Council have paid for their right to view programming from their Designated Community Access Provider in PURA Map area 19 and can not do so because they have also selected AT&T U-Verse as their Certified Video Program Provider. Dedicated advisory council members who volunteer their time and expertise are seriously impaired in their duties as specified in CGS 16-331a(b), 16-331a(c1), 16-331a(c8), 16-331a(g), 16-331a(h). This cable advisory council submits that PURA should investigate this denial of service and issue the order to interconnect.

ATT has collected subscriber fees from all U-Verse Customers, as required by Public Act 07-253 effective in 2008. These fees were escrowed for years by ATT but have finally been delivered to the Designated Community Access Providers (CAPs) as ordered by the PURA Final Decision docket #.12-01-04. Charter Communications is the CAP in PURA areas 10 & 19. However, ATT has not interconnected the programming feeds of the CAPs in PURA areas 10 & 19 to its U-Verse subscribers, as well as with other legacy cable company sponsored CAP's.

www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com
For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
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The continued lack of interconnection between CAPs and ATT U-Verse dates back to the enactment of Public act 07-253. ATT market share in Charter Cable area 19 may now have achieved 30% in this time. The 2010 census tallies the population at over 218,000 people of the 19 towns of area 19. ATT market share may now have exceed 55,000 homes without the ability to view the community access programming for which they have paid – for six years and counting. The Charter Cable Advisory Council for Region 19 has been actively promoting interconnection at each and every advisory council meeting, with little support or action from PURA , ATT, or Charter.

Given that control of ATT U-Verse is about to change, This docket regarding approval of the change of control of ATT CT wire-line services is the best opportunity to rule that interconnection MUST be established between U-Verse and the legacy CAPs in order to allow the change of ownership.

Yours truly,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Area 19 Cable Advisory Council

cc:

Chairman, Statewide Video Advisory Council
Merja H Lehtinen, ctmlhr@yahoo.com
860-537-3389

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For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

30 June 2014

Tom Cohen, Director of Public Relations
Barbara Henry, Roxbury CT First Selectman

Re: 12 June 2014 Letter from Charter Communications

Greetings Barbara & Tom

A brief 12 June 2014 letter from Charter Communications addressed "To Whom it May Concern", was received at Roxbury CT Town Hall, explaining that a service currently being provided free of charge, has been determined to be ineligible for "Free Service status". The free service would be discontinued unless action was taken to change the account billing status by 12 July 2014.

Roxbury First Selectman Barbara Henry requested an investigation by the Cable Advisory Council about this letter.

The brevity of the letter does not provide sufficient explanation to support the positive public relations intention it was surely meant to be.

As Cable Advisory Council Members, we participate with Charter Communications in a dialog between local citizens, their elected representatives, Charter Communications, and the PURA. "The Cable Advisory Council charge is to carry forth the work set in CT law as an extension of the PURA; to be an active partner supporting the designated Community Access Provider programming and operations; and be the Advisory agent for Community Interests in communications with the Cable company about policies, products, & services." (Reference: <http://cableadvisorycouncil.com/charge.htm>).

I offer my opinion and studied understanding about the meanings and good intentions behind this letter, as follows:

1. In mid 2012, Charter Communications announced to the Cable Advisory Council that an "All Digital" service upgrade was planned for its CT PURA Franchise territories sometime in the near future.
2. This Conversion to "All Digital" service by Charter Communications will be implemented very soon, and will probably be complete before January 2015.
3. The Hybrid Analog/Digital service currently supported by Charter Communications carries the "Basic Service Tier" in the Analog signal format. These analog signals can be directly connected to legacy Analog Television Tuners without need for a cable decoder box.

4. "All Digital" service will eliminate the legacy Analog TV channel distribution on the cable system and require the use of a proprietary Charter Communications supplied cable decoder box.
5. Charter Communications has subscribers for "Internet Only" service.
6. "Internet Only" subscribers have benefited from the limitations of the hybrid Analog & Digital distribution technology, because the all analog Basic Service Tier programming is carried along with the "Internet Only" service by default. There was no cost effective way to turn off the Basic Service Tier and provide "Internet Only" service at the same time.
7. The transition to an "All Digital" distribution format provides Charter Communications the technology to cost effectively switch each and every program channel or service ON or OFF via a mandatory Charter Decoder Box.
8. The transition to "All Digital" is about to go into effect. The very day of the switch-over to "All Digital", all customers receiving "Internet Only" services, will be disconnected from the Basic Service Tier Programming. The letter from Charter Communications intends to inform the "Internet Only" customers about this upcoming event, and provide them the time to decide whether or not to subscribe to any Charter Communications services beyond, and in addition to "Internet Only" service.
9. The Roxbury First Selectman expressed a serious concern about the intended disconnection from the Basic Service Tier television program channels.
The Basic Service Tier carries the Community Access Channel, the Educational Channel, The CT State Government Channel, and the Federal Government Channels, in addition to the local over the air broadcast channels licensed to operate in the public interest. The intent to disconnect these vital communication services by Charter Communications does not seem right, in light of the fact that CT requires the CCFA License Holder, Charter Communications, to provide these channels on the Basic Service Tier free of charge to the Library and School System in each town of the franchise territory.
10. CT law does not specifically identify "Free of Charge" Basic Service Tier connection to the locations of the Town's designated Emergency Operations Center, or Senior Centers. Charter Communications Legal Department have determined that the literal specificity of the CT law allows Charter to charge for the Basic Service tier to any and all customers not uniquely identified in CT law. The new "All Digital" distribution format will give Charter Communications to new technical capability to bill for these services, which they intend to do.
11. The Charter Communication announcement letter of this impending "unofficial policy" change is brief and to the point. The distribution is wide across all the towns in the CT PURA Franchise territories # 10 and #19, and was probably sent to all the client towns with the same "Internet Only" service arrangement across all of New England. It is good that Charter Communications decided to inform this wide group of clients in advance of the date of the "big Switch-over" to "All Digital" services.

This topic will be on the agenda for the 8 July 2014 Cable Advisory Council meeting. I invite your presence, comments and participation at this meeting.

With best regards,
Gregory G. Davis KB1YHW
Chairman, Cable Advisory Council, Charter Western

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Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

01 August 2014

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY
10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051
Nicholas E. Neeley Acting Executive Secretary (860) 827-1553

Re: 12 June 2014 Announcement Letter from Charter Communications

Greetings

We request that PURA open a docket and investigate Charter Communications Plan to disconnect the Basic Service Tier from the Emergency Operations Centers in September 2014.

A brief 12 June 2014 letter from Charter Communications addressed "To Whom it May Concern", was received at Roxbury CT Town Hall, explaining that a service currently being provided free of charge, has been determined to be ineligible for "Free Service status". The free service would be discontinued unless action was taken to change the account billing status by 12 July 2014.

The Roxbury First Selectman expressed a serious concern about the intended disconnection from the Basic Service Tier television program channels. The Basic Service Tier carries the Community Access Channel, the Educational Channel, The CT State Government Channel, and the Federal Government Channels, in addition to the local over the air broadcast channels licensed to operate in the public interest.

The intent to disconnect these vital communication services does not seem right, in light of the fact that CT requires the CCFA License Holder, Charter Communications, to provide these channels on the Basic Service Tier free of charge to the Library and School System in each town of their franchise territory. The Emergency Operations Center at Roxbury Town Hall, and Emergency Shelter facility at the Roxbury Senior center provide essential services and should also have the Basic Service Tier programming free of charge.

With best regards,

Gregory G. Davis KB1YHW
Chairman,
Cable Advisory Council, Charter Western

Barbara Henry
First Selectman
Town of Roxbury

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Chairman's Announcement
Gregory G. Davis

7 March 2014

Paying Too Much for Cable TV? ***Get Basic ... and Save \$\$\$!***

If you think you are paying too much for Charter Cable TV service, you may be able to save some money. How? By subscribing to ONLY the *Basic Service Tier*.

“Cable TV companies like Charter Communications offer a low-cost and economical *Basic Service Tier* option to viewers,” explained Gregory Davis, Chairman of the Charter Cable Advisory Council. The Cable Advisory Council is a group of citizens, appointed by the towns that Charter serves, that advises Charter on issues related to basic cable service and community access TV.

“Charter could do a much better job of promoting its *Basic Service Tier* option on either its web site, or through its customer service representatives,” he continued. “The option is very cost-effective and Charter will allow you to subscribe to the *Basic Service Tier* if you request it.”

Nearly 50 Channels

The minimum cost for Charter's *Basic Service Tier* option -- which encompasses nearly 50 channels -- including a good number of over the air local channels in High Definition -- for just \$26.99 a month, plus \$6.99 for a set-top receiver box, \$3.50 for a broadcast TV surcharge, and state sales tax, according to the Charter. That amounts to a total of just \$39.82 a month.

(A complete list of the channels included in the Fairfield County service area follows.)

“The *Basic Service Tier* option may be ideal for senior citizens living on a fixed income, high school or college graduates just starting out, or other subscribers who have been impacted by the prolonged recession and just need to carefully watch how their money is spent,” added Mr. Davis, who is the Cable Advisory Council representative from Roxbury.

“Charter certainly offers an impressive array of programming choices,” he continued, “but for subscribers who want to spend as little as possible for Cable TV service, the *Basic Service Tier* is the lowest cost option available.”

If you are a Charter Communications customer and want to select the *Basic Service Tier* option, the Cable Advisory Council advises you to call Charter Communications at 877.906.9121 and speak with a customer service representative. Request to switch from your existing level of service to the *Basic Service Tier* option. It will be helpful to have a copy of your cable bill for reference.

Your local town’s Cable Advisory Council representative is available to help you understand how to sign up for the *Basic Service Tier*. Your local Mayor or First Selectman can also help you can find the name of your town’s Cable Advisory Council representative.

A list of your Cable Advisory Council representatives is posted on the www.cableadvisorycouncil.com website. You may email the Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com and also post a note to the Cable Advisory Council at PO Box 87, Newtown CT, 06470.

Charter Communications *Basic Service*
Nearly 50 channels for less than \$40 a month

2 WCBS (CBS)	99 TV Guide Network
3 WFSB (CBS)	183 ShopHQ
4 WNBC (NBC)	185 Jewelry TV
5 WNYW (FOX)	223 WEDH (CPTV Sports)
6 WVIT (NBC)	224 WEDH (CPTV4U)
7 WABC (ABC)	242 WCCT (This TV)
8 WTNH (ABC)	243 WFSB (CBS News)
9 WCTX (MyTV)	244 WPIX (Antenna TV)
10 WTIC (FOX)	245 WNBC (Cozi TV)
11 WPIX (CW)	246 WSAH (IND Simulcast)
12 QVC	247 WPXN (ION Simulcast)
13 WNET (PBS)	251 WTNH (Bounce TV)
14 WRNN (IND)	297 C-SPAN2
15 WPXN (ION)	781 WXTV (UNI-HD)
16 C-SPAN	782 WEDH (PBS-HD)
17 Educational Access	783 WFSB (CBS-HD)
18 WUVN (UNV)	784 QVC
19 CTN	787 WABC (Live Well-HD)
20 WCCT (CW)	788 WTNH (ABC-HD)
21 Local Access	790 WCBS (CBS-HD)
22 WSAH (IND)	791 WNYW (FOX-HD)
23 WEDH (PBS)	792 WABC (ABC-HD)
35 Jewelry TV	793 WNBC (NBC-HD)
94 WASA (Estrella)	794 WPIX (CW-HD)
98 HSN	

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29 July 2014

Cable Advisory Council Chairman's Letter

For the Attention of the Stakeholders and Supporters of Community Access Television

An invitation is hereby extended to stakeholders, and interested citizens to a meeting of the Strategic Action Committee of the Cable Advisory Council for Area 19, Charter Western, on 12 August in Newtown CT at 7pm - Newtown Town Hall Meeting Room #1, 3 Primrose Road on the Fairfield Hills Campus. An organizational action strategy to propose legislation will be discussed.

The time for Connecticut Citizens to decide the importance, and very future of Institution of Community Access is at hand. Community Access TV is our special Golden Goose underscoring our First Amendment Rights. Let us actively work NOW to preserve its future, and not bemoan its loss after it is gone.

Please consider this invitation to actively call attention to the question: Will the sports & entertainment monopolies ultimately kill our golden goose...?

More specifically, when the massive shift to Broadband + OTT happens, it will likely happen in a landslide. A dramatic reduction in the number of Basic Service Tier Subscribers for the bundled Pay-TV programming packages from the Multiple Video Program Distributors will result. The loss of these subscribers will completely undermine the sole financial pillar of the Institution of Community Access Television in Connecticut. Unless visionary legislative action is taken ASAP to guarantee a secure financial future for the Institution of Community Access, it will disappear forever.

The 9 July 2014 Meeting of the Cable Advisory Council dedicated its focus on understanding the scope of the issue facing Community Access, and the identification of the stakeholders to be invited to a meeting for discussing proposed legislation which promotes and protects a secure future for meaningful Community Access – our prime directive. (CGS 16-331a (b))

A Chairman's editorial summary analysis report, a summary report of the newsworthy media industry events in July, and the July 2014 View of Legislative initiatives are attached. The Distribution List for this message is attached.

Sincerely,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman Cable Advisory Council

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For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19
PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470
Email Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S LETTER
R19CLR-14-11-25-V2-SOCAP

25 November 2014

Via First Class Mail and Electronic Filing
Nicholas E. Neeley Acting Executive Secretary (860) 827-1553
PURA.ExecutiveSecretary@ct.gov
Executive Secretary, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
10 Franklin Square New Britain CT 06051

Re: Save Our Community Access Providers

The MVPD license holders in CT are NOT collecting community access fees from subscribers who cancel the "Basic Cable TV package", in favor of internet only with video programming delivered Over-The-Top (OTT).

This dramatic shift in the subscriber choices, away from bundled programming packages in favour of a la carte, is profound and significant. The transition to "Internet only" with OTT video can easily exceed 30% over the next 36 months, with dire consequences to Connecticut's Institution of Community Access Television. Community Access Provider Operating budgets will be slashed by over 30%. This is VERY WRONG.

The interpretation of CGS 16-331a(k) by the MVPD's, which allows them to invent separate classifications of "exempt subscribers", is not supported - nor is it denied.

This letter formally requests PURA to clarify and order that MPVD license holders in CT are required to collect fees to support the designated community access provider operations from all subscribers as per CGS 16-331a(k). MVPD invented classifications of subscribers exempt from community access fees must be denied.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW
Chairman, Cable Advisory Council, CWAC R19

Attachments:
PDF version of this letter: R19CLR-14-11-25-V1-SOCAP
Council Decision: R19CWAC-14-11-11-M3-SOCAP

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 87

Newtown, Connecticut

~ Minutes ~

*Minutes of Public Regular Meeting –
Tuesday, January 14, 2014
Newtown, CT*

There was a regular meeting of the Cable Advisory Council called to order at 7:03 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2014 by Chairman Gregory Davis at the Charter Communications facility, Newtown, Connecticut.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Douglas Branson (Kent), Kevin Burns (Newtown), Kathy Colavito (Brookfield), George Fletcher (New Milford), Ray Juskiewicz (New Fairfield), Paul Katzmark (Southbury), Jim Lang (Trumbull), George Linkletter (Sherman), Joe Mustich (Washington), Mike Muttitt (Monroe), Gene Rosen (Newtown)

From Charter: Greg Van Antwerp (Public Access) and Heidi Vandenbrouck (Public Relations)

ROLL CALL: The board went over the packets with meeting documents and board members introduced themselves.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS:

Heidi Vandenbrouck- (Public Relations)

- ◆ Wished everyone a Happy New Year!
- ◆ Passed out a Press Release noted that Charter has announced that it has raised internet speeds for all Charter Business “Essentials30” and “Pro50” customers to 60 Mbps and 80Mbps respectively at no extra cost.
- ◆ Charter Internet Speeds were increased from 30 to 60 Mbps at no additional cost.
- ◆ Spoke of 2013 Highlights- Launched Charter TV app and Caller I.D. on the TV.
- ◆ Charter will go all digital by the 4th quarter of 2014. All TV’s will need a box. Customers will receive notification at least 60 days in advance.
- ◆ Spoke of a letter from an intern praising the Community Access Internship Program at Charter.
- ◆ Spoke of rate increases effective in 2014

Greg Van Antwerp- (Public Access)

- ◆ Provided the council with the most recent Newsletter from January/February 2014
- ◆ Spoke of the Public Access Report for November 13, 2013 to January 14, 2014.

- ◆ Greg Van Antwerp asked Advisory Council members to promote Community Access Tours and productions and spoke of Community Training Classes. It was noted that in 2013 there were 123 documented training classes and 63 new program proposals were submitted.
- ◆ The next internship will begin on February 6th which will now be called the Advanced Training Program. In 2013, 43 people applied and participated in the Advanced Training Program.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gregory Davis noted that Treasurer Jonathan Gibney has resigned as Treasurer. Paul Katzmark has agreed to be acting treasurer.

George Linkletter made a motion to appoint Paul Katzmark as the treasurer for the Cable Advisory Council. Gene Rosen seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

Mr. Katzmark will remain treasurer until the end of this term which ends in December 2014. The balance in the checking account is \$2,255.93. A Balance Sheet and Income Statement will be available next month. Anyone looking to get reimbursed for expenses will need a receipt. Reimbursement for mileage for Cable Advisory meetings will continue.

OLD BUSINESS

George Fletcher noted that he received a letter from Charter offering him a new contract for two years but no amount was given. Mr. Fletcher called and received a quote that was almost \$100 per month more than he was currently paying. He was given a quote of \$240 for a month to month contract which with tax is equal to what he is currently paying. Heidi Vandenbrouch noted that Charter no longer offers contracts.

November meeting minutes- Ray Juskiewicz made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2013 council meeting as presented. George Fletcher seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor- except Mike Muttitt, George Linkletter and Joe Mustich who abstained)**

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT

Chairman Gregory Davis noted that he has been nominated to be Chairman of the Statewide Video Advisory Council at the December meeting. No votes were taken at that meeting since Chairman Lehtinen was absent without advance notice.

Annual Report

Chairman Gregory Davis noted that an Annual Report is required to be sent by CAC to PURA and sent to the docket for submission. Per Chairman Davis, this docket has not yet been created by PURA and thus this is still a work in progress and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Interconnect Status

Chairman Davis noted that Interconnection was required as of January 1, 2008 but was still not completed as of December 31, 2013. However, it was noted that the contract was sent from Charter to AT&T in December 2013. It was noted that Kinson Perry from AT&T has reviewed the contract and sent it back to Charter.

AT&T

Chairman Davis spoke of a press release noting that AT&T is planning on selling Connecticut wireline operations to Frontier Communications Corp. for \$2 billion. As a result, Mr. Davis suggested that a motion be made to advise Charter and AT&T that the interconnect contract be signed prior to the sale of ATT-Uverse to Frontier Communications.

Jim Lang made a motion to ask the Cable Advisory Council Chairman to send a letter to both Tom Cohan at Charter and Kinson Perry at AT&T advising them to complete the interconnect contract for the Area 19 Community Access Provider programming prior to the sale of ATT-Uverse to Frontier Communications. Kathy Colavito seconded the motion- **Vote- All in favor**

CUSTOMERS FIRST

Gregory Davis spoke of Charter's potential purchase of Time Warner Cable in the amount of approximately \$61 billion. There was a discussion of this purchase and the amount of money being sent. Chairman Davis spoke of customer service vs. shareholder profit and suggested that a motion be made that the Cable Advisory Council include customer service and satisfaction in their mission statement goals for spending \$61.3 billion. No motion was made to this effect.

CABLE CORD CUTTERS

Chairman Davis spoke of a letters from subscribers regarding the rate increase from Charter. Mr. Davis read a transcript of a website chat with a Charter employee asking for price of Basic cable. It was noted that the lowest cost basic cable service is not available online or the Charter website.

Jim Lang made a motion to authorize the chairman to send a letter to Charter advising Charter to make the lowest cost basic cable services accessible and simply emphasize the value for money in the product and service lineup as a first line of defense in the trend toward cable cord cutting. This letter will emphasize the value of community access and educational channels. Joe Mustich seconded the motion. **Vote- All in favor**

There was a request from a CAC member asking about the accessibility of Basic Cable now and in the future, quality of signal across all channels, compression policies, must-carry policies, Charter's commitment to signal quality and availability and Charter's current data mining operations and privacy policies.

George Linkletter made a motion to authorize the chairman to send a letter to Charter requesting advice for the following topics:

1. Discussion of Basic Cable accessibility now and in the future.
2. Discussion of quality of signal across all channels, compression policies, must-carry policies, Charter's commitment to signal quality and availability.
3. Discussion of Charter's current data mining operations and privacy policies.

Paul Katzmark seconded the motion- **Vote- All in favor**

CHAIRMAN SUPPORT

Gregory Davis spoke of the Cable Advisory Council's relationships with PURA, SVAC, AT&T U-Verse and spoke of a lawsuit by a Cable Advisory Council in Area 2 suing PURA. Mr. Davis spoke of the statement made by PURA noting that the Area 2 Cable Advisory Council does not have authority due to lack of funding. There was a discussion of the use of subscriber's fees for legal fees for this lawsuit.

Mr. Davis noted that PURA asked for comments asking for comments specifically on this lawsuit and its legitimacy and he noted that he sent a letter as a private citizen to the Chairman of the Statewide Video Advisory Council and to the Acting Executive Secretary of PURA regarding the following questions that were restated from the PURA Notice:

1. What is the legal basis to grant or deny this request
2. If granted, what source of funding would be set aside and in what matter?
3. If granted, how would the amount of funding be determined?
4. If denied, how could the Council fund its legal defense?
5. Any other information in this matter that may be useful to the PURA.

Kevin Burns spoke of the letter and this lawsuit. Gregory Davis read the letter that he wrote to as a private citizen to the request from written comment on PURA Docket 11-07-09, Motion No. 9.

Jim Lang made a motion that the Cable Advisory Council go on record to thank Gregory Davis and Kevin Burns for the tremendous amount of work involved with this matter. George Linkletter seconded the motion **Vote: All in favor**

Joe Mustich made a motion that the Advisory Council supports the Citizen's Response from Gregory Davis, Chairman of the R19 Charter Western Advisory Council to the PURA request for comment on PURA Docket 11-07-09. Mike Muttitt seconded the motion **Vote: All in favor**

OPEN FORUM

Paul Katzmark spoke of a potential community lawsuit by Heritage Village in Southbury for overcharging of fees. He will write up something to discuss this further at the next meeting.

Jim Lang thanked the council for reinstating the PEGPETIA grants and noted that Trumbull recently was approved for a grant. It was noted that New Fairfield and Brookfield were approved for grants as well.

ADJOURNMENT

Ray Juskiewicz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm.

Vote: All in favor

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 87

Newtown, Connecticut

~ Minutes ~

Minutes of Public Regular Meeting –

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

Newtown, CT

There was a regular meeting of the Cable Advisory Council called to order at 7:10 p.m., Tuesday, March 11, 2014 by Chairman Gregory Davis at the Charter Communications facility, Newtown, Connecticut.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Douglas Branson (Kent), Kevin Burns (Newtown), Donna Cassidy (Trumbull), Ray Juskievicz (New Fairfield), Paul Katzmark (Southbury), Jim Lang (Trumbull), George Linkletter (Sherman), Joe Mustich (Washington), Mike Muttitt (Monroe), Bob O’Keefe (Newtown) and Stephanie O’Rourke (Kent)

From Charter: Tom Cohan (Director of Government Relations), (Greg Van Antwerp (Public Access) and Heidi Vandenbrouck (Public Relations)

ROLL CALL: The board reviewed the packets with meeting documents and board members introduced themselves. Gregory Davis spoke of all the motions and filing that the council accomplished in the last year.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS:

Tom Cohan (Director of Government Relations) gave the council information regarding Charter Communications Connecticut State fact sheet and a response to the advisory council’s question regarding its privacy policies.

The Annual report for Community Access for 2013 was submitted and is currently on the PURA website.

PURA issued a draft report which proposed a Charter community rate increase of \$7.75 per customer which is up .10 from last year.

Mr. Cohan responded to the three questions from the January 2014 meeting:

1. Charter does offer a Basic Cable Service- Current Rate Card information is available on the Charter website at www.charter.com. He spoke of the “must carry rights”.
2. Charter does everything it can to provide the optimal signal on all channels of programming provided to its customers. In the second half of 2014, Charter will be upgrading their entire system to All Digital.

3. Charter's privacy policies are provided to all new customers and to all customers on an annual basis. Copies of the privacy policy can also be found on their website at www.charter.com

Mr. Cohan noted that Kinson Perry from AT&T has retired. There will be a conference call with attorneys for AT&T regarding interconnection.

Heidi Vandenbrouck- (Public Relations)

Charter will be going to all digital and will have over 200 HD channels. There will also be a speed increase. A box is needed for all customers. It is anticipated that it is easy to install. If a customer attempts to install the box themselves but needs assistance, the fee for a technician will be waived. There was a discussion among the council members regarding the roll out.

Greg Van Antwerp- (Public Access) spoke of the following:

Provided the council with the most recent Newsletter from March/April 2014

Charter has been attending a lot of local Career Fairs

Charter has been working the Council on the Aging in Newtown and is producing Newtown Senior News.

The Easton Private School came in to film special effects for Peter Pan.

Charter is entering their "Training Program" in the Beacon Awards.

Donna Cassidy asked about the possibility of filming a forum in Trumbull regarding college and career readiness.

OLD BUSINESS

Jim Lang made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 14, 2014 meeting as presented. Ray Juskiewicz seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Katzmark went over the Income Statement, Balance Sheet and for the period of January 2014 to March 2014. The Travel Expense Cash Box for 2013 was also discussed. The date on the Income Statement should read March 1, 2014 instead of December 31, 2013.

Jim Lang made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as corrected. Donna Cassidy seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT

Chairman Gregory Davis reviewed the Annual Report that was submitted to PURA for the period ending December 31, 2013. This included a list of council members and towns that they serve and a summary of council activities for 2013. It was noted that 21 major motions were passed by the council in 2013. These motions can be found on the CAC's website. The Annual Report also included an accounting of financial activities

Donna Cassidy made a motion to accept the filing of the Annual Report to PURA on behalf of the Cable Advisory Council. Mike Muttitt seconded the motion.
Vote: All in favor

There was a brief discussion of whether or not the Cable Advisory Council should be the entity to reimburse their chairman for mileage to attend the Statewide Video Advisory Council.

Paul Katzmark made a motion to advise the Statewide Video Advisory to reimburse attending members for mileage for attending the SVAC meetings. George Linkletter seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor except Jim Lang**

Statewide Video Advisory Council

Gregory Davis reviewed the meeting agenda for the February 12th SVAC meeting. At that meeting, an action was taken to recommend to the Senate and House of Representatives to amend Section 16-331a of the general statutes to include:

(p) Each company or organization required by a franchise agreement to provide funding to an affiliated local nonprofit community access provider prior to October 1, 2007, shall continue to provide such funding in a substantially similar manner and amount and

(q) Each company or organization designated as a community access provider pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and located in a franchise area consisting of more than one town shall allocate the funds it receives pursuant to subsection (k) of this section in a manner which equitable supports the community access needs of the towns and/or local nonprofit community access providers within said franchise area.

A balance sheet showing activity for the Statewide Video Advisory Council for the year 2013 was also provided.

Industry News

Gregory Davis spoke of the top 10 stories relating to Cable TV for March 6, 2014. They include:

1. U.S. Solicitor General Supporting TV Broadcasters in Aereo Fight
2. Disney and Dish Settle Legal Issues over Hopper
3. Cable Channels Fined for misuse of Emergency Alert Signal
4. Verizon FIOS starts selling full TV seasons
5. Cablevision: Broadcaster Anti-Aereo Argument is Myopic
6. You won't believe how big TV still is
7. AT&T U-verse Amps up TV Everywhere Offering
8. Most Americans Would Choose Internet over TV of Cell phones
9. Netflix CFO: Comcast deal was essential
10. OTT to Drive Quad-Play TV Bundles to Extinction

The Point of Aereo?

Gregory Davis spoke of an article by Deborah McAdams questioning the point of Aereo.

Comcast and Netflix Deal

Gregory Davis spoke of an article written by Dan Rayburn about how the Comcast and Netflix deal is structured. Mr. Davis spoke of the advantages of the Comcast/Netflix deal to customers.

OTT-Over the Top

Gregory Davis spoke of an article entitled "OTT to drive quad-play TV bundles to extinction". This article predicts that in the not so distant future, TV operators are likely to trade quad-play residential bundles (i.e., voice, video, Internet access and wireless) for a dual-play of landline and wireless broadband. All other services, including video could simply be applications. Mr. Davis spoke of the implications of this.

Interesting Times

Gregory Davis spoke of an article entitled "Interesting Times" written by Tom Butts, Editor-in-chief from TV Technology. This article speaks of many events especially the merger between Charter and TWC and how it will affect cable television in the near future.

Prime Directive

Gregory Davis reviewed the Prime Directive of the Cable Advisory Council and noted that the CAC is charged with carrying the work set forth in CT law as an extension of the PURA. This Prime Directive was a council decision approved on September 11, 2012 – "To Promote and Protect a Secure Future for Community Access Television."

AT&T U-Verse Interconnect update

Gregory Davis noted that Kinson Perry from AT&T has retired. Mr. Davis spoke of whether or not there was any motivation for AT&T to achieve interconnection. Tom Cohan from Charter noted that he will be meeting with AT&T representatives regarding interconnection.

Chairman Davis suggested that the council send a letter to Kathleen Quinn Abernathy at Frontier Communications advising them to insist that interconnection with the Designated Community Access Providers is accomplished before AT&T hands off operation to Frontier Communications. There was a brief discussion of the effect of sending a letter.

George Linkletter made a motion to send the letter suggested by Chairman Davis with the deletion of the last sentence to Frontier Communications pending a discussion between Chairman Davis and Tom Cohan regarding the progress of the meeting with Charter on March 13th. Donna Cassidy seconded the motion.

Vote: All in favor

It was noted that the suggested letter will be sent to Frontier if there is no reasonable action plan or commitment for connection. Jim Lang suggested that a time frame be given.

Letter to PURA

Chairman Davis suggested sending a letter to PURA to encourage AT&T to get the Interconnection done and noting that the lack of interconnection should be a factor in granting control from AT&T U-Verse to Frontier. PURA would like the Advisory Council to submit a letter to them outlining how large this issue is, how many towns are involved, how many customers are involved and when the law was passed. Such letter would explain how large the issue is and how many people are involved. This letter will be written after the March 13th meeting and before the next CAC meeting. Chairman Davis noted that he will send a copy to the council members before sending.

Jim Lang made a motion to authorize the chairman to send a letter to PURA outlining the following facts and encouraging AT&T to get the Interconnection done.

- ◆ Number of towns involved
- ◆ Number of customers involved and when the law was passed

Paul Katzmark seconded the motion.

Vote: All in favor

Tom Cohan suggested having the letter come from the Statewide Video Advisory Council instead of the Cable Advisory Council.

Lowest Cost Basic Service Tier

Gregory Davis spoke of a Chairman's Announcement that he wrote entitled "Paying Too Much for Cable TV?" This article explains the options for basic cable and the process for doing this. There was a brief discussion of getting Charter to promote Basic Cable.

Mr. Davis gave a sample letter that council members send to their Mayor or First Selectman and a sample letter that members can send to the area Senior Centers asking for help with promoting Basic Cable. There was a brief discussion of the language of the letters and it was noted that the letters should have a positive tone.

Donna Cassidy made a motion to send a letter to Tom Cohan at Charter noting that the Advisory Council will help Charter Communications do a better job promoting the availability of the lowest cost Basic Service Tier in the Towns of PURA area 19. Stephanie O'Rourke seconded the motion.

Vote: All in favor

OPEN FORUM

Jim Lang noted that the Trumbull Education meetings are now available on demand on the Internet through the Town of Trumbull website.

ADJOURNMENT

Ray Juskiewicz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm.

Vote: All in favor

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 87

Newtown, Connecticut

~ Minutes ~

Minutes of Strategic Action Committee Meeting –

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Newtown Municipal Center

Newtown, CT

A meeting of the Strategic Action Committee of the Cable Advisory Council was held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at the Newtown Municipal Center, Newtown, Connecticut.

Chairman Gregory Davis called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Carmella Amodeo (Newtown), Kevin Burns (Newtown), Jim Lang (Trumbull), George Linkletter (Sherman), Mike Muttitt (Monroe) and Bob O’Keefe (Newtown)

The purpose of the Strategic Action Committee is to guide the chairman and to determine roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Council and how to better serve subscribers.

Chairman Gregory Davis provided the committee with an agenda for tonight’s meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT- None

NEW BUSINESS

Soundview vs. PURA

Gregory Davis spoke about an email regarding Soundview vs. PURA. Mike Muttitt spoke of a 64 page judgment in favor of PURA stating that Cable Advisory Councils still exist even though Cable Vision switched their charters. It is anticipated that Soundview will appeal this decision.

Chairman Gregory Davis thanked Kevin Burns for all his hard work and contribution to this decision.

Joint Application of a Change of Control

Gregory Davis spoke of PURA Docket 14-01-46 dealing with Interconnection and noted that Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen was named as an Intervener in this docket.

Gregory Davis read a draft letter from the Cable Advisory Council to Nicholas E. Neeley, Acting Executive Secretary, PURA. The summary of this letter is that given that the control of ATT U-Verse is about to change, this docket is the opportunity to rule that interconnection MUST be established between U-Verse and the legacy Cable Company Sponsored Community Access providers in order to allow the change of ownership.

Gregory Davis read a draft letter to Kathleen Quinn Abernathy at Frontier explaining the lack of interconnection between Charter and AT&T suggesting that this interconnection be accomplished before the change of ownership. There was a discussion regarding the tone of the letter and it was decided that it should have a nicer tone. Council members gave suggestions for the letter. Gregory Davis will revise the draft letter. The final letter will be copied to Maggie Wilderotter (Chairman and CEO at Frontier), Daniel McCarthy (President and COO of Frontier), Brigid Smith (AVP, Corporate Communications at Frontier) and Tom Cohan (Director of Government Relations, Charter Communications).

Lowest Cost Basic Service Tier

Gregory Davis spoke of a decision made at the last Cable Advisory Council meeting where the Advisory Council will help Charter Communications promote the availability of the lowest cost Basic Service Tier in the Towns of PURA area 19. The council members spoke of the tone of the letter and the obligation of Charter to promote the lowest basic price. It was noted that basic cable cannot be ordered online and the lowest price was difficult to find on the website. The main objective of this council is to let people know that this is an option. It was noted that customers must demand the lower price and it will not be readily offered to them when they call.

It was decided that a letter from the Advisory Council will be sent to the various First Selectmen and Senior Center Directors asking for their help in promoting the Basic Tier. Chairman Gregory Davis will post this to the website where council members can change to send to their respective First Selectmen and Senior Center Directors.

Cord Cutters

Gregory Davis spoke of “cord cutting” and MVPD (Multiple Video programming distributors) and noted that many customers will give up cable and use the internet for TV viewing in the near future. There was a discussion of the future of Community Access.

Gregory Davis spoke of streaming media and the conversion to OTT (Over the Top). This refers to the shift from paid TV to television being delivered on the internet. An example of this is Netflix. Gregory Davis spoke of the “cord never generation” and noted that this might enable channel by channel options and flexibility of programming. Mike Muttitt spoke of the cord never generation, the flexibility of programming and subscriber fees. There was a discussion of what needs to be done to continue funding for Community Access and if there is a benefit to providing Community Access online.

The council spoke of the time frame and legislative action. It was noted that 2015 is a budget year and thus 2016 would be the optimal year to concentrate on getting this done. Gregory Davis spoke of getting legislators to support Community Access.

Open Forum- None

ADJOURNMENT Gregory Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21pm- **All in favor**

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 87

Newtown, Connecticut

~ Minutes ~

Minutes of Public Regular Meeting –

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

Newtown, CT

There was a regular meeting of the Cable Advisory Council called to order at 7:04 p.m., Tuesday, May 13, 2014 by Chairman Gregory Davis at the Charter Communications facility, Newtown, Connecticut.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Douglas Branson (Kent), Kevin Burns (Newtown), Ray Juskiwicz (New Fairfield), Paul Katzmark (Southbury), Lindsay Kelkres (Southbury), George Linkletter (Sherman), Mike Muttitt (Monroe), and Stephanie O'Rourke (Kent)

From Charter: Greg Van Antwerp (Public Access) and Heidi Vandenbrouch (Public Relations)

ROLL CALL: Chairman Gregory Davis reviewed the packets for tonight's meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS:

Heidi Vandenbrouch announced that Tom Cohan is out of town and unable to attend this meeting.

Heidi Vandenbrouch- (Public Relations)

- ◆ Heidi Vandenbrouch announced that beginning May 16th Charter customers will have the capability to receive the fastest WiFi experience.
- ◆ Charter will be adding 53 Spanish channels in June. Of these, 18 will be in High Definition.
- ◆ The All-digital launching will be done in Newtown in September. Boxes will be required for all TV's. Existing boxes will stay but new TV's will need a box. Letters notifying customers will be sent 30 days out. Boxes can be picked up at Charter or shipped directly to their house at no charge. Self install of boxes is free. The charge to have a technician come to the house to install is \$29.99. A DVR is needed for every TV as Charter does not have multi-room DVR.

Greg Van Antwerp- (Public Access) spoke of the following:

- ◆ Greg Van Antwerp provided the council with the most recent Newsletter from May/June 2014.
- ◆ AT&T will do a site survey next week.
- ◆ A community training class will start on June 5th. To date, 13 participants have signed up. There are still spots available.
- ◆ Studio 21 "Local Artist Showcase" is performing tonight.
- ◆ A Mobile Truck Shoot will be held on May 13th at the Madison Middle School chorus concert.

OLD BUSINESS

March Cable Advisory Meeting Minutes and April Strategic Action Committee Meeting

Ray Juskiewicz made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 11, 2014 Cable Advisory meeting as presented. George Linkletter seconded the motion.

Vote: All in favor

Ray Juskiewicz made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 8, 2014 Strategic Action Committee meeting as presented. George Linkletter seconded the motion.

Vote: All in favor

Email from Thomas Sholtes (PURA)- Interconnection

Gregory Davis spoke of an email that the Cable Advisory Council received from Thomas Sholtes on May 2, 2014 from PURA noting that an agreement between AT&T/Charter should be filed with the Authority soon. Mr. Sholtes noted that all the Cable Advisory Council efforts have finally paid off.

Another email from Mr. Sholtes was received on May 7, 2014 noting that AT&T will connect with Charter within 90 days. Mr. Sholtes referenced a letter from AT&T to Nicholas E. Neeley at PURA regarding the agreement that establishes the terms and conditions for the interconnection. A footnote to this letter noted that the Area 19 Cable Advisory Council filed a letter in Docket No. 14-01-46 and noted that the contract should address the Cable Advisory Council concern.

Basic Tier Promotion

Gregory Davis spoke of a form letter sent to the members of the CAC giving language that can be sent to respective Mayors and First Selectmen and Senior Center Directors. Mr. Davis encouraged council members to send letters in their respective towns promoting the Basic Service Tier.

Mr. Davis noted that Newtown is interested in the Basic Tier promotion. Gregory Davis will send a letter with his signature to the Newtown First Selectman and Senior Center. Gregory Davis will send letters on behalf of towns that don't have representatives on the Charter Cable Advisory Council.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Katzmark presented the following Treasurer's Report:

Income Statement: January 2014- March 2014

<u>Income</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Charter Contribution	\$0.00
Interest- 12 months CD 0.3%	\$0.00
Interest-Money Market 0.05%	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Travel	\$505.00
Supplies	\$468.52
Secretarial Services	\$875.00

Other Expenses	\$158.00
Total Expenses	\$2006.52
Net Revenue	
Contribution to Charter Cable Equity	(\$2006.52)

Treasurer's Report (con't)

Balance Sheet January 2014-May 2014

Assets	
Biz Checking: Peoples Bank 12-31-13	\$ 249.41
Money Market (0.05%) Peoples Bank 12-31-13	\$ 6,162.97
12 month 0.3% CD Peoples Bank 12-31-13	\$13,555.73
Total Assets	\$19,968.11
Liabilities	
None	\$ 0.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 0.00
Statement of Operations	
January 1, 2014 Cable Advisory Council Equity	\$ 22,434.63
Council Operations- Net change to equity	(\$ 2,006.52)
Petty Cash	\$ 460.00
March 2014 Cable Advisory Council Equity	\$ 20,428.11

Mike Muttitt made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. George Linkletter seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT

Charter-Comcast Exchange of CT areas of 10 & 19 CCFA Licenses.

Chairman Gregory Davis spoke of the possibility of Charter planning to transfer Cable-Internet VoIP services in CT franchise areas 10 and 19.

George Linkletter made a motion to send a letter to Director of Government Relations for Charter Tom Cohan asking him if Charter plans to transfer Cable-Internet-VoIP services in CT franchise areas 10 & 19. Mike Muttitt seconded the motion- **All in favor**

Heidi Vandenbrouch spoke briefly of the Time Warner merger.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for PURA to investigate Comcast Takeover

Gregory Davis spoke of the possible Comcast-Charter-Spinco National Cable Consolidation deal and suggested sending a letter to PURA asking them to investigate.

Stephanie O'Rourke made a motion to send a letter to PURA with a copy to Tom Cohan at Charter and Merja Lehtinen of the Statewide Video Advisory Council asking the following:

If the Federal Government gives a green light to the Comcast-Charter-Spinco National Cable Consolidation deal, the CT Cable Advisory Council-Charter Western, believes that a Comcast takeover of the Charter Community Access Television Activities in its franchise areas within the State of Connecticut is NOT in the public interest. The Council hereby requests that PURA open a docket to investigate if Comcast intends a takeover of the Charter Franchise in CCFA areas 10 & 19.

Mike Muttitt seconded the motion- **All in favor**

Future Vision for Community Access

Gregory Davis spoke of Cable TV in the news and referenced several articles. He spoke of an article regarding that the future of cable TV looks bright but the rising cost is a big problem. He also spoke of an article by FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler regarding the best path forward to protect the open internet. An article by Senator Al Franken noted that he was not in favor of the Comcast-Time Warner cable deal. All of these articles are available on the CAC website.

Chairman Davis further spoke of "must carry" rules and noted that this is often but incorrectly blamed for the high costs. There was a discussion of the desire to have Al la carte pricing and programming for customers.

Chairman Davis spoke of an article called "TV as We Know it" by Deborah McAdams noting the future of cable TV. Another article by Deborah McAdams "On Aereo: Wordplay vs. Science" speaks of the Aereo controversy. The CAC briefly discussed the concept of Aereo.

Understanding the Backbone of the INTERNET and OTT

Gregory Davis spoke of the concept of Net neutrality, Internet and Over the Top and explained the difference via Wikipedia. Mr. Davis gave his editorial "How Big can Big Fish get?" and spoke of net neutrality.

Sound View vs. PURA

Chairman Davis noted that Connecticut Superior Court ruled in favor of PURA in the case of Sound View vs. PURA and spoke of how this decision will affect the Big Picture. The CAC discussed sending a letter to Michael Nelson and Greg Van Antwerp at Charter to ask for their understanding of the vision of the future of community access.

Kevin Burns made a motion to a letter to Greg Van Antwerp and Mike Nelson at Charter asking their understanding of the vision of the future of community access. George Linkletter seconded the motion- **All in favor**

Legislative Repairs Initiative

Gregory Davis spoke of key points regarding the secure future for Community Access television and spoke of his desire to send this list to Tom Cohan at Charter for his opinion.

George Linkletter made a motion to send a letter to Tom Cohan asking for his advice regarding the list of proposed legislative initiatives suggested by the advisory council and asking if it helps to promote a secure future for community access television. Douglas Branson seconded the motion-**All in favor**

Council Officer Nominations- July 2014 election

Chairman Gregory Davis noted that he would accept the nomination for another term as chairman and that he appointed Carmella Amodeo to head the nominating committee. Anyone interested in running for an office in July 2014 should contact Carmella.

OPEN FORUM

Mike Muttitt spoke of net neutrality.

ADJOURNMENT

Gregory Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm. George Linkletter seconded the motion.

Vote: All in favor

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 87

Newtown, Connecticut

~ Minutes ~

Minutes of Strategic Action Committee Meeting –

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Newtown Municipal Center

Newtown, CT

A meeting of the Strategic Action Committee of the Cable Advisory Council was held on Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at the Newtown Municipal Center, Newtown, Connecticut.

Chairman Gregory Davis called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Gerry Belanger (Newtown Alternate), Kevin Burns (Newtown), Paul Katzmark (Southbury) and George Linkletter (Sherman)

The purpose of the Strategic Action Committee is to guide the chairman and to determine roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Council and how to better serve subscribers.

Chairman Gregory Davis provided the committee with an agenda for tonight's meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT- None

ONGOING BUSINESS

Interconnection Status- Update- Gregory Davis noted that Interconnection between Charter and AT&T has been ordered and it is hopeful that this will be done by the next meeting.

Basic Service Tier Promotion- Gregory Davis noted that he spoke with the Senior Center Director in Roxbury who noted that the Roxbury Senior Center does not allow promotions. Mr. Davis relayed this to Roxbury First Selectman Barbara Henry who will speak to the Senior Center Director to explain the advantages of the Basic Service Tier.

George Linkletter spoke of the Basic Tier Promotion in Sherman and noted that he is happy to help anyone in Sherman that needs it but has no way of knowing how many residents are taking advantage of this.

Industry News

Gregory Davis spoke of the following news stories:

Multiple Video Program Distributor Industry News- Gregory Davis spoke of the rising cost of cable and spoke of the price per-channel rate hike of 2.1% and noted that the

2012 rate for cable has increased 5.1% over the 2011 price. Gregory Davis spoke of sports programming as the biggest culprit to this rate hike.

Consolidation Critics Lay Into AT&T/DirectTV

Gregory Davis spoke of an article that blames the rising price of cable on the incentive to merge instead of engaging in competition.

AT&T U-Verse Strategy Eyed Amid DirecTV Deal

Gregory Davis spoke of why the future of Community Access is at risk and the effects of Over the Top programming delivery. Mr. Davis spoke of an email he received from Dr. Ruby O'Neill on May 6, 2014. Dr. O'Neill is the wife of State Representative Arthur O'Neill. Dr. O'Neill noted that she spoke with State Representative O'Neill about the Cable Advisory Council's interest in preserving the institution of public access TV and the funding drying up because of cable subscriber attrition.

Gregory Davis spoke of "A Secure Future for Community Access Television-The May 2014 View Legislative Initiatives to Repair PA 07-253." The committee reviewed the list of initiatives. It was decided to send this list to the Statewide Cable Advisory Council to review and also review further with the entire Area 19 Cable Advisory Council. It was noted that the entire Cable Advisory Council should decide if this should be sent to State Representative O'Neill. It was suggested asking other Connecticut Cable Advisory Councils on board with this.

Open Forum- Gerry Belanger spoke of membership outreach for the 19 towns that comprise Area 19. He suggested going to the Trumbull library meeting on June 11th to recruit a library employee or library board member to serve on the Cable Advisory Council. He noted that Trumbull is entitled to appoint the library person since they are the largest town in Area 19. It was decided that to not do this at this time.

George Linkletter suggested that it would be better to reach out to recruit from towns that currently do not have a CAC representative.

ADJOURNMENT:

Gregory Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm- **All in favor**

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 87

Newtown, Connecticut

~ Minutes ~

Minutes of Public Regular Meeting –

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Newtown, CT

There was a regular meeting of the Cable Advisory Council called to order at 7:04 p.m., Tuesday, July 8, 2014 by Chairman Gregory Davis at the Charter Communications facility, Newtown, Connecticut.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Carmella Amodeo (Newtown), Gerry Belanger (Newtown Alternate), Douglas Branson (Kent), Kevin Burns (Newtown), George Fletcher (New Milford), Jim Lang (Trumbull), Mike Muttitt (Monroe), and Stephanie O'Rourke (Kent), Gene Rosen (Newtown)

From Charter: Greg Van Antwerp (Public Access) and Heidi Vandenbrouch (Public Relations)

ROLL CALL: Members of the council introduced themselves and Chairman Gregory Davis reviewed the packets for tonight's meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS:

Heidi Vandenbrouch announced that Tom Cohan is out of town and unable to attend this meeting.

Heidi Vandenbrouch- (Public Relations) reported on the following:

- ◆ There are now 55 Latino channels
- ◆ Fairfield County will go all digital on September 9th and Litchfield County will go all digital on September 16th. After these dates, everyone must have a cable box in order to receive service. Customers that have Basic cable will receive two free boxes for two years. Customers that have Expanded Basic will receive two free boxes for one year and customers that already have digital will receive one free box for one year. A letter will be sent to customers explaining their respective tiers.
- ◆ Newtown Alternate Representative Gerry Belanger complimented the tech service for Charter.
- ◆ Charter Spectrum will be launched soon after the digital launch.
- ◆ Heidi Vandenbrouch spoke briefly of the Comcast, Time Warner potential merger.

Greg Van Antwerp- (Public Access) spoke of the following:

- ◆ CTV-21 received two national Beacon Awards from the Association of Cable Communicators. The two categories that were awarded were community relations and education.
- ◆ The Advanced Training classes will start on the 1st Thursday in October.
- ◆ Charter is now on Twitter @CTV_21
- ◆ Presented the Public Access Report for May and June 2014 and spoke of the many training classes.
- ◆ There will be a training class conducted at the New Milford Senior Center on Friday, July 11th.
- ◆ It is hopeful that the connectivity between AT&T and UVerse will be completed by the end of next week.
- ◆ Greg Van Antwerp gave his personal observations on the vision of the future of community access. He distributed the following brief outline, explained his reasoning, and finished to a round of rousing & appreciative applause.

- * That whoever is running community television for area 19, it should remain as the founders envisioned – to enhance a sense of community, promote a diversity of viewpoints as an alternative to commercial ‘casts.

- * To provide a consistent community resource for educating the public in the use of communication devices for sharing community based programming, ideas and opinions regardless of ability, age orientation, handicap, etc.

- * To be offered free (outside of internet service fees) to anyone who would like to see it (Meaning, if you have internet access you should not have to pay an additional fee or membership surcharge to view).

- * To never to converted to an on-demand-only form of ‘cast.

- * No producer should be more than 30 minutes from their production facility. Beyond 30 minutes, an producer has the option to use the studio geographically closest to them.

- * To continue to strive to be connected to the community it serves, as piec of a larger thing, and not the piece itself.

- * To always move participants toward self-sufficiency, with a minimum of hands-on by the staff except in training or skill building scenarios. (Public Access)

- * To have the content remain free of commercial interest use, directly or by proxy.

- * To continue to be a safe haven for expressing ideas and opinions free of reproach.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Annual Council Officer Elections

Carmella Amodeo reported that the following people have expressed interest in serving as officers for the council:

Chairman: Gregory Davis

Vice Chairman: Mike Muttitt and George Linkletter

Secretary: Kevin Burns

Treasurer: Paul Katzmark

Since there were two members that expressed interest in becoming Vice Chairman, it was suggested that the council hear from the interested parties. George Linkletter was not present at this meeting. Mike Muttitt gave a brief description of his background and his desire to become Vice Chairman.

Carmella Amodeo made a motion to accept the slate of officers for Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer as presented. Gene Rosen seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

There was a brief discussion of the candidates for Vice Chairman.

Carmella Amodeo made a motion to propose Mike Muttitt as Vice Chairman of the Cable Advisory Council. Jim Lang seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

OLD BUSINESS

May Cable Advisory Meeting Minutes and June Strategic Action Committee Meeting

Jim Lang made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 13, 2014 Cable Advisory meeting and the June 10, 2014 Strategic Action Committee meeting as presented. Mike Muttitt seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

Basic Tier Promotion

Gregory Davis spoke of the Basic Service Tier promotion to give assistance to local Senior Centers and to advise seniors of the Basic Service Tier that has a price differential of approximately \$60 from the Expanded Basic. A document was given to Council reps as a boiler plate for their respective towns. Chairman Davis asked for feedback from the Cable Advisory Council members and asked if there was anything that the council can help with. Stephanie O'Rourke spoke of including this information in Kent Selectmen's Newsletter. Jim Lang noted that he met with the head of the Senior Center in Trumbull. Gregory Davis encouraged everyone to speak to their Senior Center Directors, First Selectmen or local Representatives.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Gregory Davis presented the Treasurer's Report in Paul Katzmark's absence:
Balance Sheet January 2014-May 2014

<u>Assets</u>	
Biz Checking: Peoples Bank 12-31-13	\$ 1,899.41
Money Market (0.05%) Peoples Bank 12-31-13	\$ 6,162.97
12 month 0.3% CD Peoples Bank 12-31-13	\$13,555.73
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>\$21,618.11</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>	
None	\$ 0.00
<u>Total Liabilities</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
<u>Statement of Operations</u>	
January 1, 2014 Cable Advisory Council Equity	\$ 22,434.63
Council Operations- Net change to equity (Sec.Services & Travel Exp Petty Cash Box)	\$ (356.52) \$ (460.00)
<u>March 2014 Cable Advisory Council Equity</u>	<u>\$ 21,618.11</u>

George Fletcher made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mike Muttitt seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT

Chairman Gregory Davis spoke of the following in his Chairman's report:

- ◆ The Supreme Court ruling against Aereo which noted that Aereo was illegally violating copyright laws.
- ◆ There is not much information disclosed regarding the implied Comcast Takeover of the Charter Communications Operations in Connecticut and New England.
- ◆ The FCC Ruling on Net Neutrality was pushed back to September 15th. Chairman Davis referred to related articles and spoke of links to other articles concerning this.
- ◆ Presented the council with the June 11, 2014 agenda and minutes for the Statewide Video Advisory Council.

- ◆ Chairman Davis presented the council with the ideas that he presented to the Statewide Video Advisory Council regarding a secure future for Community Access Television and initiatives to preserve the institution of Community Access. Mr. Davis spoke of an email that he received from Ruby O'Neill (wife of State Representative Arthur O'Neill). Dr. Ruby O'Neill noted that State Representative Arthur O'Neill would like to meet with the council and suggested contacting other stakeholders to help preserve the institution of Community Access. It was suggested inviting Arthur O'Neill and any other interested stakeholders to attend the Strategic Action Committee meeting in August. There was a brief discussion of stakeholders that should be invited to the meeting. It was decided to include the Cable Advisory Council, Charter Communications, Boards of Education, Western Connecticut State University Professors and Roxbury's First Selectman.
- ◆ Gregory Davis spoke of a letter from Tom Cohan at Charter notifying the Town of Roxbury that Charter will no longer maintain their account in a free service status. It was noted in the letter that Charter will disconnect service if there is no response by July 12, 2014. Mr. Davis spoke of a letter that he sent to Tom Cohan in response to this.

NEW BUSINESS

DR-R19CWAC-14-07-08-M1-ESSENTIAL BST- Tabled until the next meeting.

DR-R19CWAC-14-07-08-M2-BST DENIED-Tabled until the next meeting.

OPEN FORUM- None

ADJOURNMENT

Gregory Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm. Jim Lang seconded the motion.

Vote: All in favor

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 87

Newtown, Connecticut

~ Minutes ~

Minutes of Strategic Action Committee Meeting –

Tuesday, August 12, 2014

Newtown Municipal Center

Newtown, CT

A meeting of the Strategic Action Committee of the Cable Advisory Council was held on Tuesday, August 12, 2014 at the Newtown Municipal Center, Newtown, Connecticut.

Chairman Gregory Davis called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Vice Chairman Mike Muttitt (Monroe), Paul Katzmark (Southbury), Bob O'Keefe (Newtown), Stephanie O'Rourke (Kent), Gene Rosen (Newtown) and Kurt Symes (Chairman of the Commission on the Aging- Newtown)

Members introduced themselves.

The purpose of the Strategic Action Committee is to guide the chairman and to determine roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Council and how to better serve subscribers.

Chairman Gregory Davis provided the committee with an agenda for tonight's meeting reviewed the packets.

PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman of the Newtown Commission on the Aging Kurt Symes asked questions of the committee regarding the Cable Advisory Council's role and connection with Charter employees. There was a brief discussion of subscriber fees. Chairman Gregory Davis noted that a report regarding subscriber fees is posted on the CAC's website at www.cableadvisorycouncil.com

ONGOING BUSINESS

Interconnection Status- Update- Chairman Gregory Davis noted that the Interconnection will be done this week.

Annual Treasury Audit Committee- the Cable Advisory Council bylaws require an audit of the treasury every year. Treasurer Paul Katzmark noted that he will find a CPA to review the CAC books.

Membership outreach Committee- Vice Chairman Mike Muttitt noted that he has put together a spreadsheet to make a mass mailing list in order to reach out to First Selectmen and Boards of Education in various towns in order to increase membership for the Cable Advisory Council.

Legislative Traction Initiatives- This is ongoing.

SAC Mission Pool updates- Chairman Gregory Davis spoke of a list of SAC Mission Pool topics that are divided into five categories. Chairman Davis noted that each time something is crossed off the list, another objective should be added. He also noted that the first priority should be the securing of the future of funding for the Designated Community Access Providers.

NEW BUSINESS

Correspondence- Chairman Davis spoke of a letter that the Town of Roxbury received from Charter noting that the free service that the Emergency Operations Center and the schools receive will no longer be available as of September 2014. Chairman Davis and Roxbury First Selectman Barbara Henry wrote a letter to PURA on August 1st inquiring about the intent and reason for this. A response was received to the Roxbury First Selectman from Charter Director of Government Affairs Tom Cohan on August 6th noting that the reason for this is that Charter is continuing to invest in our Connecticut network.

Industry News important to Community Access Subscribers

Chairman Davis spoke of Industry News important to Community Access Subscribers. A brief discussion ensued regarding some of this news.

- ◆ Consumers Embrace Connected TV- According to a new study, the most important factor in purchasing a new TV is the ability for it to connect to the Internet and stream content.
- ◆ Netflix surpasses HBO in Subscriber revenue
- ◆ DirecTV and AT&T will take over Houston RSN
- ◆ DirecTV struggles to rein in skyrocketing content costs- Due to ongoing rising programming costs; DirecTV is doing everything they can to slow down cost increases in sports programming.
- ◆ Lackluster Q2 for Time Warner Cable- Time Warner lost 147,000 basic video customers in this quarter but this is a 22% improvement over the same period last year.
- ◆ Set-Top Box Market Stable Despite streaming media player influx
- ◆ California Lawmakers ask FCC to end SportsNet LA Standoff- TWC signed an \$8.3 billion deal with the Los Angeles Dodgers.
- ◆ Time Warner to offer HBO-Go to Cord Cutters
- ◆ Amazon to spend \$100 million on original content in Q3 and is planning significant growth in its original content spend, increasing its investment in Prime Instant Video productions to more than \$100 million in Q3.
- ◆ Netflix passes 50 million subscribers- Netflix revealed that it has signed up an additional 1.69 million subscribers during the second quarter extending its total to 50.05 million. The company added 1.12 million international streaming subs for a total 13.8 million in this category.
- ◆ Netflix call for Title II reclassification of ISPs in FCC comments.
- ◆ NBA wants to double licensing fees- Currently ESPN has an average carriage fee of \$5.54 per subscriber. This is compared to TNT as the second most expensive channel at \$1.33 per subscriber.

Chairman Report

A Secure Future for Community Access Television

Chairman Gregory Davis spoke of correspondence he has with Ruby O'Neill (wife of State Representative Arthur O'Neill) regarding having Representative O'Neill as the champion to help secure the future of community access television. Mr. Davis spoke of a transition to Over the Top Video Distribution via the internet that will dry up all the funding which supports Community Access Provider Programming and Operations. At this point, the CAC needs to convince Dr. O'Neill that there are enough stakeholders interested in this mission.

Why the Future of Community Access is at Risk

Chairman Gregory Davis spoke of reasons "Why the Future of Community Access is at Risk" and spoke of what went wrong. Mr. Davis noted that this is beneficial for potential members.

Invitation of Strategic Action Committee of the Cable Advisory Council for Area 19

Gregory Davis spoke of an invitation to stakeholders and interested citizens to attend tonight's meeting regarding the transition to Internet and Over the Top which could cause the funding for Cable TV to dry up. Mr. Davis noted that he extended this invitation to Tom Sholtes at PURA. Chairman Davis noted that he had a telephone conversation with Mr. Sholtes and gave his position on this transition. According to this telephone conversation, Mr. Sholtes believes that the transition will be very slow and there will be plenty of time for the bundled cable package business models to react.

PURA Points of View

Chairman Davis spoke of an email correspondence that he had with Tom Sholtes at PURA. Mr. Davis asked: Is a CT CVFA or CCFA license holder required to collect community access subscriber fees from customers who ONLY subscribe to Internet service? Mr. Sholtes responded: No, internet is unregulated. Mr. Davis responded: Should PURA revisit the DPUC created Advisory Council Seat. Mr. Sholtes responded: PURA doesn't make legislation.

Electronic communication to Gregory Davis from Kevin Burns

Gregory Davis noted that CAC member Kevin Burns was unable to attend tonight's meeting but sent an email with two important points that he wanted noted:

- ◆ It is important that people understand that community access revenue comes from an existing fee and what needs to be done is change the point of collection.
- ◆ It is intended to be revenue neutral. So to the extent the number of collection points is increased, the amount collected per collection event should be less.

Legislative Initiatives

Gregory Davis gave a list of ideas that need legislative help. These are Legislative Initiatives to Preserve the Institution of Community Access. The Strategic Access Committee spoke of these initiatives and how they can be implemented.

Mr. Davis noted that the most important of these initiatives is- “Any CVFA or CCFA license holder will collect a fee from each subscriber exclusively for the support of the designated community access provider in licensed territory. The fee will be annually set by the PURA in the annual community access support review.”

Statewide Video Advisory Council

Gregory Davis noted that the next SVAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 20th. The Statewide Advisory Council is made up of representatives from all 24 Regions. Chairman Davis will attend this meeting and will invite the representatives from each of the other 23 Regions to bring their State Representative to the next SVAC meeting. It was decided to invite Arthur O’Neill to the next Cable Advisory Council meeting in September.

Open Forum- None

ADJOURNMENT:

Gregory Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46pm- **All in favor**

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 87

Newtown, Connecticut

~ Minutes ~

Minutes of Public Regular Meeting –

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Newtown, CT

There was a regular meeting of the Cable Advisory Council called to order at 7:04 p.m., Tuesday, September 9, 2014 by Chairman Gregory Davis at the Charter Communications facility, Newtown, Connecticut.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Carmella Amodeo (Newtown), Gerry Belanger (Newtown Alternate), Douglas Branson (Kent), George Fletcher (New Milford), Ray Juskievicz (New Fairfield), Paul Katzmark (Southbury, arrived 7:30pm), Jim Lang (Trumbull), George Linkletter (Sherman), Joe Mustich (Washington), Stephanie O'Rourke (Kent) and Gene Rosen (Newtown)

From Charter: Greg Van Antwerp (Public Access) and Heidi Vandenbrouch (Public Relations)

Guests: Connecticut State Representative Arthur O'Neill (District 69) and Ruby O'Neill

ROLL CALL: Members of the council introduced themselves and Chairman Gregory Davis reviewed the packets for tonight's meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS:

Heidi Vandenbrouch announced that Tom Cohan is out of town and unable to attend this meeting.

Heidi Vandenbrouch- (Public Relations) reported on the following:

- ◆ Fairfield County will be going to all digital tomorrow, September 10th.
- ◆ Litchfield County will be going to all digital on September 16th.
- ◆ Charter Spectrum will be launched sometime in October. This will give greater internet speed and will have over 200 HD channels.
- ◆ Charter will be open additional hours until September 16th to help with the transition. Customers that make an attempt to connect and are unable can have a technician come to their house to connect at no charge.

Greg Van Antwerp- (Public Access) spoke of the following:

- ◆ Charter is interconnected with AT&T as of today.

- ◆ CT21 is moving to Channel 192- The motto is CTV 21=19+2
- ◆ Channel 17 is now Channel 194
- ◆ Charter will be at the Newtown Arts Festival is this weekend.
- ◆ Charter will work with students at West Conn to provide life election results.
- ◆ Greg Van Antwerp met with 25 students from West Conn Weather Center.

OLD BUSINESS

July Cable Advisory Meeting Minutes and August Strategic Action Committee Meeting

Jim Lang made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 8, 2014 Cable Advisory meeting and the August 12, 2014 Strategic Action Committee meeting as presented. Joe Mustich seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

Region 12 AV Studio Funded by PEGPETIA

Joe Mustich spoke of a new video production studio built at Shepaug High School with a grant received from PURA. Chairman Davis spoke of this grant known as the PEGPETIA grant and noted that this is one of the last projects to be done with PEGPETIA funds before PEGPETIA funds were diverted to the general fund.

Mr. Davis spoke of a motion made at the November 12, 2013 CAC meeting regarding sending a letter to the Council Representatives asking for them to take action to restore funds created under the CGS16-331 for Public, Educational, Government Programming Equipment Technology Investment Account and give cable television customers what they paid for. The CAC decided to send a letter with the following motion:

George Linkletter made a motion that the Cable Advisory Council hereby resolves to support a legislative Initiative to restore the funds diverted from the Public-Educational-Governmental-Programming & Educational Technology Investment Account. Joe Mustich seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

A list of Area 19 contacts is available in tonight's meeting packet and also on the Cable Advisory Council website.

CORRESPONDENCE

Analog sunset

Chairman Gregory Davis noted that the Analog sunset is happening. A decoder box is now necessary for all TV's. Letters were received from residents of both Sherman and Southbury that were upset about this conversion. These residents noted that they were happy with their service as it was and did not want to have to pay for the extra boxes.

Chairman Gregory Davis suggested that a letter be sent to Tom Cohan of Charter requesting that Charter include the first converter box at the basic cable rate.

Joe Mustich made a motion to send a letter to Tom Cohan on behalf of the Cable Advisory Council asking that Charter include the first converter box in the basic cable rate and to ask Charter to improve the Charter Announcement that greets each viewer upon converter box power up. Paul Katzmark seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor except Ray Juskiewicz and Jim Lang)**

Basic Service Tier from the Emergency Operations Centers

Gregory Davis spoke of a letter sent on August 1st by him to PURA to investigate Charter's plan to disconnect the Basic Service Tier from the Emergency Operations Center for town halls effective in September 2014. It was noted that the charge for this is approximately \$70/month.

There was a discussion of whether or not this letter should have been sent from the chairman on Cable Advisory Council letterhead. It was suggested that Chairman Davis in the future may want to send similar letters not on letterhead but to instead include his title in the body of the letter and sign as an individual.

Joe Mustich made a motion to support a letter sent to PURA stating that: The Cable Advisory Council supports the town of Roxbury's request for a PURA investigation to rule that the Basic Service Tier is an essential Public Service to be provided free of charge to the designated Emergency Operations Center and Senior Centers of all the Area 19 towns. Stephanie O'Rourke seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT

Chairman Davis spoke of two quotes for news headlines regarding cable: "Absent either denial of the transaction or imposition of conditions, the communications ecosystem could forever and dramatically change to the detriment of consumers and competition alike"- Sinclair Broadcasting's comments, filed with the FCC, on the Comcast/Time Warner Cable merger.

Conversely, Comcast's reaction was:

"It is important to remember that for every programmer that wants more money for carriage or expanded carriage, this imposes real costs on consumers and limits the opportunities for other cable networks to gain access to our systems. Our programming costs have increased by over 130% over the past 10 years while our consumer pricing has increased at about half that rate. We've had success in negotiating programming deals in the marketplace and believe that's the right place for buyers and sellers to make deals without government intervention."

Gregory Davis gave a brief overview of other cable headlines and trends including Netflix, "cord nevers" and Over the Top providers and how they will affect community access. Chairman Davis spoke of the need for legislative action to keep funding for community access television.

SVAC Report

Gregory Davis spoke of a summary of a presentation that he was prepared to present to the Statewide Video Advisory Council but their meeting was cancelled. The next meeting of the SVAC will be held on October 8th and it is hopeful that SVAC members will bring their representatives to this meeting and give support for the legislative initiative in Connecticut.

Chairman Davis spoke of a letter sent to Connecticut State Representative Arthur O'Neill and to Ruby O'Neill asking for their advice and guidance. State Representative O'Neill spoke of the best ways to get others involved and the practical language of the legislation that will keep funding alive. It was noted that the cover letter of the legislation should have language that is not too technical and should include reasons to support public access. It was further noted that it is important that everyone on the council is on board in order to garner support. Members of the council asked questions of State Representative O'Neill regarding this process.

George Fletcher made a motion that the Cable Advisory Council hereby resolve to support a 2015 Connecticut legislative initiative to preserve the funding for the Connecticut Institution of Community Access Television. Carmella Amodeo seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor except George Linkletter)**

The council thanked State Representative O'Neill and Ruby O'Neill for attending tonight's meeting.

COUNCIL TREASURY REPORT

Treasurer Paul Katzmark noted that the balance in the checking account is currently \$1,257.60 which includes expenditures for tonight's meeting.

Ray Juskiewicz made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Gerry Belanger seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

OPEN FORUM

Paul Katzmark asked about the cost of Basic Cable and a problem with Charter at Heritage Village. It was decided that Mr. Katzmark will call Tom Cohan regarding this situation.

Mr. Katzmark also asked about the possibility of broadcasting Board of Selectmen meetings in Southbury. Greg Van Antwerp offered to help with this.

ADJOURNMENT

Ray Juskiewicz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43pm. George Linkletter seconded the motion.

Vote: All in favor

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL
P. O. Box 87
Newtown, Connecticut
~ Minutes ~
Minutes of Strategic Action Committee Meeting –
Tuesday, October 14, 2014
Newtown Municipal Center Newtown, CT

A meeting of the Strategic Action Committee of the Cable Advisory Council was held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at the Newtown Municipal Center, Newtown, Connecticut. Chairman Gregory Davis called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Vice Chairman Mike Muttitt (Monroe), Kevin Burns (Newtown), Jim Lang (Trumbull) and Gerry Belanger (Newtown Alternate)

Members introduced themselves.

The purpose of the Strategic Action Committee is to guide the chairman and to determine roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Council and how to better serve subscribers.

Chairman Gregory Davis provided the committee with an agenda for tonight's meeting reviewed the packets.

PUBLIC INPUT- None

ONGOING BUSINESS

SAC Mission Pool Updates- Chairman Gregory Davis will go over the Mission pool and email to council members.

Basic Service Tier Promotion- Chairman Davis spoke of the Cable Advisory Council's attempt to have Charter advertise and promote the Basic Service Tier. It was noted that it is very difficult for customers to find out information and pricing for the Basic Tier. There was a brief discussion and it was noted that there doesn't seem to be a push from Senior Centers to promote this product.

The council noted that AT&T also does not have their Basic Service price prevalent on their website. It was decided that the council should notify this to the Statewide Video Advisory Council and ask that they relay this information to Frontier.

The CAC will keep the issue of Basic Service Tier on future agendas.

Membership outreach Committee- Vice Chairman Mike Muttitt noted that he is in the process of updating appointments of Cable Advisory Council members and read a sample letter that he will be sending to the First Selectmen of all 19 towns to confirm appointments and ask for volunteers. This letter explained the mission of the CAC and noted qualifications for members.

Cable Advisory Council Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, October 14, 2014

Prospective volunteers are invited to come to the next Cable Advisory Council meeting on November 11th.

Mr. Muttitt will research appointments for school boards and Gerry Belanger will research appointments for library employees.

Annual Treasury Audit Committee- Treasurer Paul Katzmark is working on engaging an auditor.

NEW BUSINESS

Correspondence- Chairman Davis noted that he received an email from Roxbury First Selectman Barbara Henry that was forwarded from an upset customer about the “all digital” transition. Mr. Davis sent a letter to this customer which he put on the CAC’s website which explains this transition. In this letter, he explains alternatives to Charter and invites members of the public to attend CAC meetings. There was a brief discussion of this letter and it was noted that it should explain which options provide community access and it was noted that it should be limited to two pages.

Cable Industry News- Late September- Early October

Chairman Davis spoke of Cable News from Late September 2014-October 2014. There was a brief discussion among the council members regarding the trends . See <http://cableadvisorycouncil.com/reports/index.html> for the newsbriefs.

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Chairman Report

A Secure Future for Community Access Television

Chairman Gregory Davis spoke of correspondence he had with Ruby O’Neill (wife of State Representative Arthur O’Neill) regarding having Representative O’Neill lobby for the secure future of Community Access Television. The main point of a letter written by Chairman Davis includes “What is Community Access Television” and explains Community Access created under Connecticut Law back in 1963. This letter further explains why Community Access Television is essential.

Chairman Davis spoke of “A Clear and Present Danger” and how the Institution of Community Access is now at serious risk. There was a discussion of the best way to get legislators on board with this. It was suggested that the Cable Advisory Council compile stories from across the state that enhance the benefits of Community Access Television.

Open Forum- There was a brief discussion of the Statewide Video Advisory Council and it was noted that their meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, October 29th. It was noted that it is essential for SVAC members to bring their representatives to this meeting.

MOTION: Gerry Belanger made a motion that the Steering Committee recommend that Chairman Gregory Davis be reimbursed \$275.00 for the Connecticut Lobbying Conference on October 16th. Jim Lang seconded the motion.- **All in favor**

ADJOURNMENT:

Gregory Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28pm- **All in favor**

Cable Advisory Council Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, October 14, 2014

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL

P. O. Box 87

Newtown, Connecticut

~ Minutes ~

*Minutes of Public Regular Meeting –
Tuesday, November 11, 2014
Newtown, CT*

There was a regular meeting of the Cable Advisory Council called to order at 7:04 p.m., Tuesday, November 11, 2014 by Chairman Gregory Davis at the Charter Communications facility, Newtown, Connecticut.

ATTENDEES: Chairman Gregory Davis (Roxbury), Carmella Amodeo (Newtown), Jon Bernon (Woodbury), Douglas Branson (Kent), Kevin Burns (Newtown), Donna Cassidy (Trumbull), Paul Katzmark (Southbury), Jim Lang (Trumbull), Stephanie O'Rourke (Kent) and Gene Rosen (Newtown), Chuck Rubano (New Milford)

From Charter: Greg Van Antwerp (Public Access) and Heidi Vandenbrouch (Public Relations)

Guests: Steven and Mary Schinke

ROLL CALL: Members of the council introduced themselves and Chairman Gregory Davis reviewed the packets for tonight's meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT: Guests Steven and Mary Schinke from Roxbury approached the council asking for support in receiving high speed internet in their home. Since the Schinkes work from home, high speed internet is crucial for their businesses. Charter is unable to provide this due to the high installation costs to their home. The Schinkes have offered to pay this installation cost. Jim Lang suggested that the Schinkes try Frontier Communications.

There was a brief discussion of whether or not Charter's policy should be changed. This will be discussed further at the January meeting.

Donna Cassidy made a motion to ask Charter Cable to reconsider the connection request of the homeowners Steven and Mary Schinke. Seconded- **Vote: All in favor**

SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS:

Heidi Vandenbrouch announced that Tom Cohan is unable to attend this meeting.

Heidi Vandenbrouch- (Public Relations) reported on the following:

- ◆ Charter went to all digital on September 9th and 16th. There are over 200 HD Channels.
- ◆ There was a question about MSG & MSG Plus. Heidi will look into this for the next meeting.
- ◆ Chairman Gregory Davis commended Charter on a smooth transition.
- ◆ Jim Lang asked if it is possible to have a technical person attend meeting in case of questions.
- ◆ Jim Lang thanked Charter for previous free service for the town and schools and inquired as to why this policy has changed and a charge now applies.

Greg Van Antwerp- (Public Access) spoke of the following:

- ◆ Studio 21 for local musicians.
- ◆ Live election results were reported from Charter by West Conn students.
- ◆ There will be an Open House on Tuesday, Nov. 25th at the CTV studio.
- ◆ Three mobile shoots were done in the past 2 months.

COUNCIL TREASURY REPORT

Gregory Davis made a motion to accept the Treasury report as presented-**Vote: All in favor**

OLD BUSINESS

September Cable Advisory Meeting Minutes and October Strategic Action Committee Meeting

Paul Katzmark made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 2014 Cable Advisory meeting and the October 2014 Strategic Action Committee meeting as presented. Seconded. **Vote: All in favor**

Basic Service Tier Promotion

Gregory Davis noted that the Basic Cable service price for Charter is \$36.95 plus the price of the cable box; however this information is not available on their website. Charter is required by law to provide this basic service but not required to promote it or advertise it. There was a discussion of ways to promote basic cable and it was suggested that CAC members talk to constituents. Information regarding this can be found on the CAC website.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Davis spoke of the price increase protest letters from multiple subscribers, due to Charter's all-digital service that now requires a cable box for every television. Charter adds a mandatory rental fee for each one onto the bill. He spoke of alternatives.

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT

- ◆ Chairman Davis spoke of Cable news from September 2014 to early November 2014.

- ◆ Chairman Davis spoke of a draft motion that he proposed to the Statewide Video Advisory Council and spoke of the importance of Community Access Television.

Jim Lang made a motion to have the CAC draft a letter to PURA to please review the language of CGS 16-331a(k) to confirm that community access provider support fees are to be collected for all subscribers. Seconded. – Tabled

There was a discussion of the effectiveness of this letter and it was decided to table this motion to the next meeting.

- ◆ Gregory Davis spoke of Community Access Providers

Jim Lang made a motion to send the following to the chairman of CT Energy & Technology Committee “We the members of the Area 19 Cable Advisory Council request the committee to create legislation to stabilize funding of the CT Institution of Community Access Television by language clarification to CGS 16-331a(k). The department shall establish the amount that the company or organization responsible for community access operations shall receive for such operations from subscribers to any services of multichannel video programming distributors holding a valid license as issued by the PURA.” Seconded- **Vote: All in favor**

OPEN FORUM- None

ADJOURNMENT

Gregory Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:58pm. Seconded.

Vote: All in favor