

Barnstable Cable Advisory Committee Meeting

July 12, 2013 - 2:30PM

Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall

1. Meeting called to order at 2:38PM. In attendance: Nancy Richard, Suzanne Reid, Richard Bacchiocchi, Thomas Terry and Robert Dwyer. Also Terry Duenas and Linda Sandhu from Cape Cod Community Media Center.
2. The minutes from the 6/7/12 meeting were approved. (Dwyer/Thomas) approved with one abstention.
3. Terry Duenas - Introduced himself and Linda Sandhu. He brought packets of information about the media center, and the 2012 audit. The media center requests that the town release .25% of gross cable revenue for 2012 as outlined in the contract between the media center and the town. All towns are contributing 1.5% plus .25% discretionary funding (except Yarmouth) as of this year, now that their contracts have been signed.

In response to questions from the committee about the news program, Mr. Duenas explained the original attempt by the media center to create news (cape media news) didn't work very well. Under the new paradigm, the media center is creating news programming that covers events and other news on Cape Cod. One such program, the Profile Series is issues orientated; What's Happening is a 10 minutes show about events coming up, produced two to three times a week, and Cape Cod Newsmakers is produced four to six times a month. News at the media center is a unique combination of news, information and events produced in a variety of ways from community producers to staff, in studio and in the field. The media center is also encouraging organizations to do press conferences in the studio to be shown on the access channel and streamed on the website. Print and radio media are invited to these press conferences, and allowed to use the content as well.

Motion - The committee agrees that the news programming as described by Terry Duenas is in keeping with the spirit of the contract. Based on the annual report and the clean 2012 audit presented, the committee recommends that the town release the discretionary funding of .25%, allowed in the contract to C3TV. (Dwyer/Reid - unanimous).

4. Discussion of Committee's Duties

The chair asked the committee to suggest what they felt the duties of the committee should be. Bob Dwyer suggested the committee have general oversight of contract between the town and C3TV and assist C3TV to adhere to it by making recommendations. Also, the committee would be available to educate the PEG channel folks as to what they need to be doing to comply with the contract between the town and Comcast regarding funding use and other contractual issues. Suzanne Reid asked how criticisms or suggestions regarding public access operations get addressed and wondered if a channel of communications has been set up. Nancy Richard suggested that since Sarah Colvin is the town's representative on the media center board of directors, criticisms should be directed to her, and she could report back to the committee at our quarterly meetings.

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5. Old Business – Ann Canedy reported to Nancy Richard that she has looked for the original charge to the committee, and has not been able to find one.
6. New Business – Thomas Terry requested that we ask to add information about weather related problems and traffic situations, such as the recent backup at the Sagamore Bridge due to an accident to the programming on the government channel bulletin board. He asked if we are part of Code Red, and Nancy Richard said she would ask Tom Lynch. The committee asked that the annual report from the media center be put on the town website and that the committee request a rate sheet from Terry Duenas on non-profit production services. The committee also asked that the town include a bulletin board announcement on its channel to inform people how to contact the committee in the event of consumer complaints and other issues regarding the cable license.
7. Meeting was adjourned at 3:55PM.

Rick Bacchiocchi has agreed to record the minutes in the future. The next meeting of the committee will be held on September 20, 2013 at 2:30PM.