

# MINUTES OF CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

After notice duly given, the Longmeadow Cable Television Advisory Committee met in open session on January 23, 2007 in the School Committee Meeting Room at Longmeadow High School, 95 Grassy Gutter Road, Longmeadow. The meeting was called to order by the Chair who presided throughout. Those present were: Steven Wolman, Gerard Nolet, E. Holland Low, Norman Michaels, and William Monks. At the invitation of the Chair were: Stephen Fitzgibbon from Comcast, Tracey and Doug from LCTV, Dave Bartlett from LCTV and Al Williams from Northampton Public Access and formerly from LCTV.

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM. In the absence of a Secretary, the Chair kept the minutes.

## Secretary's Report

The Secretary's Report had been previously distributed by the Chair and were accepted as written.

## Old Business

There have been no changes in programming of channel 8. The Chair suggested that Channel 59 from Connecticut be added as it sometimes carries the Yankees or Mets baseball games. Mr. Fitzgibbon said he would look into it.

## New Business

FCC Ruling. There has been no formal release of a ruling regarding telcos ability to bypass municipalities for licensing, only a press release. So nothing has happened. Disney on Demand is coming but it is not here yet. National Geographic HD has been added to the channel lineup. Comcast is carrying HD Video on Demand. The FCC has said that all set top boxes will have to have a cable card slot, but no order has been issued. Mr. Fitzgibbon has no info regarding new set top boxes. He will check on number of HD channels currently capable with the current box. There will be a price increase in February but it is the smallest increase in 10 years. Mr. Fitzgibbon has alerted the Committee regarding ongoing negotiations between Comcast and Sinclair Broadcasting, owner of WGGB ABC40 for retransmission of its signal. In North Carolina a cable company could not reach such an agreement and Sinclair's Fox station was pulled. Sinclair has signed with Time Warner. Mr. Fitzgibbon will look into carrying WTNH Channel 8 from Connecticut if an impasse is reached. Gerry Nolet asked about a problem obtaining a rebate from Comcast after purchasing an HD TV from Circuit City. Mr. Fitzgibbon said he will look into it.

## Comments From Visitors

Mr. Bartlett reminded Mr. Fitzgibbon about ongoing problem with volume on inserted local commercials. He suggested that Comcast obtain the same equipment, a compressor-limiter, that LCTV has which can solve the problem. Mr. Fitzgibbon asked that he be called if the problems recurs.

## Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on April 11, 2007 in the School Committee Meeting Room, if available, otherwise in the LCTV studio.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven A. Wolman, Chair

In the absence of a Secretary, the Chair