

# **CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

## **JULY 20, 2010**

After notice duly given, the Cable Advisory Committee met in open session on July 20, 2010 in the School Committee Meeting Room at Longmeadow High School, 95 Grassy Gutter Road, Longmeadow, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7PM by the Chair, Steven Wolman. Those present were: Steven Wolman, Norman Michaels and Donald Holland. Those absent were William Monks and E. Holland Low. Representing Comcast was Stephen Fitzgibbons, and at the invitation of the Chair, David Bartlett, Station Manager of LCTV.

The Secretary's Report was accepted as printed. The vote was unanimous.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: Mr. Fitzgibbons stated that the DET & C held a hearing to set equipment and installation rates for next year. Mr. Michaels related a pricing problem that he had with Comcast. He had upgraded his services to HD and when he got his HD set top box, he was denied his one free digital box. Additionally he was told the fee was \$15/month. Mr. Fitzgibbons stated that it should be \$7.95. Mr. Fitzgibbons stated that the only thing that should have been changed is the additional cost for the HD set top box. Mr. Michaels stated that he spoke with two different Comcast reps and that he got two different stories. Mr. Fitzgibbons stated that the reps have access to certain codes for sales purposes and that they can't make arbitrary changes. Mr. Holland related a pricing problem as well. He stated that his bill contained a \$250 charge that was removed when he called to ask about it. Mr. Fitzgibbons stated that he will look into this.

Comments from visitors: The only visitor was Mark Gold who had no comments.

Set Date for Next Meeting: The next meeting is on October 19, 2010 at 7PM in the School Committee Meeting Room, if available, otherwise in Room 5 at Longmeadow High School if available, otherwise in the studio of LCTV.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:15PM

Respectfully submitted  
Steven A. Wolman, Chair

Steve 

Minutes of June 23,2010 Negotiations Meeting with Comcast

After notice duly given, the Negotiating Subcommittee of the Cable Advisory Committee met in open session at 7PM in the studio of LCTV to continue negotiations with Comcast. Those present were Steven Wolman and William Monks from the Cable Advisory Committee, David Bartlett from LCTV, Stephen Fitzgibbons from Comcast, and Mark Gold as an observer.

The discussion centered about VOD for LCTV. Mr Fitzgibbons stated that Comcast is in discussions about providing this service but that it hasn't figured out how to do it yet. The question of the Electronic Programming Guide was raised by Dr Wolman. Mr Fitzgibbons stated that he had not discussed this yet with the engineer in charge as that person was still involved with winding down Comcast's digital transition but that he will talk to him about it. Dr wolman then asked about the capital for LCTV. The sub-committee had provided a requested dollar amount and Comcast came back with a much lower counter offer. We suggested that the amount could be in a side letter if that would enable Comcast to come to the table with a much higher offer. Mr Fitzgibbons stated that our request would cost \$1.49 per subscriber per month. Mr Fitzgibbons was reminded that \$.42 was already embedded into the contract so that it was really a \$1.07 increase and that considering that Comcast has been raising costs every 6 months for them to suggest that this would be a hardship is a non-starter. Mr. Fitzgibbons stated that Comcast would do its survey in 4 weeks. The next meeting has been scheduled for July 27, at 7PM in either Room 5 or the studio of LCTV.

Respectfully submitted  
Steven Wolman, Chair

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6/25/2010