

DRAFT MINUTES

CATV Advisory Committee Minutes

May 17, 2012

Place: Exeter High School, Morrisette Room

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Present: Matt Quandt, Anne Surman, Hope Godino, Nancy Belanger, Jim Fellows.

Staff: Russ Dean, Town Manager, Andy Swanson, IT Coordinator

The committee discussed the basic charge of the Cable TV Committee. Ann Surman handed out a rewrite she had done of the charge. Discussion ensued on this rewrite.

A question was raised about complaints that related to the education channel 13. It was agreed these complaints should go to Doug York as coordinator of the education channel, not the CATV Committee.

A discussion on funding for the education channel then happened. Discussion around Exeter's share of the education channel. Town Manager Dean explained the intent is to pay the Exeter share of the education channel expenses out of the franchise fee, in proportion with Exeter students that attend EHS out of the entire student population. This amount should offset what Exeter pays in school taxes each year to the Co-op.

Discussion then ensued on terms of office of the members and which members had which terms.

Mr. Swanson gave a brief update on Town Hall streams which is paid for out of the cable TV fund, and on the upcoming live broadcast of the High School graduation.

The group then turned back to the charge and future of the committee. The town manager questions the piece of the charge which declares the cable television oversees the public access channel operations. There are no advisory committees that oversee operations. Ms. Surman indicated she was still trying to figure out what the role of the committee was. Ms. Godino offered her thoughts that the committee as advisors would look at reports every so often and offer input.

A discussion then was had about potentially simply dissolving the committee. It was agreed after some discussion that the committee could meet as needed in an ad hoc format as issues arose with channel 98 regarding the policies and procedures. Further discussion ensued about the idea of having committee members volunteer their time with channel 98 as they could, to help build the user base and training programs envisioned at the outset.

It was agreed going forward the cable tv committee would be ad hoc in nature and meet when complaints were received to resolve, and its members would contribute to 98 as they could on an individual basis by working through Jay Childs of JBC and Doug York.

Ann Surman moved to adjourn seconded by Nancy Belanger. The committee stood adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Dean
Town Manager