
Pepperell CATV Committee

*Town of Pepperell
One Main Street
Pepperell, MA 01463*

Minutes:

Date: 04/05/11
Time: 01:08:00 PM
Location: Library History Room
Attended by: Richard Potts; Mark Boyajian; David Pease; Phil Durno; Bill August; Tom Cohan; John Moak
Absent: Mark Walsh
Late: Deb Spratt (1:24)
Chair: Richard Potts
Minutes: Mark Boyajian

Speaker	Comments
R. Potts	Declared meeting open. Discuss transitioning with existing “home grown” systems. How long will be in “transition phase”? This will determine how to create the budgets and the fee phasing.
T. Cohan; R. Potts; B. August	Tom is concerned that the passthrough amount (\$2.46) is going to cause subscriber loss. They are currently paying 18 cents, and an increase to 2.46 or greater is going to cause subscriber loss. 2, 2.5, 3%. Do we want to take the Groton channel back? We are planning to expand the programming on the Townsend channel, but we don't know if we will ever be in a position to use the Groton channel effectively; we don't know what the future will be.
B. August	Supports the idea that one channel can be used for multiple purposes; i.e. mixed use public access and government.
T. Cohan; B. August	Tom is not concerned with what we do with the money; he is concerned with the hit to the subscriber.
J. Moak	Says he is not aware of anyone who has gone to “dish” has done so for programming content, not

Pepperell CATV Committee

	<p>cost.</p> <p>T. Cohan: He insists that he/they have data that supports his position that subscribers do, in fact, leave (go to dish) because of cost increases.</p>
Mark	Different perspectives
B. August	We need higher percentages because of our relatively small subscriber size. Potentially 2 years at 2.5%,
T. Cohan; D. Spratt	<p>Concerned that in ten years almost nobody has used the studio at Lomar Park. What makes us think that that will change in the future, near and far term.</p> <p>Deb said that getting into Lomar Park has been very difficult.</p>
Moak	Pepperell behaviour is a “quality of life” issue. Our population spends more time at home than in larger communities and that cable plays a stronger role to families.
R. Potts	<p>Look what we have accomplished just by ourselves just over the past year.</p> <p>Deb: Community tie to cable.</p>
Cohan	Not convinced that we will be able to get the people necessary to support our hopes for programming.
Potts	Described how much new interest there is in getting programming on public access. Police, Fire, Historical Society.
General	
	<p>Nissi and VB options? Not good. Infrastructure changes needed, cory. Maybe get a room at Peter Fitz?</p> <p>2:07 John Moak leaves.</p>
	We'll get Fibre at 3 locations: HS, Town Hall, and ??? The library will get Fibre, but we will have to pay for the transmitter.
	2:15 Tom leaves as committee discusses budgets.
	3:30 Tom returns. Budget discussions ensued. Yr. 1: 2.5% Yr.2: 3% Yr3-7: 3.5%; Yr 8-10 3.75% We agree. Side letter for studio? Tom will think about it.
	<p>90 days to get fibre at town hall.</p> <p>Tom will ask Frank to help us with moving the head-end stuff out of Lomar Park.</p>

Pepperell CATV Committee

Minutes Approval

Name	Signature
Richard Potts	
Mark Boyajian	
Mark Walsh	
David Pease	
Debra Spratt	