

Connecticut State-wide Video Advisory Council

April 17, 2019 - Regular Meeting
Baci Grill, 134 Berlin Rd, Cromwell, CT

Minutes

The Statewide Video Advisory Council meeting was held on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 and called to order at 7:00PM by Chair Merja Lehtinen.

In attendance were the following members: Merje Lehtinen, Tad Weinstein, Michael Meinz, Stephen Fuest, Gregory Davis, Alan Budkofsky, Philip Markuszka, Stewart Strelzer, Alex Fraser and Elaine Buchardt

Members Absent: Russell Gomes, Wayne Church, Stephen Simonin and Marco Iacoviello

Providers: None

Public in Attendance: Stephen Mindera from Skye Cable, David Bibbey from Charter/Western Advisory Council.

The minutes from the March 6th meeting were approved. Motion made by Alan Budkofsky and seconded by Gregory Davis. Motion passed with 3 abstentions.

Treasurers Report: Tad Weinstein report the current balance is \$32,126.31 and waiting for Altice's annual stipend check.

Provider Reports: None

Old Business:

Frontier billing issue: After SVAC payment was applied by Frontier, the customer cancelled service and received a bill from Frontier for \$225.00. Merja Lehtinen said that there is currently a docket with PURA and the Attorney General is involved as well.

Committee Reports:

Legal:

Senate Bill 677 HD Upgrades – Gregory Davis has been working on this and he feels this has a good chance of being passed. Alex Fraser said a Cox Representative said if this bill passes, they will do HD and Charter will do HD if others do it to level the playing field. *House Bill 5990 An Act Concerning Establishment of a Fee Paid by Multichannel Video Programming Distributors* and *House Bill 5486 An Act Repealing the Transfer from the Public, Educational And Governmental Programming and Education Technology Investment Account* are still in committee and probably will not progress further. No known action at the FCC on their Docket 05-311.

Membership:

On April 4, nine email messages asking for SVAC members were sent to regional advisory councils. The Cablevision/Lower Fairfield chair responded that he was unable to find anyone willing to serve on the SVAC. The Comcast/Vernon chair responded that their council elected Elaine Buchardt to be an SVAC member. There are now nine regional advisory councils with no member on the SVAC.

Technology:

None

New Business:

Gregory Davis will be taking a three-month vacation. David Bibbey, Vice Chair of his Advisory Council will be his alternate.

The next meeting is Wednesday, June 26.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Weinstein
SVAC Recording Secretary