

Connecticut State-wide Video Advisory Council

April 26, 2017 - Regular Meeting
Baci Grill, 134 Berlin Rd, Cromwell, CT

Minutes

The Statewide Video Advisory Council meeting was held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 and called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Merja Lehtinen.

In attendance were the following members: Tad Weinstein, Michael Meinz, Merja Lehtinen, Marco Iacoviello, Douglas Poger, Gregory Davis, Phil Markuszka, Stuart Strelzer, Alan Budkofsky and Alex Fraser.

The following members were not present: Stephen Fuest, James Kelley, Paul Tontini, Wayne Church, Russell Gomes

Providers in attendance: Jennifer Young

Public in attendance: Stephen Mindera, Robert Leroux, Bonnie Leroux

Merja Lehtinen told the council that Jim Kelly resigned due to his wife's illness.

As there were two new members present, we all introduced ourselves.

Secretary Report:

Marco Iacoviello made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Mike Meinz. There were 3 abstentions. Minutes approved.

Treasurers Report:

Tad Weinstein gave the report that after paying for the new website and recording secretary fee there is now \$28,530.06 in the account. Mike Meinz made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and seconded by Marco Iacoviello. There were 2 abstentions and the report was accepted.

Providers Report:

Jennifer Young passed around the changes and said that Altice is still getting adjusted to the US. Negotiations are still going on with stations.

Public Comments: None

Old Business:

Mike Meinz said that an audit should be taken by video providers to see which public access is hooked up. Mike Meinz gave out handouts and explained set up of our new website (PURA'S map is on it) and how to find members and updated information. There is even a link to view the Annual Report. The cost is \$249 for two years. Merja Lethinen thanked Mike Meinz for all the hard work that he put into this venture.

New Business:

Tad Weinstein suggest a letter be sent to Frontier as there has been no representation at our meetings for months. Merja Lehtinen said that Michael Cicchetti has been sending her monthly reports that she will forward to Lori Weinstein to include with the minutes.

Technical Committee:

Steven Simonin sent a report to Lori Weinstein who will print it out and provide at the next meeting.

Legislative Report:

Russ Gomes was not present and no report given.

Membership Report:

Mike Meinz had sent letters to nine areas and new members Alan Budkofsky from Bloomfield and Stuart Strelzer from Fairfield were added and attended this meeting. Douglas Poger brought up the idea of having alternates which Merja Lehtinen agreed with and made a request at their local councils to find an alternate.

Merja Lehtinen asked Lori Weinstein to see if her address is listed on the Frontier bill for consumers to know who to contact with and issues they may have. Jennifer Young said that Altice puts inserts in with the bills a couple times a year.

Alex Fraser spoke about billing practices and Cox was brought to task about the promotional packages the expire without the consumer being notified. Merja Lethinen said that in Norwich that Comcast has charged late fees of 11%.

Douglas Poger made a motion to adjourn at 7:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori B. Weinstein
SVAC – Recording Secretary