

# Statewide Video Advisory Council

## Meeting Minutes

*December 9, 2015*

The Statewide Video Advisory Council meeting was held on December 9, 2015 and called to order at 7:00PM by Chair, Merja Lehtinen.

In attendance were the following: Steve Fuest, Douglas Poger, Tad Weinstein, Merja Lehtinen, Mike Mainz, Russ Gomes, Lori Weinstein, Wayne Church and Gregory Davis.

Members not in attendance: Hal Levy, Stephen Simonin, Gerard Speeno, Richard Ostop, Anna McGuire, John Pulino, Paul Tontini, Paul Batterson, Ed Pizzella, Richard Campbell, Gene Sellers

Providers in Attendance: Mike Cicchetti - Frontier: Jennifer Young – Cablevision

Guests: Stephen Mindera and Robert Leroux

---

### Secretary Report:

Mike Mainz requested that the addition of stating that Douglas Poger and Russell Gomes should be added to the minutes as they are the ones appointed to work the Library Donation project in memory of Ray Wiedkiewicz. Douglas Poger made a motion to accept the minutes with the changes and Steve Fuest seconded the motion. Jim Kelley and Gregory Davis abstained as they were not present at the previous meeting. The motion passed to accept the updated minutes.

### Treasurer's Report:

Tad Weinstein gave his report saying that the total in the treasury was \$25,509.48 with pending expenses for the Recording Secretary and the evening's dinner which was expected to run between \$400 -\$500. Even with this amount, this year was completed under budget. Wayne Church made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and was seconded by Steve Fuest. The motion passed unanimously.

Merja asked for goals to be given to her to put into the annual report. Wayne Church suggested reaching out to the general public inviting them to attend the meetings. Mike Mainz said to increase the membership. Merja Lehtinen said she would like to see representation from Bristol/New Britain and to have at least one meeting in the eastern CT region. Another suggestion was to continue working with the providers. Jim Kelley made the motion to accept these goals and Wayne Church seconded the motion. This passed unanimously.

The By-Laws were approved at the previous meeting and will be e-mailed out to the membership.

Elections:

Steve Fuest was in charge of the elections and Lori Weinstein passed out the ballots for the council members to circle whomever they wish to elect. Each of the members on the ballots gave a short speech on their background and future goals for SVAC. The current slate was all running with only the Chair position being challenged by Gregory Davis. The election results were as follows: Merja Lehtinen - 8: Gregory Davis – 1. The current slate will continue for the next two years.

#### Technology Report:

Steve Simonin missed the meeting but he is currently working with Senator Blumenthal there are many good things in the works regarding bandwidths and signals. Wayne Church asked Merja Lehtinen to request a report for the information as there has been a major complaint by residents on several providers. Wayne Church was appointed to work with Steve Simonin on this committee.

#### Legislative Committee:

Russ Gomes said that not much has been going on. Jennifer Young responded that there have been negotiations regarding cost and bundle issues.

Mike Mainz spoke about how last year he contacted two providers and had contacted Tom Schutse asking about them attending meetings. PURA said they would contact three providers who refused to come and he hasn't heard anything at this point if they followed through or not. They have ninety days to replay and if they have a state license then they should attend our meetings.

#### New Business:

Credentialing Committee – Jim Kelly asked to work on membership with Mike Mainz to have representation from all areas.

Skye Cable brought a letter and saying that they want Douglas Poger to be removed from SVAC, Douglas Poger had been appointed by his local council and Wayne Church asked him if he had a copy of the letter. Mike Mainz addressed the rules of membership and said the issue should go the Waterbury Council.

#### Provider Reports:

Mike Cicchetti from Frontier said that there wasn't a lot to report at this time. They are preparing a report for PURA and he will have more information at the next meeting in February.

Jennifer Young from Cable vision brought her report to be added with the minutes and said that they are being bought by Altese.

The New Year meeting dates are tentatively set for the fourth Wednesday as follows:

February 24<sup>th</sup>: April 27<sup>th</sup>: June 22<sup>nd</sup>: August 24<sup>th</sup>: October 26<sup>th</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Wayne Church made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Steve Fuest.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori B. Weinstein

Recording Secretary