

# Connecticut State-wide Video Advisory Council

December 13, 2017 - Regular Meeting  
Baci Grill, 134 Berlin Rd, Cromwell, CT

## Minutes

The Statewide Video Advisory Council meeting was held on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 and called to order at 7:00PM by Chair Merja Lehtinen.

In attendance were the following members: Tad Weinstein, Michael Mainz, Merja Lehtinen, Stephen Fuest, Alan Budkofsky, Russ Gomme, Marco Iacoviello, Jim Lang (alternate for Gregory Davis).

The following members were not present: Paul Tontini, Wayne Church, Stephen Simonin, Douglas Poger, Gregory Davis and Stuart Strelzer.

Providers in attendance: Michael Cicchetti from Frontier

Public in attendance: Stephen Mindera

As Jim Lang from the Charter/Western region joined us this evening we all introduced ourselves.

An addition to the agenda for this evening under Old Business will be Net Neutrality.

Secretary Report:

Michael Mainz made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Alan Budkofsky. Minutes approved unanimously.

Treasurers Report:

Tad Weinstein gave the report. Net worth is \$26,607.42. Alan Budkofsky made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Michael Mainz. Treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Provider Reports:

Michael Cicchetti spoke about how the Frontier channel lineup will be changing. The way the public access will be changed is that you will have access to what is in your particular area and will be 6000 range and due to begin between January and February. Frontier has 2 major areas Hartford/New Haven and Fairfield/New York. Notices will be sent out regarding the changes, and hopefully this will be easier for customers. Russ Gomes asked about a discount for Senior Citizens like Comcast offers for low income.

Old Business:

Merja Lehtinen asked if we as a group would do a short press release for Net Neutrality – she made a motion which was accepted by Alan Budkofsky and seconded by Russ Gomes. Merja will put it together and will send it to Lori Weinstein to send out to all. Noted to just change the names for the local area committees. This is being done to avoid extra charges for using the internet. Vote was made and passed.

Committee Reports:

Legislative Report:

Russ Gomes spoke how there was a budget and now there is no budget. Russ asked if there are any issues that the members would like to discuss and Merja feels that Net Neutrality is the issue to focus on.

Membership Report:

Michael Meinz will be sending letters out again in January to areas that don't have representatives. PURA sent out docket 17-01-09 for the Annual Report telling how to file the report and specify the docket number and order number which are on pages 7 and 8 on the docket.

Technical Report – Steve Simonin was not in attendance so nothing was reported.

New Business:

Jim Lang wanted to discuss expanding the fees for internet use – stressed not a tax just a fee as using Public Access and to keep it going. The fees will help to keep programs running and the Charter Advisory Council brought his up and Trumbull is supporting this unanimously as they want to keep the public access channels going. He was asking if the SVAC would support this suggestion.

Public Comments: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori B. Weinstein  
SVAC – Recording Secretary