

MINUTES
Cable Advisory Committee
February 15, 2017
Slade Building

In attendance – Tom Colyer, John Nason, Al Afonso, Brittany Blaney-Anderson, Tonya Martowska

Meeting opened at 1:07 pm.

Minutes –

Motion: J. Nason

2nd: T. Colyer

To approve the minutes as presented for January 2016 - January 2017 meetings.

Vote: All in Favor

Review of applications/resume for camera operator – Brittany is meeting with Marie Roy today. Tom asked Brittany to give the committee feedback as to whether or not she is hired. John recommends that if Brittany approves of her, that she should hire Marie. Al is upset that the committee does not get stipends.

Weekly communications program – Tom is bothered by town groups not using cable access more. Discussion around the issue with quorum, posting meetings, etc. Tom stated that if we know things are coming up in town, invite the groups in to talk about the event. Should have a 1-person interview team. John suggested that he and Tom bring it up at the next Lions meeting. Tom agreed and will also talk to Bob Beauregard of Country Hen. Tom will start some of those conversations in the coming weeks. Brittany said she has a program in Boylston that focuses on upcoming events. She said she has a lot of school kids doing the interviews because if you put kids in stuff, people will watch it.

New Business –

Tom wrote the annual report.

John feels we need to review what is on channel 191. He said some is really old and he thought one ad was for profit. Al brought up a question about Country Hen. He feels that if an interview is done with and at Country Hen, then isn't it a commercial? Brittany said it is definitely a delicate balance. She went on to say that you can tell about how things are made, etc. but you cannot tell people to come down and buy stuff.

Brittany stated that fiber is being installed this year, our transmission to Charter will be fiber. The picture will be much clearer. It will be done here and at the school. Fiber will be down the main route, but not down the side roads. Town meetings can be aired live from the school gym. She said we need to purchase a rack for the school to be wall mounted, above normal height. It costs about \$210 for the rack, will also need to have it mounted on the wall in the gym. Brittany does not know what the regulations are for mounting the rack in the school gym. Fiber install is anticipated for July. Brittany needs approval to purchase the rack and move forward with mounting it. Brittany stated they already have an agreed upon space in the gym. The committee requested a financial report at the beginning of every meeting.

Motion: J. Nason

2nd: A. Afonso

For Brittany to go forward with finding out if we can install the rack, get a quote for labor of installation, etc. on school letterhead.

Vote: All in Favor

Brittany stated that if we are looking to do interviews on a regular basis, we should look into getting a second wireless lavalear microphone, can go wired but it restricts the use. Regular microphones are okay for meetings, but the sound is not as good. She said they run about \$600-\$650. Al asked who is responsible for keeping an inventory of what we own. He feels we should have a list of what we own, price paid and when purchased. Discussed etching vs. stickers for inventory. A scanner/barcode system was mentioned as well but Brittany said we do not have enough equipment at this time to warrant that.

Old Business – John stated that he wrote Greg White a Thank you letter.

Raeanne stopped in for a minute and stated that we received a \$35,000 check from Charter.

Adjourned at 2:06 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tonya Martowska