

**CHESHIRE, MERIDEN, SOUTHLINGTON CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2015  
COX COMMUNICATIONS IN CHESHIRE**

**Members Present:** Rosalie Fountain, Henry Chase, Karen Roesler, Susan Moore, Beth Hosmer, and Dave Cooley

**Members Absent:** Karen Kritz, Mike Solimine, Adam Grippo, and Andy Jay,

**Cox Cable:** None

**Others Present:** Kathy Doherty, Recording Secretary

Chairman Rosalie Fountain called the meeting to order at 6:39 P.M. and read the charge of the Council.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT – Kathy Doherty**

Kathy called the roll and there was not a quorum in attendance. The approval of the minutes will be deferred until we have a quorum.

**TREASURER'S REPORT – MIKE SOLIMINE**

Mike was not in attendance as he is filming a meeting. Mike thought that Peter was going to attend the meeting this evening and give us our check, but Peter is not here. Hopefully we will get the check in the mail.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS BY MAIL**

We received one payment. They had a \$57.00 credit and they sent in \$100.00 so now they have a \$157.00 credit. The bill came to the Post Office box.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – ROSALIE FOUNTAIN**

Henry had suggested that we hold an annual meeting and post an ad to see if we could get anyone to attend and to pick a bigger location. Rosalie spoke with Peter and they decided that due to vacations and having to publish notices that we would have the meeting in November.

Rosalie thought that maybe Peter had forgotten that we have meetings in October now. We would have to start advertising now. Peter will attend that meeting.

Kathy state that she would not have any time in the next couple of weeks to be putting out notices as she has a convention that she is working on. We are just looking to put in a public service notice. The notices would have to go into the Cheshire Herald, Meriden Record-Journal, the Hartford Courant, the New Haven Register and the Waterbury Republican. Rosalie also asked that it be requested to go into the Cheshire Citizen.

Rosalie will confirm with Peter that he would be able to attend the meeting in October.

Rosalie stated that at the previous meeting we had discussed that there would be additional bandwidth available and whether or not we could get the three network programming from New York. Peter was going to look into the questions that Henry had raised at the last meeting so hopefully we will have an answer on that.

Rosalie asked whether the Meriden Library Representative had been appointed yet. It was noted that the library board in the Town with the largest population would appoint a member to represent all the libraries in the franchise area. Karen will ask the library board to send an official letter with the appointment.

We are required to hold six meetings a year so we will have meetings in January, March, May, September, October and November. Our dinner meeting will be held in May. Our October meeting will be on the 21<sup>st</sup> and our November meeting will be on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Rosalie received a notice from the Post Office stating that, since we receive so little mail, if we do get mail that they will notify her by email. This will save her trips to Meriden.

We have not heard anything about Karen Kritz. Kathy did speak to the Town Clerk in Southington and informed her that she had not been at a meeting in over a year but she has not heard back from her.

Kathy prepared a listing of the 2016 meeting dates: January 20, March 16, May 18, September 21, October 19, and November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Rosalie had a problem with her computer and her hard drive crashed. She had to buy a new Outlook program and needed a new password from Cox. She called and got someone from Idaho (Gage) who had no idea what he was doing. He gave her a new password that did not work. She was on the phone with him for about thirty-five minutes. She asked if he could call the company that was working on her computer to straighten out the password problem and after checking with his supervisor who gave him the OK, but he never called. She called again and got a wonderful person from Tennessee who had the problem resolved in five minutes.

Rosalie gets copies of information submitted to the Public Utilities Regulator Authority on program changes from Cox's attorney. These included replacing of some programming with other programming, changes of channel locations and renaming of programming.

### NEW BUSINESS

**By-laws.** Kathy made extra copies of the suggested by-law changes that Peter had submitted. Peter's changes are marked in red. The Council reviewed the changes.

Section C refers to the attendance policy. Once the by-laws have been voted on, Kathy will send a written request to Karen Kritz requesting her resignation.

Under Duties of Officers, we will combine Vice-Chairman and Treasurer under Item #2.

Henry asked who received copies of the minutes. Kathy sends them to each Town. Cheshire requires two copies of everything.

The last item on the last page in the by-laws: Shall require the attendance of at least one member from each Town to legally transact business (quorum). This still leaves us with the same problem because of the lack of attendance from Southington. If Beth does not come, we do not have a quorum.

Peter had previously stated that the other Councils require attendance from 2/3 or 3/4 of the Towns in the franchise area to constitute a quorum. Since we only have three Towns, we had said we wanted to have someone from each Town.

If we were to use the same idea of 2/3 then we would only have to have one member attending from two of the Towns and we could actually have a quorum with two people in attendance.

It had been previously recommended that the quorum requirements be changed to reflect that at least one member from two of the Towns served, with at least four members attending. We had the conversation, but nothing has been voted on so it has not yet been changed on anything. The proposed changes had come just from Peter and he had made these changes prior to the May meeting but he had forgotten to send it out.

It was noted that if this was the requirement for a quorum, we would have had a quorum this evening.

It was noted that the only references to quorum are listed under Article IV Committees. There are no references anywhere in the by-laws to quorums for the actual meetings. We have never had any committees other than nominating in the past.

Karen noted that there is usually another section in the by-laws for Meetings after the Membership and Officers Articles. If we inserted a new Article III for Meetings it would have everything all under one section. There should also be something indicating how many times a year we are required to meet.

In order to pass the new by-laws, we will have to have a quorum based upon the old by-laws (one from each Town) and we would have to have them published.

If we eliminate the sections on Committees it could then present a problem if we actually did need to have a committee. It was agreed to leave it in.

Kathy will have all these changes prepared for the October meeting to be voted on.

Henry questioned why we are called Cable Advisory Council and not Cox Cable Advisory Council.

Kathy noted that, should another provider come in, we would still have to be over them. When AT&T was here, we governed over them.

Rosalie noted that AT&T is not affected by this, they affected us. When they got the word that they could now string lines and get cable access, they did not have to go by the same rules that Cox did. Cox had to service every single street, even if it was a three mile stretch with one house, they had to wire it. AT&T could spot wire wherever they wanted, they did not have to service everything. That is when Cox came in and said "time out" you can't have two separate sets of rules. Supposedly the people from AT&T were friendly with someone in the legislature and that is how they got everything the way they wanted.

Dave stated that our Council regulations are set up by a State Statute, not by Cox. Every region has their different cable providers, we just happen to have Cox.

This regulation goes back to the 70's when you did not have a choice and this was designed to protect the residents. Now we can have Frontier which is having a lot of problems.

Henry stated that when Cox stopped all analog broadcasting, naturally those channels were blank. Henry put up a little antenna in his house and he has almost thirty channels coming in. The reason is that the channels have different sub-channels stacked below them. The ones with the most sub-channels are public access.

Henry is amazed at how clear the digital comes in. Rosalie, Kathy and Dave stated that they do still get tiling though.

Kathy asked what the Council wanted to put in the Public Notice to go into the paper. Rosalie stated that she would talk to Peter and send her an email. If the room is not available then we will have to do it in November.

Kathy will put together the changes on the by-laws and email them out prior to the next meeting.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. at the Cox Studio in Cheshire.

**REMINDER**

**Rosalie has requested that anyone who is unable to attend the meetings, that they please contact either Kathy or herself.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathy Doherty*

**Kathy Doherty  
Recording Secretary**