

**CHESHIRE, MERIDEN, SOUTHTON CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2016  
WATCH FACTORY RESTAURANT IN CHESHIRE**

**Members Present:** Rosalie Fountain, Adam Grippo, Henry Chase, Karen Roesler, Andy Jay, Beth Hosmer, Susan Moore, and Mike Solimine

**Members Absent:** Dave Cooley

**Cox Cable:** None

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

Chairman Rosalie Fountain called the meeting to order at 6:18 P.M. and read the charge of the Council.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT – Kathy Doherty**

Kathy called the roll and everyone was in attendance but Dave Cooley. Rosalie read an email from Dave which said that he had another commitment and would sadly miss the meeting. He said that his attendance has been horrible this year as he has been serving on Meriden's Planning Commission. When he was appointed, he tried to resign from the Cable Advisory knowing that his schedule was crazier than ever, but Rob (from the Mayor's office) pushed him to stay on, he is guessing because they struggle to fill seats. He will attend when he can but if the Council chooses to vote him off per the new by-laws, he completely understands and no offense will be taken. He asked that the Council just let him know where he stands.

Susan stated that she does know Rob and she will follow up with him to find out what the story is on the position with Dave.

Kathy stated that on the same note, she did follow up with Town Clerk in Southington again and was told that they cannot get anyone to serve.

Karen Roseler stated that she had brought this up before but Scott Hanley has been the person in charge of government TV in Wallingford for 37 years. He understands the legislation and he lives in Southington. She asked him if he would serve and he said reluctantly yes. He was unsure if his participation would help but she thinks it would. She has his contact information and will give it to Rosalie. She needs to contact the Town Manager in Southington to give them his contact information.

**MOTION:** To accept the minutes from March 16, 2016 meeting.

Moved by Adam Grippo, seconded by Susan Moore, motion was passed. Mike Solimine abstained as he was not present at the meeting.

**TREASURER'S REPORT – MIKE SOLIMINE**

Mike stated that he has paid up the bills for the entire year. The starting balance was \$1,621.50. As of now, the balance is \$830.30 and he is anticipating receiving the stipend late summer or early fall as is usually the case.

**MOTION:** To accept the Treasurer's report.

Moved by Andy Jay, seconded by Beth Hosmer, motion was passed unanimously by the Council members present.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS BY MAIL**

None. Rosalie stated that there had been a piece of paper in the box asking if you wanted to be notified if you had mail, because they know we don't get that much. They never notified me, and there was one in there last month but there was nothing in there this month.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – ROSALIE FOUNTAIN**

Peter was going to attend this meeting but due to the death of his mother he is unable to attend. Rosalie ordered, and had delivered, flowers to Peter's mother's wake. She did not have time to ask anybody if they were in favor of doing this. She went to Plum Farms in Prospect and spent \$50.00 for a beautiful basket.

**MOTION:** To reimburse Rosalie for the flowers.

Moved by Karen Roesler, seconded by Mike, motion was passed unanimously by the Council members present.

Rosalie stated that she will follow up on Scott Hanley and thanked Karen for getting her the information.

**Scheduled Meetings.** Rosalie had a long talk with Peter about the scheduled meetings. He talked with the attorneys and we are supposed to have bi-monthly meetings. Enfield only has two meetings per year but they are not disciplined about it.

From their discussion, Peter recommended the following: that they will schedule six meetings. Two weeks before each meeting an email will go out to each member asking if they plan on attending and if they have any pressing issues. One week before the meeting they will send another email. If no responses from the members, and we do not have a quorum, the meeting will be cancelled. We do not have to make up meetings.

Meeting dates will be September 21, November 16, January 18, February 15, March 16 and May 17 will be the dinner meeting.

If our meeting is cancelled, Kathy will send out a notice to all Town Clerks advising them of the cancellation so that the public is aware of it as well. If it is inclement weather, we do not have to make it up.

If we meet and we do not have a quorum we do not have to make up that meeting either.

So, two weeks before the meeting we sent out an email asking for an RSVP. In two weeks something can happen, so we send out another one in one week reminding them and asking them do you plan on coming. If there is no quorum, we cancel. If there is nothing pressing, we will be there ½ hour and that's OK.

We used to get a lot of people coming to the meetings, but we really do not have any issues now and we have no power. Nobody really cares if we are here or not. We have to be here but Cox does not have to tell us anything if they don't want to. Until such time as the DPUC tells us we do not have to meet six times a year, we have to be here per legislation.

We can voice concerns of subscribers to the Company. Kathy said that she has been the secretary for this Council for 30 years and this Council used to be very helpful for the subscribers and the Council could help people but now they really can't.

Mike stated that once the Franchise lapsed, this Council should have also lapsed and we should be an arm of the Statewide Council for the Video Certificate not a local board. Mike will talk to Peter about this.

In the past, the Council has provided equipment to the High Schools from the stipends received from Cox and AT & T. We no longer receive the stipend from AT & T so we therefore no longer have enough money for the equipment. The stipend money to pay corresponding secretary at \$75 per meeting plus reimbursable expenses and the P.O. Box in Meriden which now costs \$130.00 / year. Now if we pay our corresponding secretary more than \$600.00 / year we have to look into reporting a 1099 but we don't have a tax number and we've never done it before so Peter is going to go to the attorney's about this.

Kathy stated that she has been doing this for 30 years. She reports her income to the IRS every year and has never had problem. Why are we making this a problem?

Lastly, we will handle Elections under New Business.

**MOTION:** To accept the Chairman's report.

Moved by Mike Solimine, seconded by Beth Hosmer, motion was passed unanimously by the Council members present.

### COMPANY'S REPORT

Peter is not here due to a death in the family.

### OLD BUSINESS

We can't change the By-laws regarding six meetings but it has been discussed under the Chairman's report.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Elections.** Adam Grippo offered the following slate of officers:

**Secretary:** Karen Roesler

**Vice-Chairman / Treasurer:** Mike Solimine

**Chairman:** Rosalie Fountain

There were no other nominations.

**MOTION:** To close nominations.

Moved by Beth Hosmer, seconded by Susan Moore, motion was passed unanimously by the Council members present.

There was no discussion so the Chairman directed the Secretary to cast one ballot for everyone on the slate.

Beth asked whether or not people were allowed to call her at work to complain. Mike said that since if she is the Library rep or the Board of Ed rep for the Council then yes they are allowed to call her at work to make a complaint because she is a representative appointed by the Town Council.

Adam asked why the cable access for government in Cheshire is only able to be broadcast live. Mike told Adam to go the Cheshire website [www.cheshirect.org](http://www.cheshirect.org) or check with Arnett in the Town Manager's office. Possibly the video server went down .

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. at Cox Studio, in Cheshire.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting.

Moved by Adam Grippo, seconded by Mike Solimine, motion was passed unanimously by the Council members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathy Doherty*

Kathy Doherty  
Recording Secretary