

Minutes
Five Town Cable Advisory Committee
Negotiations Subcommittee
January 12, 2023; Virtual Meeting over Zoom

Subcommittee members present: Linda Miller, Chair

Dennis Arseneau

Rene Wood

Others:

Rich Fredericks, Exec. Director, CTSBTV

The meeting was called to order by Chair L. Miller at 4pm.

On a motion from R. Wood, seconded by L. Miller, the minutes of 12/22/22 were approved on a 3-0 vote.

An agenda for the meeting opening the Cable TV renewal license with Charter communications was discussed and finalized:

- Introductions (Chair)
- Logistics for negotiations (Chair)
- Process - Phase I - Ascertainment and Phase II-Review of Process (Dennis)
- Review of Ascertainment RFP items (Dennis)
- Charter Feedback on Ascertainment Process & RFP items
- Feedback from Mintz on Proposed Contract
- Next Meeting Date & Agenda

The negotiating team from the Five Town Cable Advisory Committee will be the three subcommittee members and Rich Fredericks of CTSBTV. Meetings will be via Zoom and are open meetings. Public comments will be allowed at the discretion of the Chair. The meetings, 1.5 hours in length, with suggested meeting dates moved to Wednesday at 3pm on 1/25, 2/1, 2/22, and 3/1. With the contract renewal date of late February, it is likely requests for State required extension from each of the 5 Town Select Boards will be required.

D. Arseneau will also discuss the issues facing and impacting Charter Communications, as the goal is to have a win-win in the negotiations.

D. Arseneau discussed the placement of PEG channels in non-Berkshire municipalities on Charter channels on 190, 191, and 192, but it is not known if these are HD channels.

R. Wood will send the agenda around for review, finalization and posting by next Tuesday. Going to Charter Communications, from the Chair, will be the Agenda, Phase II- Review of Proposal; and a reformatted RFP items list from the Ascertainment process.

On a motion to adjourn from R. Wood, seconded by D. Arseneau, and approved on a 3-0 vote, the meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rene C. Wood
Sheffield delegate to Five Town Cable Advisory Committee

Documents from the meeting:

- Agenda for 1/12/23
- Draft minutes of 12/22/22
- Phase II – Review of Proposal
- Comparitech, Cord Cutting Statistics and Trends; 1/12/23