Old Lyme Area Cable Advisory Council
11 October 2012
conference room at Lyme/Old Lyme High School, Old Lyme (directions below)
Minutes

Advisory Council Chair Peter Sielman called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.
Members present were Peter Sielman, Russ Gomes, Gary Mezzi, and Cathy Frank. Pam Munro joined the meeting in progress. John Bairos and Lynn Perry from Comcast were also present.
Absent: Tim Devlin, Robin Purcell

Introduction of guests
Old Lyme First Selectwoman Bonnie Reemsnyder attended the meeting.

Statewide Video Council Report
Peter Sielman reported that the SVAC is finally considering some actions. The next meeting will consider a motion to ask PURA to make it possible for multiple video providers to share a cable allowing viewers to pick and choose. According to Stephen Simonin, currently only about 20% of cable capacity is being used for viewer programs.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Russ Gomes, seconded by Peter Sielman to approve the minutes of the July 19 2012 Special Meeting. Motion passed.
A motion was made by Russ Gomes, seconded by Peter Sielman to approve the minutes of the April 12 2012 Meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report
No Treasurer's Report was presented.

Comcast Report
John Bairos distributed brochures about Internet Essentials, a low cost internet/computer program available from Comcast for students who are entitled to free or reduced price school lunches. John will forward an electronic version, as well.
He summarized Comcast channel additions, deletions and other changes and reported that Comcast customers can now handle many routine tasks (paying bills, making appointments, programming their remotes) at www.Comcast.com/help .
Peter asked about volume differences between channels. John said that Comcast can monitor the volume.
Russ suggested that Comcast bring scholarship program information when they attend the CABE meeting in Mystic this fall.

Lynn Perry postponed the Studio Open House while the studio curtain was being cleaned and fire proofed.

Old Business
Possible Consolidation of Public Access Studios

John Bairos provided an update on the possible consolidation of Public Access studios as presented at July Special Meeting. Comcast has received one proposal that it considers viable. That proposal will locate the Clinton area studio within the Clinton area and will not involve a consolidation with Old Lyme.

Bookmark

Pam will share a bookmark design for local public access promotion electronically. She obtained price quotes from Staples for printing on either card stock or glossy paper. Cathy will obtain additional print quotes from commercial printers. Council will make final decisions on bookmark design & quantities at January meeting.

New Business

2013 Meeting Schedule

2013 Cable Advisory Council meeting will take place as follows:
Thursday, January 10 in East Haddam
Thursday, April 11 in Lyme
Thursday, July 11 in Salem
Thursday, October 10 in Old Lyme

Other

Gary Mezzi, new library/media specialist at Hale Ray and Advisory Council representative, asked for background information on public access issues at Hale Ray. John Bairos corresponded previously with Sue McKinlay and with HS Principal Eric Spencer and Gary was familiar with that correspondence. John suggested that Chuck Lewis, media specialist at H-K High School, might be of assistance to Gary. Pam Munro asked that public access schedules be coordinated better between Hale Ray and Salem. Live broadcasts always have priority over taped programming and Salem meetings are often pre-empted.

2013 Scholarship Program

A motion was made by Peter, seconded by Russ, to give discretion to Cathy & Pam to amend the dates on scholarship materials to 2013 dates, and to include the names and schools of previous recipients on the application materials. Motion passed. Scholarship materials have to be sent to the guidance offices of local high schools before the end of the year. Cathy will send out press releases about the scholarship program.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by Russ to adjourn at 8:30pm. Meeting adjourned.

Cathy Frank, Secretary 10/13/12

Cathy Frank