

# Atlantic Broadband Advisory Council

## Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2017

The meeting, at the Montville Town Hall, Room 102, 310 Norwich-New London Turnpike, Uncasville was called to order by Chair Michael Meinz.

### Roll Call of Members

**Members Attending:** Michael Meinz, Ed Berdick, Kevin Ide, Jeffrey Buchbinder, Charley Williams, Monica Pomazon, Kathleen McCarty

**Members Absent:** Stephen Marchesseault, Richard Gladue, Denise Roireau, Eric Gould

**Atlantic Broadband representative attending:** Kathy Diaz, Charles Hanley

### Approval of Minutes

Charley William moved that the 01/18/2017 minutes be approved, Ed Berdick seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.

### Treasurer

Kevin Ide presented the Treasurer's Report. The balance is \$7880.70.

### New Business

**Election of replacement officer:** No one was nominated to become secretary

**Report of Nominating Committee:** The nominating committee of Charley Williams, Monica Pomazon, Ed Berdick presented the slate for the May election consisting of the current Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer. No Secretary was nominated.

### Unfinished Business

**Discussion: Grant of Advisory Council Funds:** Kathleen McCarty proposed that a \$500 scholarship be granted to a student planning to pursue a video-related career. The committee of Kathleen McCarty, Jeff Buchbinder and Stephen Marchesseault will develop criteria and a form, send the form to the nine high schools, review the entrants and make a recommendation at the May meeting. For next year, they committee would develop a PSA Video Contest similar to the Hartford Area Advisory Council's contest. A motion to approve these actions was made by Kevin Ide and seconded by Jeff Buchbinder. Motion passed.

**Discussion: Advisory Council Membership:** Michael Meinz will attend the April 10 meeting of Community Access Producers to seek Advisory Council members. He will ask if an email message can be sent to all producers about Advisory Council membership. Ed Berdick suggested that a video seeking Advisory Council members be created. Ed Berdick will investigate. Ed Berdick said he is working on finding more members from Griswold.

## **Advisory Council Member Communications.**

Charley Williams printed copies of consumer complaints posted on the Montville Facebook forum to ABB.

### **Atlantic Broadband Information and Reports**

Chap Hanley reported that he had recently contacted people individually after they posted their complaints on the East Lyme NextDoor forum. The Niantic section of East Lyme had outages on two consecutive Sundays. An electrical problem burned out some equipment. The introduction of a GB speed network has caused some issues. New software did not work properly with some cable modems. This cable modems had to be replaced with newer models. "Sweep" equipment used by ABB technicians was causing interference. Because of increased usage, ABB split nodes in both East Lyme (Niantic) and Montville. Chap noted that Wi-Fi in a house is susceptible to interference from other devices and may be weaker in some areas of a house. He noted that there are Wi-Fi Extender products that can help improve Wi-Fi coverage within a house.

TIVO Guide: Community Access programs – This was supposed to have been completed by the end of February. Chap Hanley said he would investigate.

Community Access Promotion & Producer Promotion using Video PSAs – Three video PSAs currently running promoting community access shows.

Expanding membership & nurturing a Producer community – Chap Hanley reported that he and Mary Jane Rickard met with the New London Magnet School. The school is interested in creating a video facility within the school in order to do school news and other videos for play on Channel 22 as well as Community Access Channel 24.

HD for Community Access Channels – Chap Hanley said he needs to research.

HD for Education/Government Channels – Jeff Buchbinder asked that a site survey of Killingly be conducted to determine costs for an upgrade to HD. Michael Meinz asked for an estimate of cost to upgrade East Lyme to HD although it would not be able to be done within the 2017 budget.

EG Channels 22.1 - 22.9 availability on Frontier Channel 99 – Waiting on Frontier

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Ed Berdick moved to adjourn; Jeff Buchbinder seconded, and all agreed.

The next meeting of the Atlantic Broadband Advisory Council will be held at Montville Town Hall, Room 102, 310 Norwich-New London Turnpike, Uncasville on Wednesday, May 17, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Meinz