

Atlantic Broadband Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2017

The meeting, at the Montville Town Hall, Room 102, 310 Norwich-New London Turnpike, Uncasville, was called to order at 5:45pm by Vice Chair Jeffrey Buchbinder.

Roll Call of Members

Members Attending: : Stephen Marchesseault, Monica Pomazon, Jeffrey Buchbinder, Kathleen McCarty

Members Absent: Michael Meinz, Richard Gladue, Eric Gould, Ed Berdick, James Barnie, Kevin Ide, Denise Roireau

Atlantic Broadband representative attending: Kathy Diaz, Charles Hanley, Mary Jane Rickard

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the prior meeting was made by Kathleen McCarty and seconded by Monica Pomazon; the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer

The Treasurer's Report was postponed until the next meeting, as the treasurer was absent.

Atlantic Broadband Information and Reports

Chap Hanley presented Atlantic Broadband Announcements.

- ABB is proceeding with network encryption, and giving out up to two complimentary HD-capable DTAs to everyone impacted for two years. After two years, ABB will begin to charge for the devices again. Customers will be notified with 30 day notice along with consumer mailings. Nov 14th for first third of the channels. About Dec 5th and Dec 12th for the remainder.
- A \$2.75/month "Recovery Fee" has rolled out for internet subscribers, and is used to spread the burden of network maintenance cost across internet only subscribers.
- Chap gave the Annual Customer Service review as a printed presentation.

Mary Jane Rickard presented the Annual Community Access Review and Goal Setting. Chap offered to help engage students and offered potential internships.

EG Channels 22.1 - 22.9 availability on Frontier Channel 99 was brought up, and Chap indicated that Frontier is actively engaged in conversations, but this isn't the first time that communication has been initiated without a conclusion.

New Business

Kathleen McCarty discussed a future scholarship grant process review. She proposed that we should adjust the Hartford/Simsbury grants and tailor the process to ABB, and that the council should set a deadline for May. She also

proposed that the council should be talking about the amount of the award, since the "ask" is greater. It was discussed and generally agreed that members should bring proposals for grants/scholarships to the next ABB advisory meeting.

Chair Michael Meinz, who was unable to attend this meeting, had informed the council that the community access portion on ABB's website has an 18 y/o requirement, and said that state law says that the ABB advisory council should be conferred with. Mary Jane Rickard responded that in order to be able to air something, a content producer needs to sign a contract taking responsibility for the content. As anyone under the age of 18 cannot legally sign a contract, teachers, parents, or guardians can sign for the content instead. ABB will draft some language to be voted on at the next meeting.

Unfinished Business

Discussion: Advisory Council Membership: Advisory Council Membership was discussed. Steve said that he would like an updated list, as there was at least one expired member for Montville.

Discussion: Town Web Sites: Community TV pages being present on member town web sites was discussed. Steve said that Killingly is waiting on access to the town website. Kathy Diaz offered to send letters to towns.

Discussion: Town Channel 22: Discussion on the Community TV slide on town's Channel 22 was postponed until next meeting.

Motion to Adjourn

The vote to adjourn was made by Kathleen and seconded by Steve; the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Buchbinder