

Atlantic Broadband Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2020

The meeting via WebEx was called to order at 5:34PM by Chair Michael Meinz.

Roll Call of Members

Members Attending: Michael Meinz, Craig Merriman, Ed Berdick, Stephen Marchesseault, Patricia Lannon

Members Absent: Joseph Rice, James Barnie, Kathleen McCarty, Christopher Steinbrick

Atlantic Broadband representative attending: Chap Hanley

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the prior meeting was made by Craig Merriman and seconded by Michael Meinz. The motion passed with 1 abstention.

Treasurer

The bank balance is \$12,588.70.

Atlantic Broadband Information and Reports

- ABB Community Access and front office waiting longer to open
- Both Chap Hanley's and Kathy Diaz's positions have been eliminated
- Mary Jane Rickard will represent ABB at future meetings

New Business

Discussion: PURA Docket 20-01-09 Annual Community Access Support Review

- Mike Meinz discussed PURA's Annual Community Access Support Review and the attempt to adjust the PEG fee to make up for loss of revenues due to reduction subscribers due to "cord-cutting." In the end, the normal process of adjusting per the CPI was followed.

Discussion: Raised Senate Bill 176 and PURA Docket 20-01-34

- Mike Meinz discussed PURA Docket 20-01-34 and RSB 176. These are proposing to require any customer of a cable company to pay the monthly PEG fee since Internet customers are getting their video programming via streaming services instead of traditional cable tv and still using the same rights-of-way for the wires that deliver that programming.

Discussion: PEGPETIA grants

- This round of grants was the first in several years. The legislature had been sweeping the PEGPETIA fund into the General Fund. PEGPETIA Grants in our region were made to Town of East Lyme, New London Public Schools, Putnam schools, Killingly schools, Griswold Public Schools, Waterford schools, Waterford Country School.

Election: Vice-Chair

- No Action

Unfinished Business

PSA Contest Update

- The contest is cancelled for this year. We will re-engage next year.

Advisory Council contact information on town's web site

- No Action

Community TV page on town's web site

- No Action

Community TV slide on town's Channel 22

- No Action

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08PM

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Berdick