

**Cable Television Committee**

**Minutes**

**March 9, 2004**

Cable meeting for February 10, 2004. Peggy Fredrickson, Linda Wade, Peter Boers, Michael Daitzman, Marty Greenstein and Jeff Winston in attendance. Meeting called to order at 7:30 P.M. at the main Sudbury Fire Station.

Our studio coordinator Rick decided to transfer studios to shorten his commute.

Lynn Puorro, our new coordinator, attended the first part of the meeting. She put in three hours today at the Sudbury studio, the first time there on her own. She will be full-time starting this Monday.

She has training in Foxboro tomorrow and has to wrap things up in Norwood.

We would like Lynn to take an inventory of the studio. The license actually requires an annual inventory which we have not enforced (until now).

Norwood is becoming an access corporation. Norwood has their own electrical power system (Norwood Light) and decided to build their own TV cable station (not shared with Comcast). The access corporation will feed both the public and Comcast public access systems.

Linda says the high school has the web page layout software called inDesign. For about \$25 per month, it is possible to take on-line courses on this software and others such as Final Cut Pro at VTC (Virtual Training Corp), Lynda.com, and AtomicLearning.com all offer these kind of tutorials.

The town needs some anti-spam software on the town mailboxes. We have been receiving a lot of spam at the cable committee address, some infected.

Telethon will be Saturday, November 13. Probably sometime after noon to ten P.M. Will be at new high school.

Lynn left at this time.

Need to check if studio phone is in the phone book. It is (found out later), but for the record the phone number is 443-3645.

According to the Sudbury license, Comcast can put a 1% surcharge onto a resident's bill to cover the cost of access. This can only be applied to TV revenues, not to Internet.

When people take both TV and cable, there is a \$5 discount. Unfortunately as far as this surcharge goes, Comcast considers the entire discount to apply to the cost of the internet.

Comcast increased the peak Internet download speed here in Sudbury.

The speed is about 2.5 megabit per second according to one of our members who did an informal measurement. This is an increase from 1.5 megabit a second. Comcast claims that the peak speed is double the original value in their ads.

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Comcast is charging us \$3400 for general staff support for those who support the access channel. This is money for the Comcast people other than the access coordinator. This is within the license.

The Town Hall curtain is, we assume, still on order.

We need to decide what to do with this year's capital budget. The decision was to wait and see what the new coordinator wants and the new studio might need.

There was a complaint that a cable installer would not run the cable to where the TV was situated in the home. This is not, according to Jeff, what should be happening. Anyone who gets such treatment should contact the committee.

There are 4274 current Comcast subscribers.

At least four microphones at the Town Hall are not working properly.

We should give Lynn some of the Comcast/Sudbury Channel 8 tee shirts left over from the group distributed on Sudbury Day.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martin Greenstein