

## **Cable Television Committee**

### **Minutes**

**March 9, 2004**

These are the minutes for the Sudbury Cable Advisory meeting for March 9, 2004. Peggy Fredrickson, Linda Wade, Peter Boers, Marty Greenstein, Michael Daitzman, and Jeff Winston were in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. at the main Sudbury Fire Station. Lynn Puorro, our new coordinator, attended the first part of the meeting.

Mark Thompson also attended the first part of the meeting.

Lynn brought in copies of the layout of the studio at the new high school. The control room will be 9 feet by 9 feet. The studio itself is 18 feet wide and 27 feet deep.

Mark said that the Town Hall curtain will be here in three weeks.

Mark asks that Town Hall users properly put away the video equipment after its use. This principally means cables and mikes.

The Fire Department is using the I-net some.

Lynn wants DVD players for playback. She would like two for playback and a recorder to make DVDs with.

Lynn wants us to buy additional mini-DV cameras. The mini-DVD cameras (GL-2) are the ones people want to borrow since they are small. One or two more would be useful. Lynn chooses the bigger DV cameras for her own use since they can record for more than one hour on a single tape, but volunteers like smaller. No one wants to use the VHS camera anymore. She likes the GL-2 model. She does not like Sony since they only take Sony tapes. She would also like some wireless mikes.

Linda would like to get a third camera. Peggy says that we used to have three, but it was ten years ago. Three cameras are nice to have two close ups and one wide view. Our studio cameras are discontinued models. They were bought in 1996. The only way to get an additional one would be to get one from a store that still stocks it or get a used one.

If the cameras are obsolete, then according to our license, Comcast must replace them independent of our capital budget.

There are only four inputs to the studio switcher. We speculated that we could put a passive switcher off of one of these inputs to give us more inputs. A regular switcher costs about \$10,000 but a passive switcher may be possibly gotten from the Hudson studio.

"A Better View" is a talk show that is going to be done this Friday in the studio. The hosts are two people. They are interviewing a 90 year old dance therapist this week of some fame. One of the hosts is a Sudbury resident.

DVD recorders are \$800 each. GL-2s are \$2500 each. Tripods are \$350.

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Linda is interested in getting a monopod. These are one legged tripods. They are useful to give support to the camera in a situation where it will need to be quickly and easily moved.

Fred Walker wants us to move to OS X on the Mac in the studio. The problem is that the Matrox device attached to the computer is not compatible with the new OS. However, we need OS X if we are to go to new Imovie and Final Cut Pro versions.

The right thing to do may be simply to buy a whole new computer.

I believe that the Matrox is the DV tape reader/writer, but no one really knows since Lynn has not yet investigated the Mac machine.

There are enough scan converters in the studio that we need not take any from Town Hall.

For Town Meeting, one or two volunteers will be needed. Town Meeting is April 7, immediately following Passover on April 5 and 6.

We should get Town Crier to run an article on Lynn's arrival to Sudbury.

Rick did not have a regular schedule for the programs. She is putting the shows onto a regular time schedule, week to week. She also found that there have been no high school sports run for a month so she is showing the backlog now.

Lynn also installed some light fixtures that were in the studio but not yet installed. These are fluorescent light fixtures that can handle up to four bulbs. Only two bulbs are used because four would make the light too bright.

The ceiling in the new studio is very low plus the lights in the room are hanging fixtures. There is some concern that the overall height will be too low. Also there is a fear that there may be noise from the heating system. Perhaps we can put some sound insulation around the vents.

Some members of the committee are not happy that the studio did not have an office for the coordinator. This may mean that we will have to subdivide the studio space.

Lynne is working 10 to 6 if there is nothing going on at night. Then she might do something like 3 to 11. If a volunteer wants support in an evening, she will come in.

Lynne found an inventory for the studio dated 2002. She hopes to do it for us and Comcast in the near future.

No meeting in April, due to Town Meeting.

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We have not received a technical report that was due from Comcast.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marty Greenstein