

Sudbury Cable Access Advisory Committee Meeting.  
February 20, 2007

These are the minutes for the February 20, 2007, meeting of the Sudbury Cable Advisory Committee. Attending are Peter Boers, Linda Wade, Peggy Fredrickson, Jeff Winston (chairman), and Marty Greenstein. Also in attendance is Lynn Puorro, the Local Access studio coordinator. The meeting was held at the studio located in Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School.

First item of business was a discussion of a draft letter to the Selectmen asking permission for the committee to pursue the transfer of the Local Access operation and equipment from Comcast to a non-profit Local Access Corporation that would be created for this purpose. This Corporation would be funded by money paid by Comcast and Verizon as specified by their licenses (Verizon was given a license for cable television service here in Sudbury by the Selectmen at their last meeting (2/13/07)).

We will need board members for this new Access Corp. along with legal and other professional help. While waiting for the go ahead from the Selectmen, we are informally looking for lawyers with applicable experience. Our current lawyer Peter Epstein is one candidate. We also have obtained the charter of the Access Corp. in Westford to perhaps use as a model. A lawyer on its board, Mr. James Silva, is also a candidate that we have identified. In addition to helping us with the corporation charter, the lawyer will advise the corporation on insurance, formulating a contract with the town to supply certain services (such as televising town meetings and events), and other matters. The contract will require the town to forward the cable company payments to the Access Corp. It should be noted that these payments from the cable companies are intended to be used solely for local access. The license with Comcast will have to be amended to provide for these payments which should match as a percentage of revenues what Verizon has agreed to pay (4.25%).

A motion was made and passed to send the letter to the Selectmen.

An additional motion was raised to formally request from Comcast in the form of a letter to send us money. The request to give us an exception from our license to let us draw down cash three times this year (instead of two) and would ask immediately for \$3000. This money comes from a surplus in the money set aside for studio operating expenses. This motion passed.

Our estimates are that we will get over \$100,000 per year from the cable companies to operate the Access Corp. That money will be used to pay for a coordinator, equipment, maintenance, insurance, and other expenses. Insurance and other such costs may be as high as \$30,000.

The committee then watched a video from the Alliance for Community Media. It is all about Access Corporations and is from Plymouth.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marty Greenstein