**MINUTES**

**Towns of Great Barrington, Lee, Lenox, Sheffield, and Stockbridge**

**Five Town Cable Advisory Committee**

**Subcommittee for negotiations of Renewal Cable TV License with Charter Communications**

**Auditorium, Lenox Town Hall, Lenox, MA**

**Monday, June 26, 2023 at 10:00am**

**Subcommittee members present**: Linda Miller, Chair

Dennis Arseneau

Rene Wood

The meeting was called to order by Chair L. Miller at 10:06am.

Meeting minutes from 6/14/23 were reviewed.

***On a motion by R. Wood, seconded by D. Arseneau, and unanimously approved, 6/14/23 minutes were accepted, as amended.***

Items discussed were:

* D. Arseneau discussed his work on PEG capital funding sheet, which includes analysis of other contracts and PEG assessment per customer. These contracts cover 474 – 8000 customers, so in line with 5 Town customer base. The new sheet will be labelled 6/29 and distributed.
* Reviewed 2019 Shared Services FCC ruling, and deductions Charter is allowed to take from 5% fee.
* Reviewed excerpts from Charter Communications Annual Report 2023, Form 10-K.
* Charter now offering channel 50, Boston station, which is an NBC affiliate.
* No comments on R. Wood’s updated contract after the last Charter negotiations. Open items reviewed; D. Arseneau will provide list of open items for review and finalization before 7/10 negotiating session with Charter.
* A single PEG channel rather than three PEG channels; however it would have to be a channel number under 100, accessible to the Basic Tier, as required by law. 70 or under would be the preferred choice. Discussion of benefits of arrangement to Charter. Has been discussed with several CTSB management staff; needs to be discussed with CTSB Board (D. Arseneau); to be presented at 7/10 negotiating meeting.
* D. Arseneau reviewed his work to date on updating the CTSB Access Agreement, which all want to run for 10 year period. His work is incorporating components of both Bedford’s and Amherst’s recent Access Agreements. A meeting sometime in July will be in order.
* Need to get letter to 5 Towns’ administrators re: Appendix A & B. R. Wood volunteered to draft this letter for Chair Miller’s review, editing, and sending. Will include a sentence that if not received by a certain date, the CAC will assume the information is correct and it stands for that Town’s agreement with Charter.
* No CAC meeting set prior to Monday 7/10, 3pm meeting with Charter. R. Wood will send around a sample meeting agenda for comment and then post it by 7/5.

***The meeting ended at 10:59am on a motion by D. Arseneau, seconded by R. Wood, and unanimously approved.***

Respectfully submitted,

Rene C. Wood

Sheffield delegate to Five Town Cable Advisory Committee

* Document used at the meeting: Agenda for 6-26-23: Draft minutes for 6/14/23; Excerpts from Charter Communications Annual Report 2023, Form 10-K.