

CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COUNCIL (Litchfield)

**Minutes Regular Meeting
Thursday, 6 30, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Cable Television Advisory Council (Litchfield) was held on Thursday, June 30, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. at the Oliver Wolcott Library, South Street, Litchfield, Connecticut – A quorum was present: Stephen Simonin, (Chairman), Litchfield; David Rosaler, Goshen, Lucille Paige, Marie Soliani, Torrington; Andy MacDavid, Cornwall; John Angevine, Warren; Denise Russ, Gary Lafferty, Watertown.

Absent: Richard Antonetti, Thomas Lambert (BOE), Jeff Dunn, Thomaston; Andy John Luciano, Torrington.

Also present: Laura Jordan, *Cablevision*.

Chairman Simonin called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

Diane Knox reported (to L.Paige) the treasury had a balance of \$497.13.

Upon a motion by Gary Lafferty, seconded by John Angevine, the minutes of the January 14, 2016 meeting were approved as submitted. Voted unanimous.

Lucille Paige announced the recipients of the Cable TV Advisory Council Scholarships (\$250.00 ea.).

Gary Lafferty reported on a friend who lives in Thomaston who cannot get the Boston Red Sox games; Chairman Simonin replied that there is a blackout on basic plant. Mr. Lafferty also stated that he is unsure if Apple Rehab/Long Term center in Watertown is a customer of Optimum Cable; heard they have issues there with TV service getting parts.

John Angevine reported that many of his friends and their friends have switched over to "DISH"; *Cablevision* too costly.

Marie Soliani received some feedback that many *Cablevision* subscribers are seeking "ala-carte"; to pay for and subscribe to only those channels they watch.

2016 SEP 14 AM 10:30

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
TORRINGTON TOWN CLERK

Chairman Simonin reported on the FCC ruling relative to franchises to offer open video systems. In Connecticut, PURA, the state's regulatory authority must go through the state legislature. The Energy and Technology Committee lacks the overall knowledge of such workings – 20% of bandwidth only goes to TV. Too much compression. Chairman Simonin has heard complaints about the surcharge to those subscribers receiving "sports channels".

Marie Soliani asked if someone with knowledge can write up something to present to the State Legislature. What can we, as a Council, do?

David Rosaler asked if any discounts can be garnered from broadband from low income families that have children in school, subscribe to the nutrition programs?

Ms. Jordan, the *Cablevision* representative gave an overview of ALTICE, a multinational cable, fiber, telecommunications, contents and media company with presence in four regions – Western Europe, United States, Israel, and the French Caribbean, the Indian Ocean regions and the Dominican Republic. Altice (ATC & ATCB) is listed on the NYSE Euronext Amsterdam. June 21st ALTICE announced that it has completed the acquisition of Cablevision Systems Corporation, the leading communications service provider in the New York Metropolitan area. More information in writing is available from *Cablevision*.

Respectively submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, Secretary

**The next Advisory Council meeting
Will be held Thursday, 15, September
2016**