Cable Television Committee Minutes December 10, 2002

These are the minutes of the December 10, 2002 meeting of the Sudbury Cable Advisory Committee.

In attendance were:

Jeff Winston, Rick Dorman, Marty Greenstein, Kevin Griggs, Peter Boers, Mark Thompson, Don Ziter, Michael Pincus, Michael Daitzman, and Peggy Fredrickson

Meeting began at 7:35 PM at the Main Fire Station.

Rick gave us a list of things that we should buy as soon as possible:

- Leightronix Mini-T pro controller \$895
- Cables for the above, \$89 each (Four playback decks so four cables needed.)

The Hope Sudbury Telethon was a big success. Volunteers were trained and for the most part did the video. Training classes will be run in January, May, and September. Six week courses. Call Rick in the studio at 443-9507. One on one training is always available. This is noted on the bulletin board. \$25,000 was raised at the telethon. High school basketball and wrestling will be produced this year. Rick is learning Final Cut Pro now.

Mark Minasian hand drew (beautiful) color drawings of the Town Hall system. They will be taken by Mark Thompson to the Service Department to get copies made. Michael Pincus has volunteered to put the drawings into AutoCAD.

The multiplexor at the Town Hall can give a feed to the studio. But we need a switch so that the signal can be held off until the equipment is warmed up and ready.

Rick should figure out how to do live origination from the eight or nine places in the Town that the contract says we should be able to originate from. Brian Ernst is the engineer who built the I-net and questions should go to him. For instance, how can a program go to all the elementary schools at once.

Library subcommittee report: Meeting held a few weeks ago. Question is what would it take to make videos in the big meeting (community) room at the library. Michael Pincus is advising us. Met with Bill Talantino (spelling?) at the library. Bill is intending to buy a 36 inch monitor.so we can use it to allow the people in the room to see what is being cablecast. The library already has a video tape projector already. Do we need a remote controller to allow video equipment to be controlled from the podium? We think there is enough lighting. Bill will review all equipment purchase plans. Mark Minasian has reviewed the prices for the essential equipment: \$11,000 and for other equipment we would lilke to have: \$7000. Costs include installation. Total about \$18,000. Idea is to buy the essentials next year and the rest the following year. This will include three cameras, two mounted in the back of the room, one in the front.

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The equipment in the library will be, like the other equipment at the studio and the Town Hall, owned by Comcast.

Motion to put an article in the warrant for the next Town Meeting to authorize the committee's revolving fund. This is the money that is from the license fee and other money received from Comcast for cable-related purposes. This is a routine article. It was passed unanimously by the committee.

Motion to amend the license. Also passed unanimously. This is to make sure the I-net is wired by Comcast COMPLETELY. Does not cover the connections to the new high school. That is in negotiation but hopefully will not be a problem.

Motion to direct Comcast to buy the new playback controller and cables, as suggested by Rick (see above). It passed unanimously. Water District is now connected to the I-net.

Concord is using our license as a model for theirs, having considered ours the best organized/complete of the ones they reviewed.

Construction of new Service Department building will result in some telephone poles being taken away which means that new cabling has to be laid. There will be a multi-mode fiber optic line run from the old building to the new building. The committee questions the need for multi-mode fiber. This may be an extra \$5000 expense. Jeff to talk to Comcast about getting the cable TV cable into the same conduit as the proposed fiber optic cable.

Bob Kavanagh (Sudbury public schools tech guy) was not going to use the I-net modems but instead was going to put in his own gigabit network. Jeff's email to Maureen resulted in a study. Turns out that Comcast setup does not do content filtering which is required. Merrimack Educational Consortium will put in a filtering mechanism into the Comcast connections which will augment the one they are now using. Bob was instructed by the Assistant Superintendent to try out 100 megabit/second first, and only use gigabit if that speed does not cut it

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Greenstein