

Cable Telecommunications Advisory Committee Meeting
January 13, 2009

Minutes

1. Call to Order and Introductions.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Chairman Abramovich. Also attending were:

Committee: Stanley Rose, John Gladwell and Jim Williams

Lawrence Township Public Schools: Tom Ervin and Mike Dean

Verizon: Anna Lustenberg and Gwen Cogan

Lawrence Township: Trey Keymoore

Comcast: Kathy Farinaccio was unable to attend.

Bill Michaelson attended as a member of the public.

Mayor Pam Mount arrived at 8pm and remained until adjournment.

2. Approval of Agenda.

The Agenda was approved with a minor revision

3. Appointment of Secretary for this Meeting.

Jim Williams was appointed Secretary

4. Review and Approval of Minutes of the November 18th, 2008 Meeting.

Minutes from Nov.18, 2008 meeting were approved.

5. Verizon Community Channel 36 go live date

Abe said that when he tried to view the program content of Verizon channel 36 all he got was color bars. Trey Keymoore stated that they have been working to try and correct problems with video quality but they still have not eliminated all glitches and he was still unsure of just what was causing the problem. Abe asked the method used to transmit the signal and was told it was by regular hard wiring. There was debate on whether the length of cable run or the computer connection was the problem. Signal attenuation due to cable length was discussed and seemed a likely cause. Tom Ervin said that the schools were using a scan converter between the computer and the monitor to take the output from the computer without having to use any extra output card and this seemed to work. Tom agreed to be an advisor to Trey in any way he could. Abe also asked Trey if it would be possible to have things running by Feb 1.

6. Communications.

A. Comcast

a. Comcast notice of 11-24-2008

b. Comcast notice of 11-28-08

c. Comcast notice of 12-8-2008

d. Comcast notice of 12-22-2008

No comments on four Comcast notices received.

B. Verizon

a. Annual information distribution in email from Lawrence Township Clerk received on December 3, 2008.

Discussed annual information distribution package from Lawrence Township Clerk received on December 3 2008. Main item of discussion was the price increases for service.

7. Public Comments.

- a. Jane Canon of Society Hill requested information on when FiOS will be available in her area.
 - b. Mr. Stan Rose requested information about when FiOS will be available in the Kingsbrook Development
- a. and b. - FIOS in Society Hill - Anna Lustenberg said that she communicated to and is awaiting a response from the Society Hill Tenants association regarding permission to schedule the work in that location. When being asked why information regarding wiring different sections was so closely guarded, she stated that the market was very competitive. Gwen and Anna also explained all the different factors involved in providing service and signing up customers.

Ms. Lustenberg promised to further research the answers to these inquiries and get back with an answer in approximately one week.

8. Implementation of FAQ page on Township Website

- a. Verizon's responses to questions addressed to them and go-live date on Township website
 - b. Township website C&TAC introductory page content (<http://www.lawrencetwp.com/com-cable.html>)
- a. Verizon declined to provide the answers to the specific questions addressed to them. The stated reason was that Verizon's Legal department "was not comfortable" with having these answers published on the Township's website. Ms. Cogan stated that the information can be found on Verizon's website. As an alternative, Mr. Abramovich suggested that in order to make the search for this information as easy as possible for Township residents, Verizon should provide a list of links into their website where the answers to the specific questions could be found. The reason was that Verizon's website can be difficult to navigate and the information hard to find. Ann Lustenberg said she would research the requested links and respond in about ten days.
- b. Mr. Abramovich pointed out that the Committee's Mission Statement and members' names were not posted on the Township's website. He said he will work off-line with Mr. Stan Rose on a draft mission statement. When completed, the Mission Statement and membership list will be forwarded to Mr. Trey Keymoore.

9. Old Business Relating to Comcast.

- A. Status of plans to add additional channels.
 - a. NJN Digital and HDTV.
 - b. WYBE HDTV.
 - c. New York HDTV Channels.
 - d. Discovery HD

No update because Kathy Farinaccio from Comcast did not attend this meeting.

10. Old Business Relating to Verizon.

- a. Verizon's implementation plan to complete FiOS connections to LTPS: Update from Tom Ervin (LTPS) and Verizon representative

FIOS has been installed in two additional buildings: Lawrenceville Elementary and Lawrence Intermediate. Mr. Abramovich inquired why FiOS was not installed in the Township's Police/Court building which is across the parking lot from the municipal building. The two buildings have different street address numbers which is a criteria for such installations. Ms. Cogan said that she would look into this.

11. New Business relating to Comcast.

- a. Request from LTPS, per Tom Ervin follow up email of September 25, 2008, for Comcast to provide 38 replacement digital converter boxes to replace the analog boxes currently in use.

No update because Kathy Farinaccio from Comcast did not attend this meeting.

- b. Committee Membership status

Mr. Abramovich pointed out that two committee members have elected not reapply for membership term renewals. That leaves the committee down three persons from the full membership of seven persons.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting date is set for March 24, 2009 at 7:30 PM.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.