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ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

to the

Department of Public Utility Control

Ten Franklin Square

New Britain, CT 06051

of the State of Connecticut

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REGISTRY SECRETARY

Twelve-month period ending December 31, 2005

Name of Advisory Council	Cable Advisory Council of Northwest Connecticut
Mailing Address	20 Swaller Hill Rd. West Cornwall CT (Sharon)
Telephone	860-672-0127
E-Mail Address	ddarjones@comcast.net
Contact Person	Dale C. Jones (Chairman)
Towns Served	Salisbury, North Canaan, Canaan, Norfolk, Sharon
Cable Franchise Holder	Comcast

Names of Council Members	Titles
Dale C. Jones (Sharon)	Chairperson
Peter Oliver (Salisbury)	Vice Chairperson
Bruce Adam (Sharon)	Treasurer
Anna McGuire (Canaan)	Secretary
Robert Riva (Salisbury)	
Ellery Sinclair (Canaan)	
Joan Wingard (North Canaan)	
Laurie Perotti (North Canaan)	
John Calder (Norfolk)	
Sally Carr (Norfolk)	
Claudia Cayne (Library rep)	

This report is mandatory per § 16-331c of the General Statutes of Connecticut and § 16-333-30 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

Council Meeting Dates*	Location
February 7 th	Town Hall Annex, North Canaan
April 11 th	Geer Village, North Canaan
June 13 th	Geer Village, North Canaan
September 12 th	Geer Village, North Canaan
October 10 th	Geer Village, North Canaan
November 7 th	Geer Village, North Canaan

*Attach minutes of meetings

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:

Include any comments or concerns not reflected in meeting minutes, including identification of member vacancies (attach sheets if needed)

The Cable Advisory Council of Northwest Connecticut took a strong stand in the Franchise renewal process for Comcast in 2005. At the February meeting, members spoke out strongly in favor of relicensure for a long term. Comcast was credited with bringing a modern, reliable, public-accessible Cable operation to a region long denied this privilage. The CAC believes strongly in Comcasts commitment to the area. That having been said, through the year, the CAC took issue with Comcast programming tier structure that we believe could offer more educationally, and less sports channels. The CAC cautioned against ever-increasing Cabe TV rates even as Comcast rolls out more product offerings. The CAC awarded it's first two Tara-Marie Farrell memorial Scholarships. The \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to college-bound High school seniors who plan to study Electronic media.

Accounting of Financial Activities Twelve-month period ending December 31, 20_____

Beginning Cash Balance Jan. 1, 20_____	\$2,000
Total Cash received in calendar year	\$2,000
Total Cash disbursed in calendar year	\$2,000
Ending Cash Balance Dec. 31, 20_____	\$2,000

<u>REVENUE/INCOME</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Cable Company Cash Contribution	\$2,000	\$2,000
Other Contributions	n/a	
Grants	n/a	
Dues	n/a	
Fundraising	n/a	
Interest Income	n/a	
Other		
Other		
Total Revenue/Income	\$2,000	\$2,000
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Office Supplies	None	
Postage	None	
Printing/Advertising	None	
Accounting Fees	None	
Telephone	None	
Legal Fees	None	
Other		
Other		
Other		
Other		
Total Expenses	\$2,000	\$

FINANCIAL NOTES:

Include any Cable Franchise Holder In-Kind Services (attach sheets if needed)

The Cable Advisory Council of Northwest Connecticut incurs no real expenses as all of it's costs, including Meeting site, postage, advertising, mailings and other related expenses are all provided In-Kind. This allows the CAC to use unspent funds for scholarships and enhancements to Community Access Television.

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF N.W. CT
Minutes-Meeting 2/7/05

The February 7th meeting was moved to the Town Hall annex in North Canaan to allow CAC members to take part in and observe the public hearing on the Franchise renewal for Comcast Lakeville territory. In attendance were members Jones, Adam, Calder, Perotti, McGuire and Riva. Dale Jones spoke in favor of the renewal for Comcast saying it's been good for the member towns, and applauded the upgrades in Cable services and the Community Access station. Also speaking in favor were members Calder and Riva. The meeting adjourned at the conclusion of the hearing at 8:12 p.m.

Submitted, Anna McGuire-Secretary.

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF N.W. CT
Minutes-Meeting 4/11/05

Meeting Convened at 7:06 at Geer Village in North Canann.

Present were members Jones, Riva, Adam, Sinclair, Wingard, Perotti and Cayne. John Bairos of Comcast updated the members on new services being offered by Comcast, including Video on demand. Bairos stated broadband cable continues to expand in the Lakeville franchise.

Marshall Miles of CATV 11 said the channel is adding more programming including fine Arts broadcasting.. Taping and airing of town meetings of boards and commissions, along with a live morning program continue to be the staple of CATV offerings. Miles also is hoping for an increase in capital investment by Comcast as part of Franchise renewal. The figure could be as much as 25-thousand dollars.

The CAC received and reviewed applications for the Tara-Marie Farrell memorial scholarship fund. It's expected the CAC will name recipients at the June meeting.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Submitted, Dale C. Jones-Chairman.

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF N.W. CT
Minutes from meeting 6/8/05

The meeting convened at 7:06 p.m. at Geer Village.
In attendance were Chairman Dale Jones, Treasurer Bruce Adam, and Board members Bob Riva, Peter Oliver, Claudia Cayne, Ellery Sinclair, John Calder and Joan Wingard. Also in attendance were Ex-Officio member Marshall Miles, and John Bairos of Comcast.

Minutes from the April meeting were not read as Secretary Anna Mcguire was not in attendance.

Members approved \$1,000 scholarships from the Tara-Marie Farrell fund to Brian Lacko of West Cornwall and Angela Sterpka of Canaan.

John Bairos explained a Billing technique change that has raised questions with the Department of Public Utility Control. The error has been corrected and accounted for. Bairos went on the state the final decision of the Franchise renewal has been put off til the 29th of June. It had been scheduled for completion by June 6. Bairos said that CTN- the state of Connecticut government channel will be added to Comcast Expanded Basic tier this summer and that Comcast is realigning the channel structure completely to group types of programming together i.e., Sports channels with Sports channels, Cable News channels together, etc.

In other news from Comcast Corporate, Bairos said they are getting involved in a number of Community activities including a Summer Reading program in Falls Village, and Railroad days in Canaan.

Marshall Miles reported new Underwriting opportunities and a possible \$5,000 grant. The CATV studio will be rented out for recording by private individuals at an hourly rate. New programs include a Veterans show, the Army Newswatch, The Classic Arts Network, and a National Guard program. Additional shows to come include the Rural Farm Network, Independent News broadcasts, and a live call-in Astrology show. Marshall reported an agreement with Comcast will raise Comcast contribution to Community access television to \$22,500. contingent upon a 15 year license for Comcast Franchise renewal. Marshall added he hopes to have two paid staffers later this summer including a staffer to handle Underwriting. Tri-state Communications is in discussion to purchase an AM Radio station and add non-commercial Radio to its' holdings.

Nominations for the Advisory Council calendar year that begins in September included Dale Jones-Chairman, Peter Oliver-Vice Chairman, Bruce Adam-Treasurer, and Anna Mcguire-Secretary. Elections will be held at the September meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Submitted-Dale Jones, Chairman.

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF N.W. CT
Minutes-Meeting 9/12/05

Meeting convened at 7:04 at Geer Village in North Canaan. Members present included Jones, Adam, Oliver, Riva, McGuire, Sinclair, Wingard, Perotti and Cayne. Also present were ex-officio Marshall Miles of CATV-11 and John Bairos of Comcast. The election of officers named the new slate for the next meeting year; Dale Jones- Chairman, Peter Oliver-Vice Chairman, Bruce Adam-Treasurer, Anna McGuire-secretary. The slate was unanimously elected.

Marshall Miles talked about the possible acquisition of a second community access channel to offer even more programming. John Bairos said he would look into the criteria for establishing a second channel by reviewing DPUC guidelines. Chairman Jones questioned the need for a second channel suggesting it may just become a dumping ground for "filler" programs. Miles replied he has enough town meeting footage to supply much of the program space. Other governmental programs could be offered as well.

John Bairos said the draft decision for Comcast Franchise renewal had given Comcast just a 7 year term. CAC members expressed disappointment that the maximum 15 year term hadn't been allowed. Bairos said the final decision may look better.

CAC members reviewed policies governing members receiving any sort of compensation through Comcast while serving on the CAC. It was agreed such a practice would necessitate resignation from the Board. A review found no CAC members receive any sort of personal compensation from Comcast.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Submitted, Anna McGuire-Secretary.

Cable Advisory Council
Minutes-meeting 10/12/05

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 at Geer Village.

In attendance were members Ellery Sinclair, Claudia Cayne, Bob Riva, Joan Wingard, Bruce Adam, and Dale Jones. Also in attendance were ex-officio member Marshall Miles, and John Bairos of Comcast Cable.

John Bairos reported Comcast has had no negative feedback to the recent cable channel re-alignment which groups channels by program type. I.e- News channels together, sports channels together etcetera. Bairos also said the acquisition of Adelphia Cable system assets in Connecticut should have no effect on the Lakeville system. Bairos noted a miniscule change in billing may raise some customer rates by about 6 cents, due to a past billing error.

Marshall Miles reported he has received Comcasts monetary support for Tri-State Broadcastings operation of the Public access channel and has received a check for \$22,500.00. Miles also reported no problems from viewers regarding the change of access channel from channel 11 to channel 6. The change was part of the broader channel realignment. Miles said he has purchased a new digital camera for recording events, and has a new digital editing system which enhances quality. Miles said Tri-state has about 15 locally produced shows, three of which are live. He predicts an additional public access channel next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21

Submitted by; Dale Jones, Chairman.

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF N.W. CT
Minutes-Meeting 11/7/05

The November meeting of the CAC was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

Submitted, Dale C. Jones-Chairman.