

Groton Cable Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes for: 2/5/26

In Attendance:

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Cable Committee Members: Russ Harris, Eric Fischer, Janet Sheffield (Zoom), & Neil Colicchio (Zoom)

Other:

Program Director - Ashley Doucette

Called to Order At: 4:33 PM

Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of November 13th, 2025 were not voted upon at this meeting.

Russ made a motion to approve the minutes of January 8th, 2026. Eric seconded. It passed by a vote of 4-0.

General Updates:

- The Girl Scouts will be coming into the studio to tour the space, learn a bit about video production, and produce a few public service announcements to air on the channel in-between programming. Ashley will work with Neil to update a Talent Release Form to be sent out to the parents of these students.
- Ashley has been in talks with Connie Sartini about doing some outreach with the Garden Club, Women's Club, and others about resources that are available to them through the studio (i.e., event recording, event advertisement, etc.)
- Ashley recently met the Commission on Accessibility about implementing some elements at the 2026 Spring Town Meeting. A section will be made available down front where a screen will be providing closed captions for the meeting. Other elements may be needed but are unknown at this time.
- Alex Woodle has been hard at work on a project about Lost Lake. After some training, he has been independently editing his project and we will forward to showcasing it when it is finished.
 - It was suggested that we look into some options for submitting for awards. Either this project or any others that the channel thinks would qualify for recognition.
- We are still in talks with Ivy Mitchell at the Middle School about producing a series based off of her 'Bridging the Generations' events.

- Noah and Ashley W. Have been working on an updated video about the Groton Channel. The video is currently being edited and we hope to have this available to share around shortly.

Discussion - Progress on Charter/Spectrum Franchise Renewal

Ashley is still waiting on a response from Town Counsel and will provide an updated draft copy to the committee when it becomes available.

Discussion - Progress on Increased Meeting Coverage and Meeting Coverage Technology

Ashley still needs to have more formal discussion with the Town Manager and IT Department about the potential of increasing the amount of meetings that are currently recorded.

There could be budget complications that will need to be addressed if more equipment/devices are needed.

There are also some groups that are (or may be) uncomfortable with being recorded and that will also need to be addressed.

Discussion - MassAccess Legislative Update

Ashley attended the MassAccess Annual Meeting on January 27th. The meeting was set to be held at the State House but was moved to Zoom due to the weather.

The move to Zoom proved to be beneficial as the number of attendees was at/or around 100 and surpassed the capacity of the room the meeting was to be held in. This got the attention of several legislators.

The streaming bill still sits in Ways & Means but everyone is optimistic about where it stands. Advocates are aiming for a possible July deadline.

Discussion - Groton Channel Yearbook Ad

Ashley shared the design for the Groton Channel's ad in the 2026 High School yearbook. Eric and Neil have generously offered to pay for the cost of the ad.

Purchase Request - MassAccess Annual Membership Dues (\$100)

Ashley asked the committee to approve \$100 for the payment of annual dues for our MassAccess membership.

VOTE: Russ moved to approve the amount of \$100 for the payment of annual dues for an annual MassAccess membership. Eric seconded. The motion passed by vote of 4-0.

Purchase Request - Zoom AMS-24 USB-C Audio Interface (\$119.39)

Ashley asked the committee to approve a request of \$119.39 for the purchase of a ZOOM AMS-24 USB-C Audio Interface to be used for sports commentary and other needs.

Ashley believes that this piece of equipment can replace a double-audio mixer setup that is currently used for our sports commentators. There was not enough information

available online to confirm if it will work for what we need it to so it will be returned if testing with our microphone and camera is unsuccessful.

VOTE: Russ moved to approve the amount of \$119.39 for the purchase of a ZOOM AMS-24 USB-C Audio Interface. Eric seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

Discussion - Video Literacy

Russ suggested that it may be worthwhile to find or create a video that discusses video literacy and what to look for in a video to tell if it is truthful. Ashley agreed to discuss this with the school's videography/journalism teacher to see if she has any resources or might like to use some of her students to help produce such a video.

Next Meeting is planned for Thursday, March 5th at 4:30 PM and is currently planned to be a hybrid meeting - taking place at the studio with the option to join via Zoom

Meeting Adjourned at: 5:29 PM