

Groton Cable Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes for: 4/2/26

In Attendance:

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Cable Committee Members: Russ Harris, Eric Fischer & Neil Colicchio

Other:

Program Director - Ashley Doucette

Called to Order At: 4:37 PM

Meeting Minutes:

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

Neil made a motion to approve the minutes of February 5th, 2026. Eric seconded. It passed by a vote of 3-0.

General Updates:

- The wireless microphones in the upstairs meeting room at Town Hall stopped working, with issues stemming from the battery connections internally. Ashley purchased a new two-microphone wireless system to replace them. The new system cost \$119.99 and has been working very well. These new microphones charge via USB-C which eliminates the potential for the same damage to occur in the future.
- The Girl Scouts came in to film three public service announcements that are currently playing in the CG Bulletin Board rotation that airs between programming. The night was a big success and everyone had a lot of fun.
- Ashley will be training a new volunteer next who intends to help record events and presentations at the library. This is the first volunteer in our efforts to try and pair a volunteer to a specific group and/or location to match their availability and interests. Neil expressed interest in possibly doing something like this with the Prescott Open Mic Nights.
- Alex Woodle is in the final stages of post-production for his feature-length documentary about Lost Lake.
- The first episode of 'Bridging the Generations' will be recorded on Monday, April 6th. This is an on-location shoot at the Middle School to increase involvement and engagement with the students there.
- There is the potential for a college intern this summer. Ashley suggested that we try to schedule them more from May-June to get them involved during one of the studio's busier seasons.

Discussion - Progress on Charter/Spectrum Franchise Renewal

Ashley shared the new draft of the Charter renewal that was provided by Town Counsel on February 26th.

Town Counsel did a full review and made a significant amount of formatting and grammatical changes to the agreement.

The biggest changes to the document included the addition of section to include a performance bond (which included the addition of a 30-days written notice provision in the event of cancellation/failure to renew insurance), the addition and revision of customer service standards, and an increase to a 5% support fee.

Ashley noted that there was no change to Exhibit A provided by Town Counsel but that the suggestion of a language addition to help clarify the buildings to be divided between the two cable providers will be suggested to Charter (and then ideally reopened with Verizon should Charter include this change).

Town Counsel also had no notes on changes to the section on HD channel's, citing that the contracts are similar to one another given the specific language around how many channels they are required to provide.

Action Item: Ashley will now reach out to Charter to alert them of these specific changes and to have them review the formatting changes made by Town Counsel. Ashley will ask to move up to a 5% support fee and ask them to accept new language to make Exhibit A more equitable to each cable provider. Ashley will also ask what is going to be required to make an HD channel possible.

Next Meeting is planned for Thursday, May 14th at 4:30 PM and is currently planned to take place at the studio.

Meeting Adjourned at: 5:35 PM