

South Hadley Cable TV Advisory Committee Minutes for January 26, 2016 Meeting

Attendance

Members Present:
Eric Zahm, Chair
Stephen Fox

Guests

Joseph Rodio, Library Director
Desiree Smelcer, Library Adult Services and Archivist, Historical Society

Administrative

Meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM

This meeting was called for the primary purpose of investigating interest on the part of the Town Library and/or Historical Society in a Town Historical Archiving project and what that would entail. Also investigated was if the CTV Advisory Committee, through its recommendations to the Town Manager and/or Town Meeting, could assist in the development and support for this project.

Old Business

Old business was tabled until the next meeting with all members of the Committee present. This meeting's primary purpose is stated above.

New Business

A South Hadley resident arrived before the meeting was called to order and asked if the Committee could help him locate and purchase a cable modem/router so that he could stop paying the Comcast equipment fee for his current cable modem/router. Eric volunteered to help the man with his request. There was a short discussion during the meeting on whether the Committee should either prepare a set of directions and specifications to aid other South Hadley cable subscribers in this task. Steve suggested we could post these directions and provide links to the specifications and vendors that would enable the average customer to perform this task. Eric suggested further discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting began with Eric discussing the role of the Cable TV Advisory Committee, where the monies for the town Cable TV studio comes from and what these monies are to be used for as background information for Joseph and Desiree. He explained that the committee desired to explore using cable/digital technology to aid in preserving artifacts, media and other items pertaining to the history of the Town of South Hadley.

Joseph then explained that the Library has some resources to digitize media under state programs like DigitalCommonwealth.org. Desiree told us that the South Hadley Historical Society had digitized materials from its collection on the site, which can be located at URL DigitalCommonwealth.org. There was some discussion about this program.

The group then explored various avenues for developing an assessment of needs and possible avenues of support that the Town, through the Cable TV Advisory Committee and the Cable TV studio and its staff, could provide to the Library and Historical Society. There was also some discussion about a grant being sought by the Library and Historical Commission to support archiving of historical materials. It was determined that it would be most productive to see what the outcome of the grant request was and then meet again to firm up ideas and proposals for Committee support.

Next Meeting Scheduled

The next meeting date was left open, with Eric committing to come up with a few dates that will allow all members to be present.

A motion to adjourn was made by Stephen Fox and seconded by Eric Zahm. Meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Stephen Fox, acting as Recording Secretary for the meeting.