

## Chappy Cell Committee

7/14/15 3:30 PM - Becker, Darack, Filley, Gurnitz, Kennedy - Edgartown Town Hall

A discussion of the timeframe for our work was discussed. The selectmen's meeting on the 17th started clock ticking with an extension of 45 days. Call with Homeland, Manny and Ray. Answering the same set of questions as Grain, we started discussing the Tower questions. Homeland suggested that Tower is the system that most providers prefer and that a DAS would be a hard sell. They suggested if there was existing fiber network then it might be more attractive to the providers. In terms of the minimum height they said under 60 feet would not work period, but that tree line is an important determinant for tower height. They have worked on various stealth options (flagpole and trees) and have a design patent on an obelisk. The DAS questions talked about providers preference of towers over these systems. A discussion about AT&T's recent mode of putting projects on hold. It was thought that the Directv merger was part of the issue. It appeared that T-Mobile is most active in building up network, Verizon, Sprint, then AT&T. Discussion of methods to reduce costs for both developers and provider like reduced or free fiber fees, free Hotel location, etc could make the DAS option more appealing. A discussion of small cell options followed. Homeland said they would be more willing to work on small cell before DAS. Homeland suggested spending the time and money to do some real visual impact analysis. They referenced Nantucket where the poles are tall and now a much larger number. They talked about how networks start and then have to grow to meet demand. After the phone conversation the committee discussed progress on making connections with people in the industry as well as questions for the consultant at next week's meeting. Roger brought up the issue of Comcast providing fiber for a DAS background. It was decided to ask Pam to ask Mary for a response. Next meeting 7/22.