

## Chappy Cell Committee

7/24/15. Meeting with Richard Enright, verizon wireless. 9:30 - Chappaquiddick Fire Station  
Becker, Cobb, Filley, Kennedy, Gurnitz (Chappy Fire Station)

Richard Enright from Verizon presented his view of what could be done for improved cell service on Chappy. He started by reiterating that there are near term challenges for improved services on Chappy (lack of funds and directives to install new service in "white space" areas), but that there were some interim steps to be taken, including designing and costing a system that could be built when funding was available. He stated that he has worked for 30 years building macrocell sites for Verizon. More recently he has worked with DAS in cities for add-on capacity. He handed out some maps of present coverage and had many questions about Chappy. He stated that when they do a project they will use 4g, which could be an issue with people with earlier generation phones. He also noted that coverage for 4g is less than a 3g system. The radios they use are 60 watt and go about ¼ to ½ mile. He asked questions about ownership of poles, accessibility to dark fiber. He talked about the fact that traffic is doubling every year, and referenced Block Island which had already reached capacity during the summer months. He asked for us to identify poles by Lat/Lon in areas that need coverage, send them to him, and he will have his engineers design a coverage map. He spoke about the general state of small cell. He stated that he had a budget of \$375 million for construction, talked about how we are designated white space, and not a priority in his budget schema. A discussion followed about the benefits and issues with Verizon doing the system, a developer doing a system, another carrier doing it and how that would fit in with Verizon's plans. Enright discussed issues with the Chilmark project and that it was developed with 3g in mind, but they were now using 4g and would need more poles for coverage. The meeting concluded with plans for us to provide pole location information and he would have his engineers design and cost out the system. The committee adjourned for lunch and then a quick tour of the beaches was done with a few people to identify getting coverage on them.