

Chappy Cell Committee

8/7/15 Meeting with Andrew Farrissey 11am

Becker, Cobb, Darack, Filley, Kennedy, Gurnitz - - Edgartown Town Hall

The meeting started with a discussion with Andrew Farrissey, head of the island's communication wiring company. He discussed options for installing a fiber backbone to support a DAS system. Andy discussed the many facets to creating the DAS system, from the fiber links, pole size and height, distance between antenna, etc. He estimated that 20 antennae with infrastructure would cost about \$2 million. He discussed a possible business model for Chappy where the fiber backbone could be privately owned. he stated that he would be willing to be a part of that partnership. He felt that we should pursue the empty conduit available in the ground on Chappy now. Discussion about potential outages in the system if a pole goes down and comparisons to the Chilmark system were made. Again discussions of cost and options to pay followed, with ideas like public safety funding, CPA, bonding and betterments. He noted that backhaul is increasingly going to Comcast over Verizon. In terms of configuration, he would suggest putting the antenna on a separate pole from the electric lines, making installation and repairs easier and less costly. He suggested bringing in the fire chief to the conversation because of the Municipal Fire System which may give easier access to the poles for wiring (rights given to the town for these systems). After Andy's presentation, discussion turned to the Points of agreement document in anticipation of the upcoming report to the selectmen, with discussion on each point. Need to follow up: Ken at Grain about AT&T rep. Woody with Pam on how important it is for us to make a recommendation in our report to the selectmen.

Approved 6/15/17