

Chappaquiddick Wireless Committee
(Advisory Committee to the Selectmen)
Friday, January 24, 2014 at 3:00 PM
Selectmen's Meeting Room – 1st Floor, Town Hall
MINUTES

Members in attendance: Roger Becker, Claire Thacher, Margaret Knight, Dennis Goldin, Will Geresy, and Fran Clay. Bob Gurnitz listened in by cell phone, but did not speak or vote. Bob Clay was in attendance. Georgiana Greenough, staff in attendance.

Outcome of 3rd RFP for DAS on Chappaquiddick

There were no responses to the 3rd RFP issued for an ODAS system on Chappaquiddick. The Selectmen's recommendation to the Committee on January 6, 2014 was to pursue alternatives.

Georgiana said she mailed the RFP to 30 +/- contacts in the industry including, but not limited to: American Tower, Crown Castle, AT&T, ExteNet, Sprint/Nextel, Verizon, InSite, and T-mobile. Dennis Goldin said he interpreted the Selectmen's comment to pursue alternatives as looking at towers. Roger Becker said he wants to know why there were no responses to the Chappy DAS RFP. What was their reason? Roger Becker also asked what if there were private funds to co-mingle with a developer. How would that work? Georgiana said she would have to check with the Administrator on the legal aspects.

Georgiana asked the committee to look at small tower options saying why not ask carriers to think about constructing them at 32' which is allowed by the zoning bylaw and would barely top the treeline. She asked them to think about what type of "stealth" features would be acceptable. She said the carriers would have to install more than one, to get good coverage for all residents. Margaret Knight said it is going to be the same problem all over again - still is a tower and it was not what they had decided. Dennis Goldin said there were far more people on Chappy that want DAS than who want a tower.

Dennis Goldin said he thought that Chappy should tie in with Katama to put out RFP for DAS. Georgiana said that you may not reverse a decision on a special permit. Further, the lawsuit against AT&T and the Town, by a local resident, was settled. Fran Clay said it would be easier to get carriers interested now that the Town was no longer involved in a lawsuit.

Dennis Goldin wanted Roger Becker as President of the Chappaquiddick Association, Inc. to contact carriers and developers.

Roger Becker said he wanted to know about cell booster systems, including "Wilson". Will Geresy said he uses it at work. He said it is meant to have a range of 100 feet, but the system is not reliable. Georgiana suggested Roger Becker prepare a "white paper" on all telecommunication technologies that might provide or enhance cell services.

Roger Becker asked if there were other consultants who could handle the search to acquire DAS on Chappy. Georgiana asked who would be paying for it. She said the reason they used David Maxson was because he was already being used by the Town, and the Planning Board paid for it because they were using him for an AT&T application. The Town paid for his consultancy at Annual Town Meeting to assist the Wireless Committee.

Dennis Goldin asked Georgiana if any of the state officials responded to the letter. She responded that Tim Madden did. Roger Becker said he spoke to some of the elected officials offices, and they said they never got a letter.

Georgiana reminded the Committee that Brian Savva attended two meetings with them, and provided a detailed list of carriers and developers and their addresses. Roger Becker said we need someone to chase down our leads and find out what is going on, and address the resistance from the carriers on

DAS. He said he did not want Georgiana to do it, as he wanted other members of the committee to participate. Bob Clay said they would like to take over some of Georgiana's responsibilities, saying they were a committee and they should share the work.

Dennis Goldin asked

The Committee unanimously voted to:

- To hire a wireless consultant who will be able to communicate with the developers and carriers. Georgiana will develop hiring criteria. Will Geresy & Fran Clay were nominated to serve with Georgiana as the search committee.
- Roger Becker will create a "white paper" of technologies that would, enhance or provide cell service to Chappaquiddick.
 - To have a conversation with Comcast with respect to utilizing their fiber optics under the channel.

For the next meeting, Georgiana will provide a background of the current situation, and a list of criteria for a consultant, and Roger Becker will provide his "white paper" on alternative technologies.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 29, 2014 at 12 PM.