
STC Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2018

Call to order

A meeting of the Sherman Telecommunications Committee was held at Mallory Town Hall on March 9, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 11:45 AM.

Attendees included First Selectman Don Lowe [DL], Steve Maletz [SM], Gail Maletz [GM], Terri Hahn [TH], Zoe Sochor [ZS].

Members not in attendance included Al Zeisler [AZ].

Nomination and election of officers (Chair, Secretary)

A motion to elect Gail Maletz as committee Chair was made by DL and seconded by ZS. Carried unanimously.

A motion to elect Zoe Sochor as committee Secretary was made by GM and seconded by DL. Carried unanimously.

Approval of minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2018 STC meeting was made by GS and seconded by ZS. Unanimously approved as distributed.

Correspondence/Public Comment

At the February 22, 2018 Board of Selectman meeting, Susan Zeitler questioned health risks of cell towers. Selectman Ostrosky suggested attending the next STC meeting for more information. Ms. Zeitler did not attend today's meeting. The STC has government information available, upon request.

Gail Maletz suggested the STC meeting, minutes, announcements and pertinent documents be posted on the Sherman town website.

Action - GM to speak with Carol Havens about postings and adding STC's vacant committee seat in the website's volunteer section.

As a sanctioned committee by the BoS, the STC's standing meeting date will be the first Friday of every month @ 3:00 pm.

Old Business

DL reported that negotiations between T-Mobile and Happy Acres Farm are still in progress.

New Business

T-Mobile installation at Tower Hill – no new updates from DL about Tower Hill. GM and SM reported that, per Dan Reid’s (site manager for T-Mobile), the expectation is to be broadcasting by the end of March.

Status of Sherman emergency equipment installations at East Mountain and Tower Hill sites – DL reported no updates from Chris Fuchs.

Actions - Don to follow up with independent contractor, Dan Rosemark (representing New Fairfield) about the following:

confirm T-Mobile broadcast by end of March at Tower Hill

obtain status of Sherman’s emergency communications equipment installation agreement with New Fairfield at Tower Hill

find out whether the current signal into southern Sherman from Verizon at Tower Hill will improve and by how much, if any

find out about any plans in the works from other carriers wanting to co-locate at Tower Hill (e.g. ATT?)

Meeting with Felicia Jones of Northwest Hills Council of Governments – DL reported that due to the weather, several cancelled meetings led, instead, to a phone conversation.

Action – DL to invite Ms. Jones to the STC’s next meeting in April.

Discussion of next steps

Determination of cell phone signal strength throughout Sherman – STC members to continue working with personal contacts to gather information, e.g. Citing Council report. Once Verizon is in business and Citing Council map obtained, STC can see where the gaps are. Consider use of a mobile app that determines signal strength of each commercial carrier along Sherman’s roads.

Action- TH to contact Melanie Bachman (CT Siting Council), Ray Vergati (Homeland Towers), and possibly John Hodge (regarding carriers’ status apropos Tower Hill).

Contact carriers regarding future plans for coverage in Sherman – Listed as an action item in New Business.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Next meeting: Friday, April 6, 2018, 3:00 pm, Mallory Town Hall