

## **State Regulations and Statutes Governing Cable Advisory Councils**

### ***ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COUNCILS FOR CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE AREAS***

Regs., Conn. State Agencies @ 16-333-24 (2001)

#### **Sec. 16-333-24. Establishment of cable television advisory council**

There shall be established a cable television advisory council, hereinafter referred to as advisory council, consisting of representatives of the towns in each area where the Public Utilities Commission has granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity to a cable television company as franchise holder under authority of Chapter 289 of the General Statutes.

Regs., Conn. State Agencies @ 16-333-26 (2001)

#### **Sec. 16-333-27. Vacancies of advisory council members**

Any vacancies for an unexpired term may be filled by the respective appointing authority in each instance to complete and serve out the remainder of the current term for which the vacating member was appointed.

Effective April 23, 1974

— Regs., Conn. State Agencies @ 16-333-28 (2001)

#### **Sec. 16-333-28. Compensation**

Members of the advisory council shall serve without compensation.

Effective April 23, 1974

— Regs., Conn. State Agencies @ 16-333-29 (2001)

#### **Sec. 16-333-29. Election of officials and meetings**

Each advisory council shall elect its own chairman, vice-chairman and secretary. The council shall meet regularly at least bi-monthly. Special meetings may be called by the chairman or by the majority of the members upon due notice to all members of the advisory council.

Effective April 23, 1974

Regs., Conn. State Agencies @ 16-333-30 (2001)

#### **Sec. 16-333-30. Function of council**

Each advisory council may give advice to the management of the cable television company upon such matters affecting the public as it deems necessary. Each cable company shall respond within 5 business days to issues brought forth by its advisory council. Each advisory council shall

annually on a date not later than the first day of August, file a written report with the Department of Public Utility Control concerning its activities for the preceding twelve month period ending June 30.

Effective April 23, 1974; amendment published in Conn. Law Journal April 20, 1999, effective March 31, 1999.

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### **Sec. 16-333-26. Term of advisory council members**

Each member of the advisory council shall serve for a term of two (2) years from the first day of July in the year in which such member is appointed. If an advisory council member has three consecutive unexcused absences or does not attend 50 percent of meetings duly noticed and held within a 12 month period, then the member will be deemed to have resigned from the council.

Effective April 23, 1974; amendment published in Conn. Law Journal April 20, 1999, effective March 31, 1999.

Regs., Conn. State Agencies @ 16-333-25 (2001)

### **Sec. 16-333-25. Appointment of advisory council members**

The members of each advisory council shall be appointed as follows:

- (a) The chief elected official of each town in the franchise area shall appoint one or more members who are residents of said town in accordance with the population of said town as determined by the most recent United States census in the following manner:
  - (1) In towns having a population of less than 5,000 - one member.
  - (2) In towns having a population of at least 5,000 but less than 20,000 - two members.
  - (3) In towns having a population of at least 20,000 but less than 50,000 - three members.
  - (4) In towns having a population of 50,000 or more - four members.

Insofar as is possible said appointments should reflect and be representative of the cultural, educational, ethnic and economic makeup of the population inhabiting said towns.

- (b) The board of education in each town in the franchise area shall appoint one member of the advisory council. Such member shall reside in said town or be a member of said board of education, or be employed by said board of education.
- (c) One member shall be appointed to the advisory council in each franchise area to represent all of the libraries of general public use located in the towns within that franchise. In the town in the franchise area having the largest population therein, as determined by the most recent United States census, the public library board charged with oversight and management of the town's public library as defined by Section 11-24a(b) of the General Statutes shall appoint the advisory council member. In the event there is no public library board in charge of the public library in that town, or if the library of general public use in that town, is a private eleemosynary library, or if no library in either category is located in that town, then said advisory council member shall be appointed by the chief elected official of said town. The advisory council member appointed hereunder shall be either a library board member of a professional library staff employee of a public library or a private eleemosynary library of general public use in a town within the franchise area.

— Regs., Conn. State Agencies @ 16-333-25

- (d) The franchisee shall appoint one member, who shall possess some expertise in the field of cable television and who shall serve without vote on the advisory council.
- (e) Appointment of advisory council members pursuant to subsections (a) through (d), of this section, shall be subject to the following limitations:
  - (1) No paid employee of a nonprofit organization providing community access operations may serve on an advisory council.
  - (2) No employee of a CATV company, its subsidiaries or affiliates may serve on an advisory council except in the position of franchise representative serving without vote.
  - (3) At least one seat, but no more than 25 percent of the total seats to which appointments may be made to an advisory council may be filled by persons who also are members of a board of directors of a nonprofit organization providing community access operations.
  - (4) Advisory council members who also serve as a member of a board of directors of a nonprofit organization providing community access operations shall recuse themselves from voting on any financial matters related to their access organization.

Conn. Gen. Stat. @ 16-331c (2001)

@ 16-331c. Community antenna television companies' contribution to community antenna advisory councils.

Each community antenna television company, as defined in section 16-1, shall annually contribute to the advisory council in its franchise area an amount not less than two thousand dollars. An advisory council may at its option receive any or all of its funding through in-kind services of the community antenna television company. Each advisory council shall annually, on January first, provide the Department of Public Utility Control with an accounting of any funding or services received.

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Conn. Gen. Stat. @ 16-331d (2001)

@ 16-331d. Community antenna television advisory council vacancies and conflict of interest of members.

(a) The chief elected official from the town in which a vacant seat exists on a community antenna television advisory council shall appoint a member to fill such vacancy if any other appointing authority fails to make an appointment within six months of the time in which a vacancy occurs.

(b) No member of a community antenna television advisory council appointed by the chief elected official of a municipality, the board of education or the public libraries shall be an employee of a community antenna television company. For the purposes of this subsection, an employee includes any person working full or part time or performing any subcontracting or consulting services for the company.