

Fairhaven Cable Access Television 2022 Annual Report



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Staff:

Derek T. Frates, Director of Cable
Erick Sa, Production Coordinator
Alyssa Botelho, Videographer / Social Media
Nicholas Doyle, Videographer / Editor
Todd Migliacci, Videographer / Set Design

Cable Advisory Committee:

Barbara Acksen, Chairperson
Maria Carvalho
Ronnie Medina
John Methia
Thomas McAfee

Select Board Representatives:

Stasia Powers

In 2022 Fairhaven Cable Access Television continued to stay true to our mission: Providing informational, educational and community-based content on our two access channels.

The groundwork to deal with the hurdles of broadcasting continuously throughout the pandemic were laid in 2020. After functioning with 2 locations throughout most of 2022, an additional meeting room equipped for Zoom Meetings was added in at the BPW building. Three locations are now available for meeting participants to interact through a hybrid system of in person and virtual attendance. Multiple technologies were used to make this happen. Livestream, Castus Stream, and Zoom were simultaneously used along with an intricate audio & video set-up to accomplish this. The department continues to receive great feedback from other departments, boards and committees who credit Fairhaven TV as being an essential piece of keeping town government running in respect to participation and open meeting laws during and after the pandemic.

The all-inclusive website FairhavenTV.com continues to be an essential asset for the residents of Fairhaven to view government meetings, community events, and virtual events around town, as well as receive emergency and timely updates and resources available from town departments.

Fairhaven TV's social media platforms continue to be an important tool to accomplish the mission of keeping residents informed. Facebook followers grew to over 1900 (an increase of 200) and Instagram followers total over 600 (an increase of 100). Our YouTube page is also the place to find all of the latest events filmed for Fairhaven Community Media.

Alyssa Botelho has taken over the role of Social Media coordinator for the town as well. Her tireless efforts in reconfiguring and reorganizing all of the town's Facebook and Instagram pages has been truly beneficial in keeping the community abreast of many happenings in town.

The 10-year (2018-2028) cable television renewal license between Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC and Town of Fairhaven, Massachusetts is available to view on the Town of Fairhaven website on the Cable Advisory Committee page. (www.fairhaven-ma.gov/cable-advisory-committee)

Government Access – Channel 18:

The following government meetings are filmed regularly, broadcast live when possible, replayed on channel 18, and are available to view on demand at www.fairhaventv.com/governmentmeetingvideos and at www.livestream.com/fairhavenlive: Select Board, Board of Appeals, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Board of Public Works, Belonging Committee, Bikeways Committee, Broadband Study Committee, Cable Advisory Committee, Capital Planning Committee, Charter Committee, Conservation Commission, Contributory Retirement Board, Community Preservation Committee, Commission on Disability, Cultural Council, Economic Development Committee, Finance Committee, Historical Commission, Lagoa Friendship Pact Committee, Marine Resource Committee, Planning Board, Rogers Re-Use Committee, School Committee, Sustainability Committee, Town Meeting Review Committee, Town Meeting, and various Public Hearings.

Local election coverage and the annual Meet the Candidates night has become a staple of the government access calendar, as well.

FTV covers and broadcasts more meetings than any other access station in the commonwealth. **302** government meetings and **25** related shows and Public Service Announcements were produced and

aired in 2022. There were actually more meetings filmed by Fairhaven Government Access in 2022 than in 2021(301), 2020 (260) and 2019 (234).

Public meetings, forums, press conferences and ribbon cuttings are also filmed upon request. In addition, Fairhaven TV works with other departments to create public service announcements and informational videos to keep residents informed. These are posted to www.youtube.com/@Fairhaven_tv and www.facebook.com/fairhaventv as well as replayed on channel 18. Examples include Health Dept. guidelines and updates, Fairhaven Fire and Police Dept. PSA's, Town Clerk Election Info, Adopt-A-Pet series; monthly segments with the Fairhaven Animal Shelter and Animal Control Officer, Marine Resource Dept Permitting Procedures, Fairhaven Tree Warden updates, Boater safety videos, and Lagoa Friendship Pact committee events.

FTV worked with the Veterans Services Dept. and agent Brad Fish to produce coverage of annual events that previously had to be closed to public from attending. These included Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day parades and exercises in person for the first time since 2019.

FTV continued our collaboration with the Fairhaven Opioid Task Force by filming International Opioid Awareness day events in neighboring New Bedford and a recovery day celebration here in Fairhaven. The 'Opioid Crisis' 3-part video series continues to be shared bringing community awareness of the ongoing Opioid Crisis and offer support and contact information for those that need help for themselves, friends or family members.

Community/Public Access – Channel 95:

Fairhaven Community Media- Channel 95 is used for public access programming. **39** original productions including community events, and member productions were broadcast and are available on demand at www.fairhaventv.com/communityvideos and on the Fairhaven Community Media YouTube page. In addition, dozens of regional access shows were imported and broadcast on Channel 95. Throughout the country, **126** affiliated access stations downloaded our content to broadcast in their communities.

FTV is proud to announce we were awarded **Best Production Value** by the Massachusetts Creator Awards for **Hometown Haunts**, which aired during Fairhaven TV's 4th Annual Halloween Party in 2021. This was the second consecutive year of winning a state award. We have also been nominated in 4 categories in 2022. The award ceremony will be held on January 25, 2023.

FTV also brought home a national award at the Alliance for Community Media's Hometown Media Awards in the category of **Children's Programs** for our Home for the Holiday's Intro entitled **Santa's Bell**. The team was able to travel to the awards ceremony in Chicago to receive the award!

The annual Haunted Halloween Party has become a highly anticipated event in the community. For the first time since 2019, FTV was able to host the event live in Town Hall. Attendance was over 700, shattering all previous records. Features included Master of Ceremonies Todd "Magic" Migliacci performing magic and trivia, spooky stories and games, trick-or-treat tables from community organizations and townsfolk, and the premiere of the latest Hometown Haunts segment: **The Caretaker at Rogers School** (nominated this year for Best Production Value at the Mass Creator Awards).

Popular public access member TV Series' continuing to air on Channel 95 are The Family Table, Get Personal with Pattie, and The Magazine with Charlie Murphy. Public access member Dave Fauteux has produced 35 episodes of The Magazine in just 3 years! (nominated this year for Best Documentary at the Mass Creator Awards).

Other highlights include the popular Hometown Hikes series, featuring local trails, Kids Fest hosted by the Office of Tourism, coverage of the annual Cherry Blossom Festival at the Whitfield-Manjiro house, Millicent Library events, the return of the Concerts Under the Stars summer concert series, a summer media camp day at a local elementary school, coverage of the Benoit Square Tree lighting, and Ol' Time Holiday in December.

All of this material can be viewed on FairhavenTV.com, The Fairhaven TV YouTube page and in between programming on our channels.

Workshops and trainings are available to any Fairhaven resident looking to create their own show. Please follow us on Facebook and at www.fairhaventv.com , www.facebook.com/fairhaventv, Instagram at [fairhaven_tv](https://www.instagram.com/fairhaven_tv), and subscribe to our YouTube channel.