

The Darien TV79 Advisory Board meeting was held on January 23, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm.

The following topics were discussed:

- Election of officers: Mike Wheeler was nominated and elected Chair, and Dennis Cummings was nominated and elected Clerk.
- The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
- Annual report: The Board reviewed the annual report that was submitted to the Board of Selectmen.
- Viewership: The Board discussed the positive viewership numbers for TV79, with the most popular shows being those dealing with Great Island and the First Selectman's new explainer videos.
- The Board discussed the new "Police Blotter" short program, taken from the Police Commission meetings which summarizes police activity in the town.
- Weekly program guide: The Board discussed the positive feedback on the weekly program guide, which is sent out to email subscribers.
- 2025 Budget: The Board discussed the need for a budget increase in order to give camera operators a pay raise and to hire additional staff.
- Jim Cameron's eventual retirement: The Board discussed the need to prepare for Jim Cameron's retirement some time down the road. The Board discussed the enormous contribution of volunteer time as well as expertise to DarienTV 79 which he and Dave Dever started 13 years ago.
- Interesting programs: The Board members shared some of the recent programs that they found interesting, such as the chat

GPT discussion by the Greenwich Men's Association and the walking tours of Great Island.

- Funding for government access TV: The Board discussed a study commissioned by the state legislature to examine the current rate structure for cable operators that pay for a grant to TV79 and other government access channels for capital equipment and videographers.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.

[Darien TV79 Video of the meeting](#)

Mike Wheeler

Acting Clerk