

Carl Bulger presided.

Presentation:



Photo courtesy of Dennis Edgington

Our speaker was Maureen Smith of Milestone Communications, Inc. She is their Project Manager for placing cell phone towers on Prince George's County Public School properties. Currently she is working on placing a tower on Benjamin Tasker Middle School's property. Milestone builds the towers, or poles, and rents them out to as many as five carriers which place their huts at the base of the pole within a gated fence.

Her presentation can be viewed at <http://taskerschoolwireless.com/>.

Proliferation of wireless devices and limited availability of spectrum necessitates closer spacing of cell towers in order to guarantee good reception. People worry that the tower will generate dangerous electromagnetic radiation. If you were within 6 feet of the antenna at the top of the 151 foot tall pole, you would receive more radiation than the Federal Communications Commission allows. On the ground the radiation intensity is much less. We actually get more radiation from our wireless devices. The upside is that the closer your devices are to the tower, the less intensity they need to radiate to communicate with the tower. You receive more radiation from your devices the farther away from the tower you are.

The FCC says that any radiation intensity over 50 milliwatts/square centimeter is dangerous to humans. The FCC limits the radiation intensity on the ground to 1 milliwatt/square centimeter. Cell phones generate up to 7 to 10 milliwatts/square centimeter. The radiofrequency energy on the ground

surrounding a cell phone tower is .02 - .2 microwatts/square centimeter or .00002 - .0002 milliwatts/square centimeter.

The first carrier to lease space on the tower pays \$25,000 per year. Subsequent carriers pay \$12,000 per year. The rents are shared between Milestone and the Prince George's Public Schools on a 60/40 basis.

You may contact Maureen Smith via email: maureen@milestonecorp.com