



TO: ANCC MEMBERS
FROM: JOHN REPICKY
RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (Feb. 15, 2006- Wilton)

Feb. 16, 2006

ATTENDANCE:

- Darien: Dave Dever
Easton: Richard Seclow
Greenwich: Stuart Reider
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak
Norwalk: Marge Costa
Redding: Bob Moran
Stamford:
Weston: Don Saltzman
Westport: Hal Levy, Judith Freedman
Wilton: John Repicky, Carole Kleinfeld, David Sherwood
Cablevision: Deb Hutton

1) Meeting began at 6:15 pm with 8 towns represented. Minutes of Jan. 4 were approved.

2) Treasurer's Report -

Table with 4 columns: Activity, Date, ANCC Account, Access Escrow. Rows include Opening Balance, Interest & Dep., Checks & Debits, and Closing Balance.

The Treasurer's report was approved. JR noted that the following towns have not yet submitted reports for their 2005 grants: Darien, New Canaan, Norwalk, Redding, Westport.

3) Access Grants - 2006

HL & DS met with CV representatives and discussed the grant program for 2006. Deb Hutton and Myles Rich are looking into the possibility of providing cash funds as well as a supplemental equipment grant.

4) CV's position on PEG access:

DH reported that CV supports the model that we now have and plans to support it going forward. However, CV is watching open dockets to see what will happen with other companies vying for the ability to provide video without a franchise.

5) To Discuss 05-04-10 (CV's application):

Since the last technical test is now in progress, the Needs Assessment should be done by the end of February. HL noted that nothing will go forward with this docket until the needs assessment is complete.

application until that docket is complete.

**6) G-access issues:**

- Paul Curtis raised an issue about the G-channel picture quality for subs with analog channels received through digital boxes. Myles Rich is looking into it.
- Carole Kleinfeld: Wilton is looking to update guidelines for G-channels. She would like input from any towns that have a set of written guidelines.
- Paul Sedlak is looking for information on how CH 79 operators receive support for G-access from their communities.

**7) To review a proposal to amend state statutes on CATV issues:**

DS motion: *That the ANCC take no action on the proposed amendments to state statutes.* After discussion of the points made in the materials sent to the ANCC by Attny. Pizzella, the group determined that the issues raised were not relevant to the needs of Area Nine towns. Approved: Unan. DH volunteered to fill in the ANCC on any action in the legislature on this item.

**8) To review Docket 05-06-12 (DPUC investigation of terms and conditions for Video IP providers):**

A draft decision is due on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The OCC filed a brief which was in favor of opening the market to video over IP providers. However, they are also in favor of some regularity process.

SR asked for Deb's views on this docket. Essentially, CV is interested in maintaining a level playing field. That is, CV is held to a number of standards by its franchise agreement. Any competitors should be held to the same standards. CV's position is that, if competitors are granted the ability to provide video without a franchise, then CV could simply abandon its franchise and come into the area on the same basis.

ANCC has intervenor status in this docket and has made two filings (supporting a level playing field, the regulatory process, and PEG access to any video provider.) RS commented that the FCC has allowed radio stations to drop the public service component of their license, however the DPUC has encouraged cable companies to provide a public service. Under this docket, the public service aspect in TV could also be lost. RM commented that, with the changing technology, video could simply be provided directly from the producers to the customer via the Internet.

\* **Links to all pertinent documents in this docket are available on the ANCC website.**

**9) Docket 05-09-07 (regarding the number of access channels):**

Draft decision was issued on Jan. 10. The docket attempted to quantify the level of need that would trigger the requirement for an additional channel. The DPUC concluded that no changes were needed and issues will be decided on a case by case basis.

**10) 05-09-21 (FCC Rate Regulation):**

The only parts of the rate card to be regulated are broadcast basic, equipment and service calls. CV files the FCC forms and the DPUC has accepted their filing and determined them to be in compliance. CV was allowed to raise its basic rates as an incentive for upgrading its network. CV is now permitted to charge \$16.93 for basic by the formula. They are currently at \$15.78. For equipment and service items they are close to the FCC maximums.

**11) Other business:**

- DPUC annual report was filed.
- I-Net logs were due at beginning of Feb. CV filed the annual report.
- Chris K. did not get the weighted average of rate increases in Norwalk.
- SR brought up the issue of EWTN, which shares space with the leased access channel. Right now CV does not have an empty channel to provide EWTN full-time, and is notifying customers that write of this problem. JR suggested that CV at least correct its program guide info to reflect this. DH said that the solution may come through the addition of digital space. DS gave some history regarding promises made to the Diocese of Bridgeport regarding programming time.

Meeting dates: 3/22 Stratford (includes visit to Customer Service Center before the meeting); 4/26 Greenwich; Annual Meeting TBA

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 pm