



**TO: ANCC MEMBERS**  
**FROM: Carole Young-Kleinfeld**  
**RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (February 6, 2008)**

**February 8, 2008**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Darien:

Easton:

Greenwich: Paul Curtis, Stu Reider

New Canaan: Paul Sedlak

Norwalk: Herb Grant

Redding:

Stamford: Geza Ziegler

Weston: Harvey Bellin, Don Saltzman

Westport: Hal Levy, Jeff Stollenwerck

Wilton: Carole Young-Kleinfeld, John Repicky, Harry Somerdyk

Cablevision: Jennifer Nacewicz

Chairman Hal Levy called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm in Greenwich, with 7 towns represented.

**1. Minutes.** The group approved the minutes of the January 9, 2008 meeting with the following changes:

- Don Saltzman and Paul Sedlak had been excused from attending the January 9 meeting.
- Discussion about rate increases was corrected to read, "... Besides the rate increases, the discount has been decreased to a \$15 discount, so that customers actually see a \$5 increase above the expected rate increases."
- Miscellaneous minor typos.

**2. Treasurer's Report.** JS presented the report to the Council. We have \$7099.37 in the ANCC account and \$22,642.67 in the ANCC Access account. Expense reports of past grants must be submitted before applying for new grants. Forms are available from the ANCC Website.

HL reminded the group about the ownership of grant-funded equipment. Grant funding for Area Nine's E and G channels comes from subscribers' fees which are collected by Cablevision (\$5 per year per subscriber in Area Nine) to support P, E, and G operations. These fees support the public access studio in Norwalk, as well as the unique, town-specific E and G channels in the 10 towns of Area Nine

Equipment purchased with PEG funding is not the property of each town nor Cablevision, nor ANCC, but of "community access" and is earmarked for "access" programming only. When disposing of old equipment, access operators should offer it to other access operations first. If destroying old equipment, operators should keep written records of the disposition of all access equipment. If an access channel should cease to operate, equipment should be offered to other access channels in Area Nine.

Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

**3. Old Business** HL noted that the Annual Report was filed with the DPUC on 1/25/08 and thanked JR for his help.

HL submitted a voucher to CV for \$100,000 to support 2008 access programming. JN has processed it.

ANCC did not file comments on Docket #07-10-11-- *DPUC Proceeding to Establish Administrative Guidelines for the Public Educational and Governmental Programming and Education Technology Investment Account Pursuant to Public Act 07-253* and formulate written comments. (a.k.a. PEGPETIA Account). However, JR filed comments on behalf of Wilton's superintendent of schools.

**4. DPUC Docket 08-01-14** The ANCC had anticipated an application from CV to the DPUC for a Certificate of Cable Franchise Authority. However, in early January, CV of Litchfield submitted an application for a statewide Certificate of Video Franchise Authority which the DPUC approved but not in Litchfield, where CV is ineligible to have a CVFA because they already have a Cable TV franchise. The implication of this ruling is that Cablevision, under current circumstances, would not be able to operate under a CVFA in Area 9 either. Various scenarios were raised by members. DS recommended that members check the DPUC Website for the history of this docket.

**5. Supplemental Grant Applications.** The ANCC discussed and approved 5 grant applications from Westport, Wilton, Redding, Norwalk, and Easton for the use of remaining 2007 E and G funds. These grants will allow these towns to complete several projects that had not been able to be fully funded by their previous grant requests.

PC and SR asked for clarification of the process for reviewing E-channel requests for funding. JR explained that the E-channel subcommittee's procedures were identical to that of the ANCC's for G-channel grants and that all E-channel grant applications were available upon request. JR clarified the role of the E-channel representative from each town and urged them to keep their superintendents informed about the cable council's activities and purposes of the grant program. SR echoed this for G-channel representatives with their mayors and first selectmen.

HL reminded all grant recipients to submit vouchers for the full grant amounts. JR suggested noting "2007S" on the voucher.

## **7. Other Business**

JR suggested that the ANCC focus on programming issues on local E/G stations: ways to account for programming and ways to increase original programming. JR submits a log of all Wilton E-channel programming with the ANCC Annual Report to CV. DS commented on the difficulty of finding, and compensating, local camera operators.

JN announced a docket—07-03-34 regarding the safety, location, and examination of VRAD boxes, specifically at the request of Bridgeport, Stamford, and Danbury. She noted that, in the interest of public safety, CT's Attorney General recommended that all VRAD box batteries be replaced and that docket decisions should apply statewide. The docket is on the DPUC Website.

HL announced that the new Area Director for Cablevision CT—Mike Chawaniec (at

x5613) will be attending the next ANCC meeting.

HB reminded the group about a program for G-access. Weston Honors the Dagger Brigade Combat Team. Contact Harvey at [MediaGr@aol.com](mailto:MediaGr@aol.com) for details.

**Future meeting schedule**—Easton, Wednesday, March 19, 2008

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm for a tour of the Greenwich G-channel facility.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Secretary  
ANCC