

# A.N.C.C.

Area Nine Cable Council c/o Wilton Town Hall , 238 Danbury Rd, Wilton, CT 06897 [www.westportct.net/ancc](http://www.westportct.net/ancc)

TO: ANCC MEMBERS  
FROM: Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Secretary  
RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (February 16, 2011)

February 20, 2011

## ATTENDANCE:

Darien: David Dever  
Easton:  
Greenwich:  
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak  
Norwalk: Herbert Grant  
Redding: Bob Moran  
Stamford: Geza Ziegler  
Weston: Don Saltzman, Harvey Bellin  
Westport: Hal Levy, Judith Freedman  
Wilton: Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Lisa Bogan  
Cablevision: Jennifer Young

Excused: Jim Cameron (Darien), Marge Costa (Norwalk), Stu Reider (Greenwich), Andy Anderson (Easton)

Hal Levy called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm, welcomed members, and thanked the Norwalk members for hosting the meeting.

**1. The minutes of December 1, 2010 were approved with one correction to Item #7.** The Statewide Video Advisory Council is advisory to Cablevision and AT&T, but not to Verizon because of the difference in Verizon's certification by the CT DPUC.

**2. The financial report provided by the Treasurer was distributed and approved.** HG reported a balance of \$19,296.13 in the Escrow Account. The balance in the Operations Account is \$9,929.68.

**3. Old business** - HL reported that the annual E & G report was sent to Cablevision on 12/15/2011, amended on 12/16/2011. HL submitted the A9CC Annual Report to the CT DPUC on 1/19/2011 with copies sent to all Area 9 municipal CEOs and all Area 9 Superintendents of Schools. HL also submitted vouchers to Cablevision for the supporting the operations of E & G channels in the 10 Area 9 towns and for ongoing operations support of the A9CC.

Questions regarding new DVR options to be offered to subscribers by CV were discussed. CV will be announcing the launch of new options in subscribers' monthly bills.

## **4. Discussion: WHY and How to Produce a Program Guide and Distribute It**

DD led a discussion about the evolution of Darien's e-mail program guide which currently goes to about 800 people. Darien's schedule is also posted on the town website. Feedback, while informal (at supermarkets and at other local spots), is universally positive. Greenwich also distributes an e-mail announcement of programming. Members of the council were interested in how e-mail addresses were originally gathered, who maintains the list's accuracy, and whether

addresses must be sent in separate “batches” because of limits to the numbers of addresses that can be sent simultaneously.

### **5. New Website Domain**

HL recommended a change to the A9CC’s website for more efficiency and cost savings. The A9CC approved a plan to create a new domain name A9CC.org through a new web hosting company that will provide e-mail addresses for each member, forwarded to each member’s own e-mail address. Funds to maintain the A9CC website come from the council’s operating funds, not from the escrow account for E/G support.

### **6. Grant Program –FY 2010 Unused Funds and FY 2011 Access Support**

The A9CC voted to add the approximately \$13,500 unused FY 2010 funds to \$100,000 FY 2011 funds awarded by CV for E/G access support for the 10 towns. The FY 2011 access funds will be split between E-channels and G-channels in a 60/40 split to encourage E- channels to improve their operations and catch up to the G-channels. JY reported that CV will again offer an equipment grant program to Area 9 with an approximate value of \$25,000. HL advised members to consider the common equipment needs of the towns for submission to CV and to remember to submit expenditure reports for past grants. JF clarified that expenditures of the recent \$1000 operating grants recently awarded to 7 towns for G-staff time should include time sheets and/or another means of accounting for hours worked.

### **7. Other matters**

GZ and State Representative William Tong were quoted in a Stamford Advocate article about the need for G-channel programming in Stamford. The A9CC is encouraged by this and congratulated GZ for his longtime support for G-access in his city. See: <http://www.stamfordadvocate.com/default/article/Live-from-Stamford-it-s-city-government-985498.php#page-1>

Bob Moran distributed tapes of the regional meeting of the area’s Deer Alliance.

JY announced that Cablevision is moving GSN to the Sports & Entertainment package and has received complaints from A9 subscribers. Please contact JY with their concerns.

State Representative Kim Fawcett (Fairfield/Westport) has introduced legislation to support E/G operations, with a focus on supporting the labor costs of running access channels. HL and CYK are on her distribution list for updates. No bill number assigned yet.

### **9. 2011 Meeting Schedule: 4/6-Redding, 6/1-TBA.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Secretary, ANCC

February 20, 2011