

A.9.C.C.

Area 9 Cable Council, 17 Crawford Rd, Westport, CT 06880 www.a9cc.org

TO: A9CC MEMBERS **April 10, 2014**
FROM: Judith Freedman, Secretary
RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (April 2, 2014 at Easton Senior Center)

ATTENDANCE:

Darien: Dave Dever, Jim Cameron
Easton: Doug Dempsey, Andy Anderson
Greenwich:
New Canaan: Roman Cebulski
Norwalk: Herbert Grant, Art Scialabba
Redding: Robert Moran
Stamford:
Weston: Don Saltzman, Harvey Bellin, Erik Haakonsen
Westport: Hal Levy, Judith Freedman, Jennifer Cirino
Wilton: Phil Sharlach, Gary Battaglia
Cablevision: Jennifer Young
Ed Access Committee: Stoney Duren (NCC)

Excused: Stuart Reider, Chris von Keyserling, Paul Curtis (Greenwich); Paul Sedlak (New Canaan); Erin Herring (Norwalk); Stan Witkow (Westport)

HL called the meeting to order at 6.10 PM. 8 towns were represented. Thanked Doug for hosting.

1. **The minutes** of February 19 were approved as written.
2. **The Treasurer's report** was presented by Hal Levy and approved.
3. **Updates on old business:**
Soundview court challenge – Superior Court decision announced 3/31, upholding PA 08-159 as constitutional and confirming the legal existence of the Area Two Cable Advisory Council per §16-331gg(a) of the CT General Statutes (declined to rule on A9 & Litchfield). Soundview has 20 days to appeal.
4. **Vote on proposed amendments to A9CC by-laws**
All technical changes were approved in proposal including adding letters to subcategories. Article 8 section f was revised with following language, "which shall be submitted by the duly authorized representative of said committee. Amended by-laws were approved unanimously.
5. **2013 access grant program**
 - \$5,950 Educational Access grant for NCC presented by Stoney Duren was approved
 - \$3,693.77 Educational Access grant for Westport presented by Jennifer Cirino was approved.
 - \$3,267.80 Educational Access grant for New Canaan presented by Roman Cebulski was approved
6. **2014 access grant program**
\$100,000 in CV funding and \$144,564.97 in accrued U-Verse funding is in reserve. There was discussion on a system-wide infrastructure upgrade being investigated by the Council, whereby feeds

would be transmitted digitally over the I-Net to the CV headend using encoders & decoders. We are waiting on a decision by CV to meet with our committee to discuss the feasibility of the plan. \$100,000 shall be held in reserve for future technical upgrade described. \$150,000 is made available for round 1 grants, with \$75,000 each going to E & G. A supplemental direct equipment grant from CV of up to \$25,000 will be shared by E & G. The deadline to apply for grants is prior to October 2014 meeting

Up to 10 Government grants of up to \$8,000 each of which up to \$2,500 may go for operations were created. The Educational Access Committee will create E grants from the \$75,000 pool.

7. **Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 11 at SBC in Southport. Details will be mailed to eligible members. Jim Cameron will ask Steve Nevas to be guest speaker. There will be an election of officers. Harvey Bellin and Judi Freedman were elected to the nominating committee.

8. **Other Business**

- Jennifer Young announced some TV rate increases coming in May.
- Jim Cameron will discuss with Stoney Duren the broadcast of more NCC programming on the E channels.
- Bob Moran will help design an Access equipment exchange on the A9CC web site.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM

Next meeting: June 11, 2014 at SBC Southport

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Freedman, Secretary