

A.9.C.C.

Area 9 Cable Council, 17 Crawford Road, Westport, CT 06880

www.a9cc.org

TO: A9CC MEMBERS **April 5, 2018**
FROM: Hal Levy for Judith Freedman, Secretary
RE: MINUTES OF APRIL 4, 2018 MEETING AT ALTICE NORWALK

ATTENDANCE:

Darien: Dave Dever, Jim Cameron,
Easton: Andy Anderson, Doug Dempsey
Greenwich: Craig Jones
New Canaan: Roman Cebulski
Norwalk: Irene Dixon
Redding: Bob Moran
Stamford: Bob Lion, Andy George
Weston: Harvey Bellin, Don Saltzman
Westport: Hal Levy, Natalie Carrigan
Wilton: Jeffrey Boehme, Fran Kompar
Region 9: Mike D'Agostino
Altice: Jennifer Young
Ed Committee:
Guests: Roland Poirier (Weston), Larry Manzi (Norwalk)

Excused: Susan Morris, Stu Reider, Paul Curtis (Greenwich); Paul Sedlak (New Canaan); Kyle Seaburg (Norwalk); Stan Witkow, Judi Freedman (Westport); Gary Battaglia (Wilton);

Chairman Hal Levy called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm with ten towns represented.

New Government member Bob Lion and Education members Andy George and Mike D'Agostino were introduced.

1. **Minutes** of February 7 meeting were approved as written.
2. **Financial Report** was distributed, discussed and approved.
3. **Updates on old business:**
 - **2017 I-Net reports** requested by 2/1/18 have not received from the following: Edu: Region 9, Weston. These have missed the deadline for PURA but can still submit logs in order to qualify for grants.
 - **Member appointments:** Appointment letters for the current term ending 6/30/2019 were sent out to Town CEO's & Schools Superintendents on 6/15. No appointment received for Greenwich Ed.
 - **Starz / Encore:** Carriage agreement reached and channels went back on Optimum on 2/13
4. **Storm response by Altice:** Two nor'easters caused significant power and cable service outages since the last meeting. Hal read a letter from Greenwich A9CC representative Stu Reider, who was not in attendance, critical of the Altice response and of the A9CC chairman. Jennifer Young explained how the company responds to outages and the difficulties faced. The company prioritizes power restoration and responds based on the maximum numbers of customers they can get back up online. The utility poles are owned by the power company and power restoration takes priority over cable. Unfortunately the power company does not always notify the cable company when the pole is cleared for its access. Many trees came down and streets were closed, blocking access to the repair sites. This was a particular problem in Greenwich because town officials and the RTM will not allow any tree trimming. Communications with the customers was discussed. Several members stated that they received ample status updates from Optimum. Jennifer stated that she has shared her personal contact information with town officials, making her available to them at all times.

5. **2018 Round 1 Access Grant Applications:** The following applications were considered:

Town/School	Amount	Ops	Notes/Status
*Westport E	\$9,895.50	0	Approved – Will determine if equipment can be supplied directly by Altice
Norwalk G	\$6,200.00	0	Approved
Stamford G	\$6,200.00	0	Approved
*Norwalk E	\$5,249.80	0	Approved
*CSH E	\$6,167.22	0	Approved – Suggested online transport of programs to Greenwich I-Net be explored
Wilton E	\$6,799.25	\$2,500.00	Approved – Look into \$968 shortfall on 2017 grant report

*Natalie Carrigan presented all 3 educational applications
 Jim Cameron complimented the ed applicants for applications that strived for programming on Ch 78.
 The deadline for Round 1 Government applications is Monday May 28.

6. **Annual Meeting:** The council approved Wednesday May 30 for the date of the annual meeting. Members will explore venues and guest speakers. If no outside venue is found, the meeting will be held at Altice. Election of officers for 2-year terms will be conducted at the Annual Meeting. Jim Cameron and Jeffrey Boehme were elected to the nominating committee to present a slate of candidates.

7. **Other Matters**

- There was a discussion on Livecasting from remote locations, which included [Facebook](#), [Vimeo](#), [Switcher Studio](#) and the [NewTek Connect Spark](#).
- Don inquired about the location of the Drone received through a grant by NCC which was to be made available to all Area 9 access channels. There was no new information.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47

Future meetings: 5/30/2018 at location TBD