

A.9.C.C.

Area 9 Cable Council, 6 Lazy Brook Ln, Westport, CT 06880

www.a9cc.org

TO: A9CC MEMBERS **May 30, 2019**
FROM: Hal Levy
RE: MINUTES OF MAY 29, 2019 MEETING AT ALTICE NORWALK

ATTENDANCE:

Darien: Jim Cameron, Dave Dever
Easton: Andy Anderson
Greenwich: Horst Tebbe
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak, Roman Cebulski
Norwalk:
Redding: Robert Moran
Stamford:
Weston: Don Saltzman, Harvey Bellin
Westport: Hal Levy, Stan Witkow
Wilton: Jeffrey Boehme, Fran Kompar
Region 9:
Altice: John Dullaghan
Ed Committee:
Guests: Roland Poirier

Excused: Doug Dempsey (Easton); Barbara Heins, Stu Reider (Greenwich); Irene Dixon (Norwalk); Bob Lion (Stamford); Natalie Carrignan (Westport); Gary Battaglia (Wilton); Mike D'Agostino (R9)

Chairman Hal Levy called the meeting to order at 6:17 pm with eight towns represented. This is the "Annual Meeting" as called for in the A9CC by-laws.

John Dullaghan, Director of Government Affairs for Altice was introduced. John will be acting as the Altice liaison to A9CC until a replacement for Laura Jordan is hired.

1. **Minutes** of the March 27 meeting was approved.
2. **Financial Report** was distributed discussed and approved. A supplementary access funding payment of \$25,000 and a \$20,957.01 U-Verse E&G Access pass-along payment from Altice have been deposited. These funds will be distributed in Round 2 2019 grants in the fall.
3. **Old Business:**
 - Access channel info still owed by Darien E, Easton G, Greenwich E, Norwalk E, Weston E, Region 9 E. The form is on the A9CC website. We will begin posting the info we have on the website.
 - 2018 I-Net logs are owed by Edu: Greenwich, Norwalk & Weston; Gov: Easton, Stamford & Wilton. The deadline for the logs for Altice's report to PURA has passed, however towns & schools will not qualify for grant funding until delinquent logs are submitted to Hal.
 - There has been no change in status on FCC Docket No. 05-311 to allow cable companies to apply in-kind expenses to franchise fees; HB 5486 - An Act Repealing the Transfer from the PEG Programming and Education Technology Investment Account (PEGPETIA) to the General Fund; and Proposed H.B. No. 6421 An Act Concerning The Regulation Of Cable Television Rates
 - Jim passed around the access channel information spreadsheet for members to fill in missing info.

4. 2019 Educational Access Awareness Awards

Judging for the majority of the categories for the 16th Annual EAAA program was completed about 2 weeks ago. Announcement of the results are pending the judging of the "News Shows" category. Roman screened a number of the honored entries in the elementary school, middle school and high school divisions.

5. 2019 Round 1 grant applications: The following applications were considered:

Town/School	Amount	Ops	Notes/Status
Westport G	\$5,000.00	0	Approved
Darien G	\$5,000.00	0	Approved

The deadline for both Education and Government Round 1 applications is September 11th. Applicants should refer to <http://www.a9cc.org/Report Checklist.xls> to check eligibility.

6. Optimum TV rate hikes

Effective June 10, 2019, the Broadcast TV Fee for new residential and commercial video customers will be \$7.49/mo. Fee for existing customers will remain at \$5.99/mo. In the past, rate increases for new customers only have been subsequently applied to existing subscribers. Don reported that Altice will be implementing new customer retention policies in July.

7. Tentative A9CC Meeting Schedule

Day	Date	Where
W	9/25/2019	Altice
W	10/30/2019	Altice
W	12/11/2019	Altice
W	1/29/2020	Altice
W	4/1/2020	Altice
W	5/27/2020	TBD

8. Other Matters

- Hal announced that letters will be going out shortly to CEO's & Superintendents to appoint A9CC representatives to new 2-year terms. The letters will be emphasizing meeting attendance, citing the CT regulations:

Sec. 16-333-26. Term of advisory council members: Each member of the advisory council shall serve for a term of two (2) years from the first day of July in the year in which such member is appointed. If an advisory council member has three consecutive unexcused absences or does not attend 50 percent of meetings duly noticed and held within a 12 month period, then the member will be deemed to have resigned from the council.

- It was reported again that some wait times for Optimum CSR's in the call center are still excessive. There was criticism of the voicemail response to customer service calls.
- It was reported that some cloud DVR service lags and freezes.
- Optimum fiber to the home rollout: Currently being beta tested in Long Island & White Plains NY. The company is about halfway through a 5-year rollout plan.
- Jim brought to attention his email regarding availability of "Evergreen" shows and urged other access channels to air the programming.

Future meetings: See #7; Next meeting 9/25/2019 6PM at Altice

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm