

TO: A9CC MEMBERS
FROM: Hal Levy
RE: MINUTES OF MAY 27, 2020 MEETING VIA ZOOM

May 28, 2020

ATTENDANCE:

Darien: Jim Cameron, Dave Dever, Joan McGettigan
Easton: Doug Dempsey, Andy Anderson
Greenwich: Horst Tebbe, Craig Jones, Barbara Heins
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak
Norwalk: Mark Minnock
Redding: Bob Moran
Stamford: Bob Lion, Paula Ward
Weston: Harvey Bellin
Westport: Hal Levy, Stan Witkow, Natalie Carrigan
Wilton: Jeffrey Boehme, Fran Kompar, Gary Battaglia
Region 9: Mike D'Agostino
Altice: Esme Lombard
Ed Committee:
Guests:

Excused: Bob Doran (new member from New Canaan); Kyle Seaburg (Norwalk)

Chairman Hal Levy called the Zoom meeting to order at 5:02pm with ten towns represented.

1. **Minutes** of the April 1 meeting was approved as written. Minutes of the April 14 special meeting was approved as written.
2. **Financial Report** was approved as amended to show that duplicate grant paid to Easton G was in fact paid to Darien G.
3. **Old Business:**
 - U-Verse pass-thru funding for \$17,160.59 received on 4/24. Will be part of round 2 grants
 - 2019 I-Net logs: All Government sites were submitted. Education sites not submitted by Greenwich, Weston and Wilton.
4. **Election of Officers to two-year terms:** Bob Moran nominated Hal Levy as Chairman and Jim Cameron as Vice Chairman. The nominating committee could not find any members to agree to serve as Secretary and Treasurer. There were no further nominations from the floor and Hal and Jim were elected. Hal will continue to perform the duties of Secretary and Treasurer until those positions are filled.
5. **Review 2020 Round 1 grant program:** As formulated at the 4/1/2020 meeting, \$62,500 each to E&G; 10 grants of \$6,250 on the Government side; Breakdown of the Educational portion to be determined by the Ed Committee; A maximum of \$2,500 for each grant could be allocated to operations; The deadline for submitting grants from the towns & schools is 2 weeks before the September meeting (9/2/2020). However, grant applications may be voted on at any time prior by "Special Meeting", while the Council is operating under the "Virtual Meeting" model. So far \$23,728 in Government grants has been awarded, \$0 in Education grants.

As of today, the following grant reports for past grants are delinquent and must be submitted before those towns & schools can receive new grants:

Town/School	Amount	Date Paid	Date Due
Darien E	\$7,427.57	11/1/2019	12/31/2019
New Canaan E	\$7,500.38	11/4/2019	1/3/2020
New Canaan E	\$3,071.24	12/23/2019	2/21/2020
Region 9 E	\$7,493.64	11/1/2019	12/31/2019
Region 9 E	\$4,427.10	12/23/2019	2/21/2020
Westport E	\$6,250.00	10/17/2019	12/16/2019
CSH E	\$7,551.92	12/23/2019	2/21/2020
CSH E	\$1,500.00	11/15/2019	1/14/2020
New Canaan G	\$2,500.00	10/15/2019	4/12/2020
Stamford G	\$6,200.00	12/7/2018	2/7/2019

6. **Tentative A9CC meeting schedule for 2020-21:** Hal proposed that the Council continues to meet virtually, even after the Governor's order for virtual meetings of Government bodies expires. Some of the reasons to do this are more flexibility on meeting schedules; alleviate the difficulties associated with travel and meeting venues; ability for members to participate when they are out of town; the experience of increased attendance when doing virtual meetings. In general, there is nothing the Council cannot accomplish in a virtual meeting that can be done in a physical one. Hal could find no references in State Statutes and Regulations prohibiting virtual meetings of Cable Advisory Councils. Jim suggested that we check with PURA. There was general agreement from the comments of the members to adopt this policy and it was affirmed by vote of the Council. Hal will draft an amendment to the By-Laws to address the policy.

The following dates were presented for future meetings: 9/16/20, 10/28/20, 12/16/20, 2/3/21, 3/24/21, 5/26/21. A 5:00pm start time was set, but this may be changed to a time that best suits the most members, once working schedules are known.

7. **Other Matters**

- Esme reported that she will send out updated information on Altice's commitment to the *Keep America Connected* pledge related to the pandemic.
- Jim and Andy reported positive experiences resolving issues with Esme's help.
- There have been new inquiries from subscribers and town channels regarding the inability to record access programs on the cloud DVR. This was previously brought up by the Council, and was told in October 2018 that the restriction was due to legal reasons. Esme will make an inquiry in regards to the issue.
- Jim reported that Darien G is replacing all its DVD equipment with Castus Video Scheduling Server. Darien will be making the retired equipment available to other access channels that can use it.

Future meetings: 9/16/20, 10/28/20, 12/16/20, 2/3/21, 3/24/21, 5/26/21. All 5:00pm via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 5:49 pm