

A.9.C.C.

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

www.a9cc.org

TO: A9CC MEMBERS
FROM: Judith Freedman, Secretary
RE: MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 2015 MEETING IN WESTPORT

June 9, 2015

ATTENDANCE:

Darien: Dave Dever
Easton: Andy Anderson, Doug Dempsey
Greenwich: Stuart Reider, Christopher von Keyserling
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak
Norwalk: Herbert Grant, Art Scialabba, Erin Herring
Redding: Robert Moran
Stamford:
Weston: Don Saltzman, Harvey Bellin
Westport: Hal Levy, Judith Freedman
Wilton: Phillip Sharlach
Cablevision: Jennifer Young
Ed Access: Susan Morris (Greenwich)
Guests: Chad Anderson, Robert Webe, George Herring, April Howlett, Barbara Levy

Excused: Jim Cameron (Darien); Roman Cebulski (New Canaan); Jennifer Cirino, Stan Witkow (Westport); Gary Battaglia (Wilton)

Chairman Hal Levy called the 33rd A9CC Annual Meeting to order at 6:30pm. 9 towns were represented. Hal welcomed the guests in attendance and thanked Susan Morris, representing Educational Access Committee for attending.

1. **Minutes** of April 8 were approved as written.
2. **Financial report** from the Treasurer was distributed, discussed and approved.
3. **Updates on old business:**
 - Alliance for Community Media renewal – ACM wanted \$350 in dues up from \$100. Much more than was authorized at last meeting. With help from Pua Ford, we applied for a “Community” membership at no cost to continue to receive ACM newsletters.
 - I-Net reports have not been received from the following: E: Darien, Easton, Norwalk, Stamford, Redding, Wilton; G: Easton, Stamford, Wilton. I-Net logs must be submitted to Council prior to new grant applications. Hal pointed out that some grant recipients such as Convent of Sacred Heart and Norwalk Community College create programming but are not transmit sites and therefore do not submit I-Net logs. Susan reported that CSH, whose programming appears on the Greenwich E channel, are credited on Greenwich logs for programming it produces.
4. **To elect A9CC representative to the Statewide Video Advisory Council:**

As a result of the recent resignation of Jim Cameron as the A9CC representative to the Statewide Video Advisory Council, an election was held to fill the vacancy. Paul Curtis and Stuart Reider asked to be considered for the position. Stuart spoke on his behalf and Chris von Keyserling spoke on

behalf of Paul. In a secret ballot of all A9CC members present, Paul was elected by a vote of 7-6 with 2 not voting.

5. Status of infrastructure upgrade of town-specific access channels:

New digital encoders / decoders and accessory equipment will be installed for Greenwich and Darien Channel 79's on Friday. Greenwich channel 78 requested priority site status due to signal problems. Jennifer stated that the build-out would be 2 sites per month. CV's \$25,000 2015 equipment grant, which will be applied to purchasing more upgrade equipment, will actually be valued at about \$30K, due to CV's purchasing power.

6. 2015 access grant program:

Greenwich Educational grant request for \$4,008.96 (\$1,008.96 equipment + \$3,000 operations) presented by Susan Morris was approved.

Hal noted the large amount of access funds in the escrow account. The account, which has a balance of over \$269K has only \$36K in unencumbered funds when adding up the funds already set aside for the 2015 E&G access program and the \$71K set aside for the system upgrade. He asked that applicants submit their applications in a timely manner to avoid the rush at the deadline.

The current round 1 grants were supplemented with an additional \$18,000 each for E & G grants. On the G-side a motion was approved to supplement the current round 1 \$9,000 grants with an additional \$1,800. The additional amount can be used for equipment and/or operations. Therefore the round 1 grant applications can be up to \$10,800 with a maximum of \$4,800 going toward operations.

7. Tentative A9CC meeting schedule for 2015-16:

Day	Date	Where	Room
W	9/9/2015	Cablevision	
W	10/21/2015	Norwalk	
W	12/9/2015	Wilton Library	Rimer Rm
W	2/24/2016	New Canaan Town Hall	
W	4/6/2016	Easton	
*W	6/1/2016	TBD	

8. Screening of winning videos from the 2015 Educational Access Awareness Awards:

The Educational Access Awareness Awards honor original student video productions that have been broadcast throughout the school year on Cablevision's Educational Access Channel 78. The Area 9 Cable Council (A9CC) & Cablevision sponsor this contest yearly to encourage students to develop video production and storytelling skills by creating access television shows relevant to their school and community. Student videos are recognized in seven separate categories: Animation/Stop Motion, Creative Open Entries, Community/School Stories, Documentaries, Narrative Open Entries, News Shows (High School only), and Public Service Announcements. Several of the winning videos encompassing the three grade levels and different categories were screened.

9. Other business

- We will be mailing appointment letters to the Mayors & 1st Selectmen and Schools Superintendents this week. Members are asked to follow up with their appointment authorities to make their A9CC appointments.
- CV is regrouping its channel lineup to more easily find categories of programs.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm

Next meeting is September 9, 2015 at Cablevision Norwalk