

# A.9.C.C.

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

www.a9cc.org

**TO: A9CC MEMBERS** **September 15, 2016**  
**FROM: Hal Levy for Judith Freedman, Secretary**  
**RE: MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016 MEETING AT ALTICE NORWALK**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Darien: Dave Dever  
Easton: Andy Anderson  
Greenwich: Susan Morris  
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak, Roman Cebulski  
Norwalk:  
Redding: Robert Moran  
Stamford:  
Weston: Don Saltzman, Harvey Bellin  
Westport: Hal Levy, Judith Freedman, Jennifer Cirino  
Wilton: Phil Sharlach, Gary Battaglia  
Altice: Jennifer Young  
Ed Committee: Stoney Duren  
Guests: Larry Manzi (Norwalk), John Savarese (Wilton)

Excused: Jim Cameron (Darien); Doug Dempsey (Easton); Chris von Keyserling, Paul Curtis (Greenwich); Stan Witkow, (Westport), Mat Hepfer (Wilton)

Chairman Hal Levy called the meeting to order at 6:10pm with eight towns represented..

1. **Minutes** of June 1, 2016 meeting were approved as written.
2. **Financial Report** from the Treasurer was distributed, discussed and approved.
3. **Updates on old business:**
  - 2015 I-Net reports not received from the following: E: Easton, Norwalk, Redding, Stamford, Weston; G: Stamford
  - Member appointments: No appointments made for E-> Easton/Redding, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford; G-> Stamford. Larry Manzi will f/u with the Norwalk mayor regarding Norwalk representation.
  - Sale of CV to Altice was completed on Jun 21. There have been company layoffs and there will be consolidation of call centers resulting in the closure of the Stratford CC on November 1.
  - Grant procedures have been modified to require grant reports by the meeting following 60 days after payment. For 2016 round 1 grants, all G has complied. E is catching up.
  - Darien E & G fulfilled past due grant reports, Greenwich E has not.
4. **2016 Round 2 Access Grant applications:**

Town	Equip	Ops	Total	Status
Weston G	\$2,484.53	\$1,500	\$3,984.53	Approved
Westport G	\$4,000.00	0	\$4,000.00	Approved
Greenwich G	\$4,000.00	0	\$4,000.00	Approved
Redding G	\$2,500.00	\$1,500	\$4,000.00	Approved
New Canaan G	\$2,145.23	\$1,500	\$3,645.23	Approved

Darien G	\$558.14	0	\$558.14	Approved
Norwalk G	\$3,915.20	0	\$3,915.20	Approved
Easton G	\$2,498.94	\$1,500	\$3,998.94	Approved
Wilton G	\$1,500.00	\$1,500	\$3,000.00	Approved
NCC E	\$11,592.00	0	\$11,592.00	Approved
New Canaan E	\$11,786.00	0	\$11,786.00	Approved with condition

1) New Canaan E must submit a grant report for \$2,500 in operations funding taken in 2014.

In addition to the above new grants, Darien G received approval on a modification of a \$6,000 grant it received in 2015.

With these grant approvals, round 2 G grants are now complete while there is \$16,662 remaining in round 2 E grants with a deadline for applications on 10/24/16.

Jennifer was asked if there will be 2017 funding from Altice & Frontier PEG funds. She indicated that there are no guarantees for this however it is convenient for the company as the CAP to distribute funds through the Council in order to fulfill its spending obligations under the law. In fact, CV under-spent PEG funds for 2 years and will probably have to make up for this deficiency going forward.

#### 5. To review **Marchese v. Cablevision class action settlement**

There is a Settlement in a class action lawsuit against Cablevision claiming that certain business practices resulted in subscribers paying higher prices for Cablevision's cable TV set-top boxes. Subject to certain exceptions, the Settlement Class includes all persons in New Jersey, Connecticut and New York who subscribed to Cablevision's video services and paid a monthly fee to Cablevision to lease a Set-Top Box at any time from April 30, 2004 to March 9, 2016.

The Settlement offers credits for services (ranging between \$50-\$140 in value) or a one-time bill credit (ranging between \$20-\$40) to Cablevision's Current Subscribers. Former Subscribers can get a one-time cash payment (ranging between \$20-\$40) and other benefits.

The deadline for subscribers to submit a claim form is 9/23/2016 and can be done online at <https://cableboxsettlement.com/Home/Filing>. The link has been posted on the A9CC web site. Dave Dever said that in contacting subscribers in Darien, very few said they were aware of this issue. Jennifer stated that all Cablevision subscribers were notified.

#### 6. To review **Altice service call fee hikes**

Altice has filed with PURA service rate hikes planned for 9/27/2016. The affect (1) Installation Rates, (2) Service Call and Additional Outlet Rates, (3) Restore Service Fees and a new (4) optional Service Project Plan Fee.

#### 7. **Other Matters**

Don Saltzman inquires about doing Public Service Announcements. Jennifer responded that unlike in the past where CV would do community reach out for PSA's, they will now be handled on a "one-up" basis.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40

Future meetings: 10/26/2016 at Redding Town Hall; 12/14/2016 in Greenwich; 2/15/2017 at Darien Library; 4/5/2017 in New Canaan; 5/31/2017 TBD