

# A.9.C.C.

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

www.a9cc.org

**TO: A9CC MEMBERS** **September 13, 2018**  
**FROM: Hal Levy**  
**RE: MINUTES OF September 12, 2018 MEETING AT ALTICE NORWALK**

**ATTENDANCE:**

- Darien: Dave Dever, Jim Cameron,
- Easton: Doug Dempsey
- Greenwich:
- New Canaan: Paul Sedlak, Roman Cebulski
- Norwalk: Irene Dixon
- Redding: Bob Moran
- Stamford: Andy George
- Weston: Harvey Bellin, Don Saltzman
- Westport: Hal Levy, Stan Witkow, Judith Freedman
- Wilton: Jeffrey Boehme, Gary Battaglia
- Region 9: Mike D'Agostino
- Altice:
- Ed Committee:
- Guests:

Excused: Kyle Seaburg (Norwalk); Bob Lion (Stamford); Natalie Carrignan (Westport)

Chairman Hal Levy called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm with nine towns represented.

1. **Minutes** of May 30 meeting were approved.
2. **Financial Report** was distributed, discussed and approved. It was noted on the escrow account that there is a pending \$6,200 disbursement to Stamford awaiting a payment voucher. Bob L. emailed that this should be resolved after this coming Thursday.
3. **Updates on old business:**
  - **2017 I-Net reports & Member appointments:** Status has not changed since last meeting. Any past member who has not been reappointed at this point has been removed from the roles.
  - **E&G Station Information:** Jim reported that he received only 2 responses on the forms that were sent out to capture information on the access channels to be posted on the A9CC website. He will continue to ask for this until all have been received. A spreadsheet form can be downloaded at: [http://a9cc.org/E&G\\_Station\\_Information.xlsx](http://a9cc.org/E&G_Station_Information.xlsx)
4. **2018 Round 2 Access Grant Applications:** The following applications were considered:

Town/School	Amount	Ops	Notes/Status
Weston G	\$2,870.00	0	Approved
Darien E	\$6,990.78	0	Tabled – No one to present application

Altice has committed the additional \$25K in lieu of a direct equipment grant. The deadline for submitting Round 2 G applications of up to \$2,870 with up to \$1,620 for operations is 10/22. The deadline for submitting Round 2 E applications from the total pool of \$39,500 with up to \$1,620 for operations is 12/10.

5. **Rate Hike:** Altice announced rate increases taking effect in October billing. Sports Surcharge: \$7.97>\$8.97; Broadcast TV Surcharge: \$4.99>\$5.99; Broadcast Basic Tier: New customers \$19.99>\$24.99. These increases are on top of the rate increases that went into effect in June. There was discussion about possible subscriber blowback in light of frequent rate increases.

6. **Other Matters**

- Optimum emailed some subscribers a notice of change in Terms of Service (TOS), bringing up the question on what the changes were. The company responded that the overall effort was to merge the Optimum and Suddenlink TOS's. There were additional substantive changes that for the most part do not impact video subscribers. The company has not listed what the individual changes are but if someone has a question about the meaning of a particular section, let Laura know.
- Altice launched the SEC Network on SD channel 246 and HD channel 783 at no extra charge to subscribers who have tiers containing sports programming.
- Paul S. asked why access channels 78 & 79 cannot be DVR'd. We will ask Laura.
- Judi reported on some customer service issues on Optimum. Specifically some instances of CSR call wait times which have exceeded an hour and recurring \$80 service charges for problems that took multiple service calls to resolve a single issue. It was noted that Optimum offers a service contract, now at \$6.99/mo to avoid the service charge.
- Stamford G has a bulletin board up on channel 79 and is looking to put up programming as it builds its headend.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53

Future meetings: 10/24/2018, 12/12/2018, 2/6/2019, 4/3/2019 - all 6PM at Altice & 5/29/2019 at location TBD