

A.9.C.C.

Area 9 Cable Council, c/o Wilton Town Hall, 238 Danbury Rd., Wilton, CT 06897 www.a9cc.org

The meeting of the A9CC was held on Wednesday, October 19, 6pm in room 201/201A at Westport Town Hall, 110 Myrtle Ave, Westport

TO: A9CC MEMBERS October 23, 2011
FROM: Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Secretary and Geza Ziegler, Acting Secretary
RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (October 19, 2011)

ATTENDANCE:

Darien:	David Dever
Easton:	Andy Anderson
Greenwich:	Chris Von Keyserling
New Canaan:	Paul Sedlak
Norwalk:	Erin Halsey, Art Scialabba
Redding:	Bob Moran
Stamford:	Geza Ziegler
Weston:	
Westport:	Hal Levy, Stan Witkow
Wilton:	Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Gary Battaglia
Cablevision:	Michael Chowanec

Excused: Harvey Bellin, Don Saltzman (Weston), Judith Freedman (Westport), Jim Cameron (Darien), Stuart Reider (Greenwich), Herb Grant (Norwalk).

H. Levy called the meeting to order at 6:13 pm. Thanked Judith Freedman for arranging the meeting. Introduced new members (Erin Halsey from Norwalk and Gary Battaglia from Wilton.) CV distributed disks of Jim Himes PSA on Tropical Storm Irene.

1. The minutes of September 14, 2011 were approved as submitted.

2. The financial report from the Treasurer was distributed, read and approved.

3. Updates on old business:

Appointment letters were sent out in June. As of October 18, 2011, most appointments have been received. Only Stamford did not respond.

4. To Consider Access Grants.

Government Access grant requests have been received from New Canaan, Norwalk, Easton, Darien, Wilton & Redding.

- Darien: Moved and approved. Due to unexpected savings in expenditures under its last two grants, Darien will file documentation of grant request revisions with the Council.
- Wilton: Grant request approved for equipment to allow remote recording of town government meetings off-site at Wilton Library.
- New Canaan: Grant approved. Ch 79 computer replacement costs.

- Norwalk: Grant approved. Various equipment needs for Ch 79 broadcasts.
- Easton: Grant approved. Past due expenditure reports submitted.
- Redding: Grant approved. Will submit revised paperwork to reflect maximum \$2,000 grant.

5. Round Two 2011 Government Access Grants Including Operations Grants.

HL reviewed past history of **grants of equipment through Cablevision** beyond the regular G-channel cash grants. Paul Curtis (Greenwich) has previously coordinated the Council's request which is a joint request to Cablevision from any A9 towns that require an identical piece of equipment. The Council expressed its appreciation to Paul for his work and to Cablevision for considering a similar request this year. Michael Chowanec will advise A9CC if the budget for a direct equipment grant is still available for 2011.

With unspent 2011 Government Access funds, the A9CC voted to establish and approve a second round **2011 grant program** for a maximum of \$1500 per town for production operations and/or for equipment. Grant applications for operations may be for production personnel for G-channels, using the same criteria as the 2010 Operations Grant pilot project. "To approve an operations grant program for each town up to \$1500. The purpose of this grant program is to support local production services (camera operators/videographers/ video editors) in order to expand G-Channel programming in each community." Motion: PS & DD. (Unanimous.)

Towns must apply by 11/28/2011—using the usual A9CC grant application process-- and expend the funds by 9/30/2012. Towns must report "operations grant" expenditures to the A9CC, using 1099s, town time sheets, paid invoices, or sworn affidavits from town officials. Unspent monies must be returned to the A9CC. Reports for past grants must be submitted by towns applying for new grants.

6. Programming E&G on the Internet – PS (New Canaan) briefly reviewed the use of the Tightrope system for getting Ch 79 content on a town or a separate town-specific Ch 79 website.

7. To review Docket 11-07-09 (PURA Declaratory Ruling of the Sound View Community Media, Inc.): A9CC did not submit comments on this docket. MC (Cablevision) estimates that final ruling may not be completed until at least January 2012.

8. To review Docket 11-08-06 (PURA Investigation into Community Access Programming and Operations): Due to time constraints, A9CC did not comment on this docket, although the council has supported reviews of community access providers in the past and has supported the continuation of the PEGPETIA grant program. Members can link to comments on this docket by going to:

<http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/%28Web+Main+View/All+Dockets%29?OpenView&StartKey=11-08-06>

9. Other Matters: Channel 61(25) removal from A9 channel line-up. In JF's absence, the council will table further discussion on this topic until a later date.

Next Meeting: 11/30/2011—New Canaan Town Hall, 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Secretary and Geza Ziegler, Acting Secretary