

# A.9.C.C.

Area 9 Cable Council, 6 Lazy Brook Ln, Westport, CT 06880

www.a9cc.org

**TO: A9CC MEMBERS** **October 25, 2018**  
**FROM: Hal Levy**  
**RE: MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2018 MEETING AT ALTICE NORWALK**

## **ATTENDANCE:**

Darien: Dave Dever,  
Easton: Doug Dempsey, Andy Anderson  
Greenwich: Horst Tebbe  
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak, Roman Cebulski  
Norwalk:  
Redding: Bob Moran  
Stamford: Bob Lion  
Weston: Harvey Bellin, Don Saltzman  
Westport: Hal Levy, Stan Witkow  
Wilton:  
Region 9: Mike D'Agostino  
Altice: Laura Jordan  
Ed Committee:  
Guests: Larry Manzi (Norwalk); Susie Da Silva, Adam Schoenbart (Darien)

Excused: Jim Cameron (Darien); Stu Reider, Barbara Heins (Greenwich); Irene Dixon (Norwalk); Andy George (Stamford); Judi Freedman, Natalie Carrigan (Westport); Gary Battaglia, Fran Kompar (Wilton);

Chairman Hal Levy called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm with eight towns represented.

Horst Tebbe was introduced as a new member from Greenwich replacing Paul Curtis who was thanked for his many years of service on A9CC.

1. **Minutes** of September 12 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 and \$1,500 in EAAA grants for the 3 Repicky award winners.
3. **Updates on old business:**
  - **E&G Station Information:** We are still waiting for information on the access channels to be posted on the A9CC website from Darien E, Easton G, Greenwich G, Greenwich E, New Canaan E, Norwalk G, Norwalk E, Weston G (update), Weston E, Region 9 E. We 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) Please email form to Jim C. and copy Hal.
  - **DVR recording access channels 78 & 79:** Laura confirmed that access channels cannot be DVR'd. The company created the restriction when DVR service changed to cloud-based. It was a legal decision made to mitigate company liability related to recording citizens who participate in town meetings and students appearing on the educational channels. The council recognizes the value for subscribers who wish to time shift viewing access programs and we will pursue possible resolution of the issue.

**4. 2018 Round 2 Access Grant Applications:** The following applications were considered:

Town/School	Amount	Ops	Notes/Status
Darien E	\$6,990.78	0	Approved with dissent (6-4)
New Canaan G	\$1,890.00	\$1,620.00	Approved
Easton G	\$2,870.00	0	Approved
Redding G	\$1,250.00	0	Approved
Norwalk G	\$2,870.00	0	Approved
Westport G	\$2,870.00	0	Approved
Westport E	\$2,641.04	0	Approved
Region 9 E	\$6,135.74	0	Approved
Wilton E	\$4,574.28	0	Approved
New Canaan R1	\$6,881.52	0	Approved pending reports from 2017
New Canaan R2	\$6,135.74	\$2,500.00	Approved pending reports from 2017
CSH E	\$6,124.96		Tabled until December meeting

As A9CC has not yet received the \$25,000 supplemental funding promised by Altice, payments for these approved grants will be deferred until the check is received.

2018 Educational grants have now reached the limit of available funds. There are still unencumbered funds available for Government grants. Round 2 Grant applications will be accepted with a deadline of 12/5 from towns who have not applied for Round 2 equipment or operations grants as follows:

Town	Grant Avail.	Notes
Darien	\$1,250.00	Equipment only. Owes refund to Access Escrow
Greenwich	\$2,870.00	
Stamford	\$2,870.00	Owes pay voucher
Wilton	\$2,870.00	Owes refund to Access Escrow or updated application & report

Hal pointed out problems and non-compliance in the grant application procedures:

Despite numerous appeals to get applications in early, 10 of the 12 came in at the deadline and a couple after the deadline. For future grants, the deadlines will be moved up to 1-2 weeks before the meeting and the deadlines will be strictly enforced.

Grant procedures require the use of latest grant forms, 8 of 12 used outdated forms.

Grant procedures require that grant reports are due no later than the 1st A9CC meeting following 60 days after grants are paid. 6 applications were submitted owing past due reports and a couple of reports came concurrent and 2 are still owed for these grants. All well past due date.

Grant applicants are urged to read grant procedures found at a9cc.org and also attached to the grant applications. We will be strictly enforcing these going forward.

**4. Other Matters**

- Region 9 needs the I-Net feed repaired at its headend. Mike has been in discussions with Altice but so far there has been no action.
- Harvey asked if any channel was doing news shows. Roman said that New Canaan E does and will share info with Harvey.
- Laura announced that fiber to the home internet has been announced by Optimum in L.I. NY for \$80/mo. Fiber to the home is currently under construction in several towns in CT.
- Some members reported extraordinarily long wait times reaching an Optimum CSR. Laura will look into it.
- It was reported that there is pixilation and lag in Hartford-based TV network channels (Ch 3 & 8).
- As reported previously, Altice USA has been split off from the European corporation.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02

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