

# A.9.C.C.

**TO: A9CC MEMBERS**  
**FROM: Hal Levy**  
**RE: MINUTES OF OCTOBER 28, 2020 MEETING VIA ZOOM**

**October 29, 2020**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Darien: Jim Cameron, Dave Dever, Joan McGettigan  
Easton: Doug Dempsey, Andy Anderson  
Greenwich:  
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak, Bob Doran, Roman Cebulski  
Norwalk: Mark Minnock, Irene Dixon  
Redding: Bob Moran  
Stamford: Bob Lion, Paula Ward  
Weston: Harvey Bellin, Don Saltzman  
Westport: Hal Levy, Natalie Carrignan  
Wilton: Gary Battaglia, Jeffrey Boehm, Fran Kompar  
Region 9: Mike D'Agostino  
Altice: Esme Lombard  
Ed Committee: Dave Pisani (CSH)  
Guests: Eileen Zhang (Westport)

Excused: Barbara Heins (Greenwich)

Chairman Hal Levy called the Zoom meeting to order at 5:03pm with nine towns represented.

1. **Minutes** of the September 16 meeting was approved as amended.
2. **Financial Report** was approved.
3. **Old Business:**
  - DVR PEG channels: Esme will send out an email to the Council members outlining the technical roadblocks as reported in the September 16 minutes.
  - Hi-Def PEG channels: Andy Anderson, Roman Cebulski, Bob Moran, Bob Doran and Doug Dempsey have agreed to serve on the Committee to investigate bringing Hi-Def solutions for PEG to Altice. The committee will begin collaboration and report back to A9CC.
  - TiVo vs Switched Video: Jim reported that Altice told him that tuning adapters for TiVo boxes are not yet available. Currently, the only solution for Optimum subscribers is to rent set top boxes from Optimum. The company position is that they do not need to support 3<sup>rd</sup> party converters such as TiVo.

4. **2020 Round 1 grant applications:**

Town/School	Amount	Ops	Notes/Status
Region 9 E	\$8,928.57	0	Approved
Wilton E	\$8,900.00	\$2,500.00	Approved
Westport E	\$8,928.00	0	Approved
New Canaan E	\$8,928.25	0	Approved
Darien E	\$8,896.31	0	Approved – will track programming on Ch78
CSH E	\$8,927.71	0	Approved – CSH will share programming

Delinquent Grant Reports

Town/School	Amount	Date Paid	Date Due	Notes/Status
Greenwich G	\$2,000.00	12/31/2019	6/28/2020	Will request refund
Norwalk G	\$1,795.53	12/23/2019	6/20/2020	Extended to next meeting
Norwalk G	\$2,000.00	12/23/2019	6/20/2020	Extended to next meeting

5. **2020 Round 2 access grant funding:** After processing the grant applications (item 4), there will be approximately \$65K in funds remaining in the access grants escrow account. Funding available for Round 2 E&G grant pools are as follows:

	<b>Education</b>	<b>Government</b>
Round 1 Allocation	\$62,500.00	\$62,500.00
Round 1 Granted	\$53,508.34	\$39,688.54
Funds returned	\$0.00	\$6,250.00
New Funds (U-Verse)	\$8,580.30	\$8,580.30
Available for Round 2	\$17,571.96	\$37,641.76
<b>Normalized Available</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>

The following was adopted: On the education side: A total of \$20,000 is available for Round 2 grants, with a hard application deadline of 12/8, whereby the Education Committee will determine how to allocate the funds. Educational grant applications may include up to \$1,500 in operations funding, (i.e. labor costs for operating cameras & editing equipment).

On the government side: Each eligible town may apply for up to \$4,000 with up to \$1,500 in operations funding, (i.e. labor costs for operating cameras & editing equipment), with a hard application deadline of 12/8. Any leftover funds for either pool, by the 12/16 meeting may be made available for round 3 pre-approved operations grants before the end of 2020 on a first come, first served basis.

<http://www.a9cc.org/Report Checklist.xls> to check eligibility

6. **Other Matters**

- Harvey reported that many of his Optimum TV channels have no signal and display an Err 21 message that there are problems with the service with the claim that they are working to restore it quickly. He made several calls to Customer Service with conflicting explanations and no resolution. Hal has the identical problem, which could not be resolved from the central office and a home service call was scheduled. It should be noted that the day after the meeting, Hal received a call from Optimum that the problem was due to “an outage in the area” and the issue has been fixed, (which it has). Harvey suggested that members do an outreach in their towns to see if other subscribers are experiencing this problem.

Future meetings: 12/16/20, 2/3/21, 3/24/21, 5/26/21. All 5:00pm via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm