

A.9.C.C.

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

TO: A9CC MEMBERS **December 1, 2011**
FROM: Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Secretary and Hal Levy, Acting Secretary
RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (November 30, 2011)
LOCATION: Board Room at New Canaan Town Hall, 77 Main St, New Canaan

ATTENDANCE:

Darien:	David Dever
Easton:	Doug Dempsey
Greenwich:	
New Canaan:	Paul Sedlak, Roger Williams
Norwalk:	Herb Grant, Erin Halsey
Redding:	Bob Moran
Stamford:	
Weston:	Don Saltzman, Harvey Bellin
Westport:	Hal Levy, Judi Freedman, Stan Witkow
Wilton:	Gary Battaglia
Cablevision:	Jennifer Young
Public:	Rob Mallozzi, George Cody

Excused: Jim Cameron (Darien), Stu Reider (Greenwich), Art Scialabba (Norwalk), Geza Ziegler (Stamford), Carole Kleinfeld (Wilton)

HL called the meeting to order at 6:05pm, 8 towns represented. Thanked Paul Sedlak and Roger Williams for hosting the meeting. Paul introduced New Canaan's new First Selectman, Rob Mallozzi to the group.

1. The Minutes of October 19, 2011 were approved as submitted.

2. The Financial Report from the Treasurer was distributed, read and approved. HG reported a balance of \$27,893.74 in the Escrow Account and a balance of \$10,646.97 in the Operations Account. All expenses and grants approved so far have been paid.

3. Updates on old business:

- A. All **government member appointments** are up to date with the exception of Stamford.
- B. **Channel 25 removal from lineup:** tabled last meeting. JF contacted WTIC who said that the action was retaliation for WNYW removal in Hartford. JY stated that the stations took these actions and not CV. JY reported that CV was not aware of any past waivers of non-duplicative protection. HL reposed question to CV – "If WNYW pulls programming, can CV carry WTIC? "
- C. **Docket 11-07-09: PURA Declaratory Ruling of the Sound View Community Media, Inc.:** no change, no decision date however PURA must make decision within 180 days of application which would be in January.
- D. **Docket 11-08-06 PURA Investigation into Community Access Programming and Operations:** no change, no decision date. There is no deadline for a PUR initiated docket.

4. To finalize 2011 Government Access grant program

- A. \$1500 Operations grants processed for all towns except Greenwich & Stamford.
- B. The Council approved an application from Weston to replace \$4,839 grant from April with a grant of \$4,368.98. \$470.02 is to be refunded by Weston to the access account.
- C. Direct Equipment grants from CV were awarded on 11/9 as follows.

Town	Tricaster Bundle LiveControl 11, TimeWarp & LiveText	Sony HXR-NX70U NXCAM Compact Camcorder	Shure SCM-810 8 channel 1U rack mount mixer	Total
Darien				\$0
Easton	1	1		\$5,600
Greenwich		1	1	\$3,900
New Canaan		1	1	\$3,900
Norwalk	1			\$3,000
Redding		1		\$2,600
Stamford				\$0
Weston		1		\$2,600
Westport			1	\$1,300
Wilton		1		\$2,600
Total	2	6	3	\$25,500

Darien opted out of the program and Stamford didn't respond. All Towns making requests were recipients of this grant. We maximized this grant to a value of right around \$25,000. The Council approved a resolution that equipment taken by towns will be charged against future grants at a 30% discount, so that any inequities in value amongst towns will be resolved. If a Town wasn't awarded an item it requested, it can use future cash grants to acquire it. JY stated that the equipment should be available for pickup at CV Norwalk in two weeks.

HL stated that approximately \$2,450.00 of the Educational Access funding and \$1,800 of the Government access funding was left over and will be rolled into the 2012 funding program.

Weston returned an unused Videonics TM-3000 valued at \$700 from a previous grant. It was offered at the established 30% discount against grants. DD will try it out to see if Darien is interested in it.

5. Group Discussion – RW (New Canaan) led a discussion on obtaining Errors and Omissions insurance policies for liability claims against access operations. He pointed out that New Canaan's G-Channel is operated by NCTV79, a 501(c)(3) and is not covered by the Town's liability policy and therefore it needed to get separate coverage.

6. Other Matters:

PURA opened Docket 11-09-09 regarding refunds for loss of service. CV will accept claims for October snowstorm up to 12/14. JY will email HL details and it will be posted on A9CC web site.

CV's DVR+ service was discussed. JY will report subscription costs and issues related to using HD DVR's with DVR+.

JY reported that, Cablevision will remove select dual illuminated services from the channel line-up on 12/7/2011. Full digitization has removed the need for dual illuminated services.

DS noted that CV has started deploying Samsung set-top boxes

DD announced that the "CALM" Act " limiting the volume of audio on commercials will be going into affect in December.

HL announced that he will be submitting the Annual Access Report to CV by 12/15 and the Advisory Council Annual Report to PURA by 1/31/2012

Upcoming Meeting Schedule: 2/15/2012 (Wilton), 4/4/2012 (Greenwich), 6/6/2012 Annual Meeting Location TBA.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30. Tour of New Canaan G-Channel operation conducted by Mark Sedlak

Respectfully submitted,
Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Secretary and Hal Levy, Acting Secretary