

A.N.C.C.

Area Nine Cable Council c/o Wilton Town Hall , 238 Danbury Rd, Wilton, CT 06897 www.westportct.net/ancc

TO: ANCC MEMBERS
FROM: Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Secretary
RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (December 1, 2010)

December 4, 2010

ATTENDANCE:

Darien: David Dever, Jim Cameron
Easton: Andy Anderson
Greenwich: Paul Curtis, Stu Reider
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak
Norwalk: Herbert Grant
Redding: Bob Moran
Stamford: Geza Ziegler
Weston: Don Saltzman, Harvey Bellin
Westport: Hal Levy,
Wilton: Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Lisa Bogan
Cablevision: Jennifer Young

Excused: Judith Freedman (Westport). Guest: Mike McWheater, Darien TV 79

Hal Levy called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm, welcomed members, and thanked our Darien members for hosting the meeting.

1. The minutes of October 20, 2010 were approved as submitted.

2. The financial report provided by the Treasurer was distributed and approved. HG reported a balance of \$42,425.63 in the Escrow Account. The balance in the Operations Account is \$10,053.92. HG reported a \$6,000 liability to the E-Committee in unused funds. HL reminded the group that all schools in the Area Nine towns can qualify for E-Channel grants. Ellyn Stewart of Greenwich coordinates the E-Committee.

3. Old business - HL reported that, at the request of the ANCC, Westport had researched and acquired lower costs for equipment requested in its most recent grant request and has adjusted its previous request to reflect the lower costs.

JY reported that the Fox/Cablevision carriage dispute was resolved and that some viewers had received adjustments in their bills for the outage. Cablevision is working with the FCC to suggest ways to avoid this in the future, although the solution may lie in a revision to the Telecom Act of 1996, specifically the “re-transmission consent” provisions. PC reported that the Alliance for Community Media is following this issue, too.

4. Discussion: *How to Promote Your Station in the Local Media*

JC led a discussion about developing cooperation with local media—traditional newspapers and new online publications—share bulletin boards, share “clips” of public meetings, upload reports on CH 79 activities, interview the editors, share production personnel. Darien currently e-mails its Channel 79 schedule to 600 people and includes a “crawl” at the bottom of their broadcast containing the schedule of upcoming shows.

5. Cablevision Rate Increase

HL distributed an analysis of the CV rate increase and the increase cost of add-on accessories and higher bills to subscribers when year-long promotions terminate. JY reported that CV had filed two letters with rate changes to the DPUC—one rate increased, the second decreased—each by \$.01.

6. Grant Program

Five grant applications were approved for Access equipment and related accessories. See website for grant applications.

- Easton--\$2000
- New Canaan-- \$2000
- Westport--\$2000
- Redding--\$2000
- Wilton--\$2000

2010 Operations Grants

Seven towns applied for grants of \$1000 each to pay to hire videographers to expand programming on G-channels. These were pre-approved and are to be used within the next 6 months. Expenditure reports will be required along with time sheets or other records documenting actual hours worked.

7. Statewide Video Advisory Council

DS chairs the Statewide Video Advisory Council which is advisory to AT&T, Verizon, and CV as holders of CCVA certification. He reports that Westport is the first town in Area Nine to negotiate an interconnection agreement with AT&T. Newspaper articles report that AT&T will install equipment necessary to re-transmit Westport's E/G channels to AT&T U-Verse customers. Whether the future costs of repair and maintenance will be paid by AT&T is uncertain. PEG subscriber fees from AT&T customers in Area Nine currently are held in escrow.

8. Other matters

- Reports due--HL reported that the ANCC must file an annual PEG report to Cablevision and its Annual Report to the DPUC. Towns & schools with I-Net transmission sites must submit I-Net logs to Cablevision by the end of January.
- Bob Moran taped the regional meeting of the Deer Alliance and has the DVD available for Channel 79 broadcast. Contact Bob if interested.

9. 2011 Meeting Schedule: 2/16-Norwalk City Hall, 4/6-Redding, 6/1-TBA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carole Young-Kleinfeld, Secretary, ANCC

December 4, 2010