

# A.9.C.C.

Area 9 Cable Council, 17 Crawford Road, Westport, CT 06880

www.a9cc.org

**TO: A9CC MEMBERS** **December 10, 2015**  
**FROM: Hal Levy for Judith Freedman, Secretary**  
**RE: MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9, 2015 MEETING IN WILTON**

## ATTENDANCE:

Darien: Jim Cameron  
Easton: Andy Anderson  
Greenwich: Paul Curtis,  
New Canaan: Paul Sedlak  
Norwalk:  
Redding: Robert Moran  
Stamford:  
Weston: Don Saltzman, Harvey Bellin  
Westport: Hal Levy, Judi Freedman, Stan Witkow  
Wilton: Phil Sharlach, Gary Battaglia, Mathew Hepfer  
Cablevision:  
Guests: John Savarese, Lynn Vanderslice Wilton; David Pisani CSH

Excused: Dave Dever (Darien); Doug Dempsey (Easton); Stu Reider, Chris von Keyserling, Susan Morris (Greenwich); Erin Herring, Art Scialabba (Norwalk); Jennifer Cirino (Westport); Jennifer Young (CV)

Chairman Hal Levy called the meeting to order at 6:03pm with eight towns represented. He introduced guests John Savarese who will be presenting Wilton's Govt. grant application and new Education Committee member David Pisani who will be presenting Convent of the Sacred Heart's Educ. grant application

1. **Minutes** of October 21, 2015 meeting were approved with one correction.
2. **Financial report** from the Treasurer was distributed, discussed and approved.
3. **Updates on old business:**
  - I-Net reports not received from the following: E: Darien, Easton, Norwalk, Stamford, Redding, Wilton; G: Stamford. I-Net logs must be submitted to Council prior to new grant applications.
  - The Council has not received appointment letters from Government CEO's (Easton, Norwalk and Stamford) and Schools Superintendents (Darien, Easton/Redding, New Canaan, Norwalk and Stamford). Members were reminded to contact the proper authority to assure those appointments are made
  - Jim Cameron was contacted by the Dean at NCC who located the drone awarded in a grant to NCC for Area 9 access use. He will be discussing its shared use in further communications.
  - CV filed notice to PURA on the acquisition of the company by Altice and received an acknowledgement. The transaction is subject to receipt of antitrust clearance, and FCC and other government approvals, and is currently expected to close in the first half of 2016.

**4. Election of the Treasurer to fill out term ending 6/30/16:**

Phil Sharlach was elected by the Council. Hal and Phil will go to Wells Fargo Bank in Westport to do the paperwork.

**5. Promote legislation to preserve town-specific access funding after change in ownership of Cablevision:**

Don Saltzman and Paul Curtis will collaborate to craft language and present to legislators.

**6. Status of infrastructure upgrade of town-specific access channels:**

New digital encoders / decoders and accessory equipment has been installed for Greenwich, Darien, Weston, Westport, Norwalk, New Canaan and Wilton Channel 79's and Greenwich and Darien channel 78's. The final government locations (Easton & Redding) will be done next and then move on to the remaining educational sites. Paul Curtis reported an improvement in Greenwich as chroma shift and signal fade is gone but noted that they did not receive the monitor. Mat Hepfer asked when educational site would be built and noted that the priority list was given to CV.

**7. 2015 access grant program Round 2 grant applications:**

| Town/School  | Amount      | Status  |
|--------------|-------------|---|
| Wilton-E     | \$10,605.00 | Approved with condition that savings with new vendor will be refunded |
| CSH-E        | \$12,129.62 | Approved. CSH will send programming to Greenwich CH 79                |
| Westport-G   | \$5,600.00  | Approved for additional funding of equipment approved on 10/21        |
| Norwalk-G    | \$5,600.00  | Approved  |
| Easton-G     | \$5,600.00  | Approved with condition that equip be signed out if moved from studio |
| Darien-G     | \$756.00    | Approved  |
| Weston-G     | \$5,600.00  | Approved  |
| Greenwich-G  | \$4,440.83  | Approved  |
| Wilton-G     | \$5,597.00  | Approved  |
| New Canaan-G | \$5,600.00  | Approved  |
| Redding-G    | \$5,600.00  | Approved  |

**8. 2015 government access grant program supplemental grant applications:**

The following applications were submitted out of unencumbered 2015 government funds:

| Town     | Amount     | Status   |
|----------|------------|--|
| Easton-G | \$2,558.51 | Approved   |
| Wilton-G | \$3,149.00 | Approved   |
| Weston-G | \$3,500.00 | Approved for additional funding of equipment previously approved |

**9. Cablevision 2016 Rate Changes:**

Optimum DVR Service will increase \$1.00. Customers who subscribe to both Optimum Online and Optimum TV will see a \$5.00 reduction in the multi-product discount. Set Top Box fees increase \$1.00. In addition to the above increases, commercial customers with a Cablevision-provided modem will pay \$9.99 rental fee and customers subscribing to Static IP service will see an increase of \$5.00.

**10. Other Matters**

Jim Cameron recommended visiting the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of Connecticut in Windsor. He also gave out DVDs of 2 programs to broadcast on town channels. Hal Levy announced that he would be filing Access Report and Annual Report in January.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

Next meeting is 2/24/2016 in New Canaan. Future meetings are: 4/6/2016 in Easton and 6/1/2016 TBD