

# A.9.C.C.

Area 9 Cable Council

www.a9cc.org

**TO: A9CC MEMBERS**  
**FROM: Hal Levy**  
**RE: MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2022 MEETING VIA ZOOM**

**December 15, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Darien: Jim Cameron, David Dever, Joan McGettigan  
Easton: Doug Dempsey  
Greenwich: Craig Jones, Horst Tebbe, ~~Don Conway, Michael Reid~~  
New Canaan: ~~Paul Sedlak~~, Bob Doran, Roman Cebulski  
Norwalk: ~~Irene Dixon~~, Mark Minnock, ~~Andy Garfunke~~, ~~Trevor Kline~~  
Redding: ~~Bob Moran~~  
Stamford: Eric Morson, ~~Alec Logman~~  
Weston: ~~Don Saltzman~~  
Westport: Hal Levy, ~~Stan Witkow~~, Natalie Carrignan  
Wilton: ~~Gary Battaglia~~, Jeffrey Boehme, ~~Fran Kompar~~  
Region 9: Mike D'Agostino  
Altice: Esme Lombard  
Ed Committee: Julie Casper Roth (NCC)  
Guests: Eileen Zhang (Westport)  
  
Excused: Irene Dixon (Norwalk); Doug Dempsey (Easton); Paul Sedlak (New Canaan); Fran Kompar (Wilton)

Hal called the Zoom meeting to order at 5:02pm with eight towns represented.

Hal announced that Greenwich Representative Barbara Heins has retired and resigned from A9CC. She was thanked for his service to the Council.

1. **Minutes** of the October 26 meeting was approved as written.
2. **Financial Report** was approved.
3. **Old Business:**
  - **Getting CSH programming on the access channels** - Esme will follow up on ways of uploading the programming to the Altice headend for delivery to the channel(s) and program sharing will be emphasized in Ed Committee and A9CC Council meetings.
  - **Return of Weston Equipment** – Three towns have laid claim to equipment returned by the Weston G Channel. So far the equipment has yet to be transferred from Easton. We will follow up with Doug regarding distribution of the claimed items and final disposition of the unclaimed items.
4. **2022 Round 2 grant program:** \$13,500 to E, \$30,600 to G; 9 grants of \$3,400 on the Government side; Breakdown of the Educational portion to be determined by the Ed Committee; A maximum of \$2,000 for each grant could be allocated to operations; The deadline for submitting grants from the towns & schools was 12/7/2022.

The following grant applications were considered:

Town/School	Amount	Ops	Notes/Status
Westport G	\$3,359.42	\$2,000.00	Approved
NCC E	\$9,033.99	0	Approved
New Canaan G	\$3,400.00	\$2,000.00	Approved
Darien G	\$1,416.10	0	Approved - Move paid funds from ops to equip.

Delinquent Grant Reports

Town/School	Amount	Date Paid	Date Due	Notes/Status
Westport E	\$9,812.00	5/27/2022	7/26/2022	Extended to next meeting
Region 9 E	\$9,275.86	9/23/2022	11/22/2022	Extended to next meeting
CSH E	\$8,513.85	9/29/2022	11/28/2022	Will contact David P.
Wilton G	\$2,500.00	5/4/2022	11/20/2022	Extended to next meeting
Norwalk G	\$5,306.86	10/11/2022	12/10/2022	Extended to next meeting

**5. Round 3 Grant Program:**

	Edu	Govt
Round 2 Allocation	\$13,500.00	\$30,600.00
Round 2 Granted	\$13,492.32	\$16,959.42
Funds returned	\$0.00	\$0.00
Available for Round 3	\$7.68	\$13,640.58
<b>Normalized Available</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>6 x \$2,250</b>

There is approximately a \$24K balance in the grants account after disbursement of the approved grants in item 4. Education has spent all its available grant funds. Government is \$13,600+K under. The Council approved six \$2,250 Government operations grants to be made available to eligible towns on a 1st come, 1st served basis. Applications along with vouchers must be submitted by 12/27.

**6. AG investigation of Altice:**

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong has launched an investigation into Optimum Altice for allegedly misrepresenting its internet services. It appears that this may be focused on data services only, which is not in the purview of A9CC. However, last year PURA opened Docket 21-12-01 to investigate Compliance with Customer Service Requirements of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-331j pertaining to Altice’s video services. On July 21, 2022, PURA closed the Docket with no action other than directing Altice to file CSR compliance reports for the following eight quarters.

**7. Access Channel Programming Problems and Solutions:** Jim announced that Andy Anderson has been hired to do work for Darien Channel 79.

**8. Other Matters**

- 2022 I-net reports are due 2/1/23. Hal will send an email requesting submission of 2022 I-net reports to Altice and A9CC.
- The 2022 A9CC Annual Report will be filed with PURA by 1/31/23
- Invoices will be sent to Altice in early January for \$2,000 in council funding, \$100,000 in access funding, \$25,000 in supplemental access funding and 2/3 pass through of U-verse access funding
- The A9CC Operating Expenses account has grown significantly over the years due to the efficient operation of the Council, There was discussion on utilizing some of the account funds for other A9CC related purposes. A9CC will entertain proposals from members for such funding.

Future meetings: 2/1/2023, 3/22/2023, 5/31/2023 (All at 5PM on Zoom)

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.