

**TO: A9CC MEMBERS**  
**FROM: Hal Levy**  
**RE: MINUTES OF DECEMBER 13, 2023 MEETING VIA ZOOM**

**December 14, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE:**

- Darien: Jim Cameron, David Dever, Mike Wheeler, Tim McGuire
- Easton: Doug Dempsey
- Greenwich: ~~Craig Jones, Horst Tobbe, Don Conway, Barbara Heins Sean Mayo~~
- New Canaan: ~~Paul Sedlak~~, Bob Doran, Roman Cebulski
- Norwalk: Irene Dixon, ~~Mark Minnock, John Freda~~
- Redding: Bob Moran
- Stamford: Eric Morson, ~~Ryan Fealey~~
- 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:
- Guests: Larry Manzi (Norwalk), Elisa Diamond (Darien)
- Excused: Paul Sedlak (New Canaan); Craig Jones (Greenwich)

Hal called the meeting to order at 5:03pm with eight towns represented.

1. **Minutes** of the October 25 meeting was approved as written.
2. **Financial Report** was approved.
3. **Old Business:**
  - **Status of appointments for current term:** Appointment have been made for all towns and schools except Weston E & G. Hal thanked Don Saltzman for his many years of service and leadership on the Council.
  - **DOCKET NO. 22-06-26 PURA Study of the Operations of Certified Third-Party Nonprofit Community Access Programming Providers.** The purpose of this Docket is to gather information for possible legislative action on SB 278 (2022) *An Act Concerning A Study Of Community Access Programming Operations revenue*. A9CC written comments were submitted 6/6/23. The draft report on the docket was released on 11/1/23.
  - **SB 278 (2022) An Act Concerning A Study Of Community Access Programming Operations revenue:** This legislation is tied to PURA DOCKET NO. 22-06-26 to address the payment of PEG fees from sources other than Cable TV subscribers. A report from the legislature may be released on 12/15.
4. **2023 Round 2 grant program:**

\$15,600 to Edu, \$27,800 to Gov; 7 grants of \$3,971 on the Government side available to Darien, Easton, New Canaan, Norwalk, Redding, Westport and Wilton; Breakdown of the Educational portion to be determined by the Ed Committee; A maximum of \$2,000 for each grant can be allocated to operations.

Town/School	Amount	Ops	Notes/Status
New Canaan E	\$4,421.31	0	Approved
Norwalk G	\$3,971.00	0	Approved
New Canaan G	\$3,971.00	\$2,000.00	Approved
Darien G	\$3,106.00	\$2,000.00	Approved
Region 9 E	\$3,377.92	0	Approved
CSH E	\$2,857.00	0	Approved (presented by Roman)
Westport E	\$1,191.50	0	Approved
Wilton E	\$3,750.00	0	Approved
Redding G	\$1,971.00	0	Approved

Education took \$15,597.73 of \$15,600 Round 2 grants (0 left over). Government took \$22,489.00 of \$27,800 of Round 2 grants (\$5,311 available for Round 3). Four Round 3 Government operation grants of \$1,325.each were created on a 1st come, 1st served basis. The deadline for submitting applications with vouchers is 12/28/2023. (Note: All 4 grants have been claimed by the release of these minutes).

Delinquent Grant Reports:

None

5. **Should public officials be required to be on camera?** Jim brought up an article in the Stamford Advocate about a proposal in Stamford to require officials to be on camera during public city meetings. The initiative was stopped by some members of the Board of Representatives because of privacy concerns. The issue is pervasive across Area 9 and A9CC members expressed that bringing proceedings to the public on the town channels should be a facsimile of physical attendance at such meetings.
6. **Optimum January 2024 rate increase:** Optimum video rates will increase by \$10 per tier for subscribers who do not have promotional rates. Esme stated that 80% of Optimum video customers currently have promotions.
7. **Other Matters:**
  - 2023 I-Net or Program logs due by 2/1/2024
  - Hal will file 2023 A9CC Annual Report by 1/31/2024
  - Hal will send invoices in early January to Altice for \$2K CAC funding, \$100K + \$25K 2024 E&G funding & Frontier E&G pass through

Future Meetings: 1/31/2024, 3/20/2024, 5/29/2024 (All at 5PM on Zoom)

Meeting was adjourned at 6:03pm.