

# A9CC - Educational Access Committee

Area 9 Cable Council, 17 Crawford Road, Westport, CT 06880 | <http://edaccess.a9cc.org/>

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**To:** A9CC Ed Access Committee Members  
**From:** Natalie Carrignan, Secretary  
**Re:** **Minutes of Meeting for March 15, 2021**

**Date:** March 15, 2021  
**Location:** Virtual ([Zoom Link](#))

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**Attendance:** (yellow highlight & asterisk(\*) = present)

TOWN	Member(s)
Darien:	Joan McGettigan
Easton/Redding:	Mike D'Agostino
Greenwich:	<i>unfilled</i>
Greenwich /Sacred Heart:	David Pisani
NCC:	Julie Casper Roth
New Canaan:	Roman Cebulski (Committee Chair)
Norwalk:	Trevor Kline
Stamford:	Paula Ward
Weston:	Gabe Tully
Westport:	Natalie Carrignan
Wilton:	Fran Kompar
Altice:	Esme Lombard

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Roman called the A9CC Ed Access Meeting to order at 4:05 pm. 7 towns were represented (7 entities).

Minutes from [2/22/2021](#) approved. Motion by Fran to approve the minutes; Joan seconded. No changes or edits. Approved unanimously.

**1. 2021 Grants-** Questions from members about hard last date for Round 1 of May 12. Roman has not been able to get to Hal yet about if we lose the money if we do not get grants to full Council before the May full council date. **Roman will follow up this week and email us. He will also follow up about the status of NCC with the full council.**

- a. Wilton has a grant to present. Continuation of enhancing the mobile TV Studio. It is the eyes and ears of the entire district this year. Streaming athletics, musicals in the spring, concerts, career events, and BOE meetings- which are all streamed as well. The ask is for a real-time graphics piece and some voiceover capabilities. The final piece is for technical operators for the \$2,500. We offer it to seniors, they work their way up from volunteering as underclassmen. The grand total is \$6,249.07. **Mike motioned to approve. Natalie seconded.** During discussion. Mike reminded Fran to remind the large group that she is putting all this streamed content on Channel 78. Roman seconded Mike's point to emphasize that it goes for the channel. Roman asked for the graphics

program name. Fran said Avid Pro Tools. Roman suggested to stay away from LiveText (too basic) or Titled by NewBlue (better than LiveText but still not great.) **Passes unanimously.** Roman said he would suggest others to think about the mobile cart because he followed Wilton's lead and it has been a great tool, especially for this year. Mike asked if someone could put together a document of what is on the cart? Fran and Roman have the invoices/parts lists they can share.

2. **2021 Access Awards/Film Festival-** Fran presented ideas
  - a. Call it a film festival or showcase since we are not sitting to judge so we don't want to call it "awards".
  - b. Fran walked us through the proposed flyer and proposed structure.
    - i. HS only for documentaries
    - ii. To minimize the time one entry from HS and K-8 per district
    - iii. Could do a play list on a YouTube channel as a way to showcase it
    - iv. Can also have it embedded on our website
    - v. Someone at each district will decide what to pass on
    - vi. Google folder for each district and then upload to the folder and
    - vii. Has to be clearly a Channel 78 project and clear that it will be broadcast on Channel 78
    - viii. Festival or Celebration, Julie and Roman suggested we steer away from Festival because it implies an award. Julie suggested: Showcase. Roman, Mike, Natalie liked that . Showcase was formally decided.
    - ix. Mike suggested: Each member district will select one entry for each of the following categories
    - x. Can the picture be changes to actual screenshots of student work? Fran asked for examples from districts. Mike suggested past entries and Roman suggested asked students for a still.
    - xi. Any other categories that should be included? What about sports? Joan thinks sports should be included. Sports broadcasting as high school only. Others agreed.
    - xii. Can the entries be longer than 5 minutes? Mike said if others were reviewing it then it would make a difference, but since it is within the district is should be fine. Others agreed.
    - xiii. Fran is going to take off all time limits except for sports because a full game might be too long, Roman suggested a highlight reel.
    - xiv. Fran thinks giving the students something for participating would be nice. Roman said that we would go to Esmee for funding. Participation trophy? Trophy with with the name of the project on it vs the names of the kids. We can drop the certificates. We could do a medal on a ribbon, Joan has seen those at other arts celebrations. Natalie wanted to know if this was a special year or a precedent. Others agreed it was a special year. Natalie then suggested that we stay away from trophy's, Mike concurred, so it different from the past year and it still

recognizes students. Joan suggested

[https://www.crownawards.com/StoreFront/JA9.Engraving\\_Medals.cat](https://www.crownawards.com/StoreFront/JA9.Engraving_Medals.cat)

xv. No Ripicky awards for 2021 Showcase

xvi. Timeline- when to have it out, submitted, and broadcast

1. Can we get it for the May A9CC big committee meeting?
2. Suggestion we have it ready to premier at the committee meeting and that it will air on all our channels right after that meeting
3. May 12 premiere, May 5 submission to Fran and team to compile, April 26 submission to the school rep. Posters out by March 29.
4. Roman shared New Canaan filmfest dates to compare timelines
5. **Fran made motion to do film showcase with specific guidelines we reviewed with the premiere May 12.** Mike recongized Fran for all her hard work. Fran thanked the group for their input. **Roman seconded. Passed unanimously.**
6. Fran will be looking for pictures of student documentaries, PSAs, sport related, news shows, anything creative and different levels if possible from us to put on the poster. Fran will need them by the end of this week. Joan suggested we support Fran in using stock pictures. Roman has the 2019 mash up with pictures. Roman said he can pull pics for Fran.

### 3. Other Business

Just Drive PSA - just for entering your school gets \$500 <https://justdrivepsa.com/>. The state needs more participants. Fran wanted to bring attention to it to see if we can get more participants.

### 4. Next Meeting

- a. Tenative April 29, 2021 or May 5, 2021 at 4 pm via Zoom to approve any grants for the full Council.
- b. Roman would like to meet in June to debrief the Showcase and maybe hand out awards. Mike suggested we make sure that if we cancel June meeting that it doesn't jeopardize anyone's eligibility for grants next year. (Natalie added note after meeting that in the past if we canceled a meeting everyone was marked present for the meeting for attendance- as one option to discuss as a group in May)

Motion to adjourn by Mike ; seconded by Fran

Meeting adjourned at 5:21 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Carrigan  
Secretary