

A9CC - Educational Access Committee

Area 9 Cable Council: <http://edaccess.a9cc.org/g/>

To: A9CC Ed Access Committee Members
From: Natalie Carrigan, Secretary
Re: **Minutes of Meeting for March 11, 2024**

Date: March 11, 2024
Location: Virtual ([Zoom Link](#))

Attendance: (yellow highlight = present)

TOWN	Member(s)
Darien:	Tim McGuire
Easton/Redding:	Mike D'Agostino
Greenwich:	Sean Mayo
Greenwich /Sacred Heart:	David Pisani
NCC:	Julie Casper Roth (NCC has spring break this week)
New Canaan:	Roman Cebulski
Norwalk:	Trevor Kline
Stamford:	Alec logman left at 5:06
Weston:	Vacant
Westport:	Natalie Carrigan
Wilton:	Fran Kompar joined at 4:30 - Maria Brecee joined at 4:00
Altice:	Esme Lombard

Roman called the A9CC Ed Access Meeting to order at 4:05 pm. 7 towns were represented; 7 districts/locations. Maria Brecee introduced herself to the group.

1. Old Business/Approval of Minutes

Approval of [February 12, 2024](#) minutes. Mike motioned to approve. Tim seconded. Approved unanimously.

2. Grants

- **Grant Update/Review**
 - Roman went over the summary of expenses from last year
 - Roman went over eligibility by absence. Mike and Roman agreed that we should codify what an excused absence means for the future. This month Julie was excused because NCC is on break. Last month Sean was excused because his district was on break.
- **Grant Report reminder-** All previous grant reports are due to the full council before a new grant for your district can be presented.
- **2024 Grant Proposals -**
 - Sean asked when the next grant starts. Round 1 runs from now until Sept. 11, 2024
 - **Westport -** Westport is finishing up the replacement of the wireless microphone kits for the BOE meetings with the first half of the grant. The remainder of the grant is for camera equipment and accessories/kits for the high school library tv

studio. Total is \$6,943.90. Mike motioned to approve, Alex seconded, passed unanimously.

- **Wilton-** \$3,000 is being requested for technical operations, Natalie motioned to approve, seconded by Mike, approved unanimously. Fran will present the remainder of her grant in April or May.
- **NC-** Last year's grant was for a new tricast mini and starting to replace outdated cameras. This grant is to help NC get a couple more cameras and accessories/tripods/kits so they match the previous grant model. The tripods are new lighter weight models. The total request is for \$5,779.50. Natalie motioned to approve, Tim seconded, passed unanimously.

3. [A9CC Educational Committee Website](#)- Thank you Tim!

○ Time to answer Tim's questions.

- If anyone has a less busy/better banner page picture to share, he would love it. Roman seconded that and encouraged us all to share images with Tim.
- On Abbreviations, Darien has Middlesex Middle School, but it not listed. There are a couple of others.
 1. Tim can add what he sees is needed and can pick any abbreviations that is still available
- The Resource page had free music resources, is there a desire to add free B roll or free image sources
 1. We have not yet addressed AI generated content- should we address it this year? Roman suggested having the conversation the future when we are more ready. Mike suggested that we could say no AI, all original content. Natalie suggested maybe just ask them to identify/call out where AI is used. The group decided to have student cite their AI usage.
 2. Roman said it would be good to promote resources for videos and images that are copyright free. Tim asked if anyone has a favorite site to post, please share with him.
- Looking for past winners. Fran's email said samples are in A9CC drive. Maria said there was a Google site that had past winners. Tim needs the link to the site.

4. Access Awards Update

- **Documents** - Fran sent Tim the documents and cc'd everyone. She asked us to review the rules to make sure all of the suggested changes were captured.
 - Due Date is May 6
 - Max of 3 entries per district per category per level
 - The group updated the description for documentary for all levels, see Feb. 12
 - The general interest story cannot be school focused
 - School news story- must be connected to the school
 - We need to update the submission form for the total number of medals needed (not trophies as mentioned in the Feb 12 minutes) for the being selected to participate in the contest.
 - Repicky awards are equipment packages valued at \$1,000 for the HS, and \$500 each for MS and Elementary levels.
 - The group decided to make it clear there are three levels of awards, medals for selection into the contest, trophies for winners within categories, and Repicky for overall winner of grade band level (EL, MS, HS)

- **Altice Sponsorship-** Mike has been in touch with Esme several times. She is working on getting it through on her side. Mike will reach out to her again with a thank you for her efforts and that we are hopeful.
- **Poster-** Roman had reached out to his designer friend. He is not getting a lot of headway with her. He thinks we should have a backup plan. Fran has one from last year, we had one from a few years ago that was more graphical. Fran has updated hers from last year in case we needed it and has added a QR Code. Roman will work with Fran on how to collaborate on a Canva file.
- **In-Person Celebration Night** - May not be available this year. It would a great thing to see if Julie is amenable and able to have NCC host it. Roman would like to talk about it the next time Julie is able to join us.
- **Website postings-** see above in Website agenda item
- **Food Estimates/Head Count-** confirmed Roman, Natalie, Tim- hopeful, Fran, David, Maria hopeful
 - Mike is checking, Sean is checking

5. Tech Showcase

- Inexpensive Lav Mics (Roman)
- Wired Lav - [Polson](#) & [Case](#)
- Wireless Lav - [Maybesta](#)

6. Upcoming Meeting Schedule- Next Meeting

- April 8, 2024 @ 4pm
- Contest Judging May 13, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm. Mike motioned to adjourn. Fran seconded. Passed unanimously.

Submitted by,
Natalie Carrigan
A9CC Ed Council Secretary