

A9CC - Educational Access Committee

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

To: A9CC Ed Access Committee Members
From: Natalie Carrignan, Secretary
Re: **Minutes of Meeting for December 5th, 2023**

Date: December 5, 2023
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
New Canaan:	Roman Cebulski
Norwalk:	Trevor Kline
Stamford:	Alec logman
Weston:	Vacant
Westport:	Natalie Carrignan
Wilton:	Fran Kompar
Altice:	Esme Lombard

Roman called the A9CC Ed Access Meeting to order at 4:03 pm. 5 towns were represented; 7 districts/locations.

1. Old Business/Approval of Minutes

Approval of [October 10, 2023](#) Mike motioned to approve. Tim seconded. Approved unanimously.

2. Round 2 Grant Proposals

- Per the minutes from the last cable council meeting, the Education Committee will receive \$4,300 from U-Verse and \$11,300 from unspent Round 1 funding. Therefore, the committee will distribute \$15,600 amongst the 5 remaining eligible districts (Darien will not apply this round).
- David noted that each eligible district may receive up to **\$3,119** for *Round 2*.
- **ER9 grant-** This grant is part of following through on their commitment to improve and enhance content on Channel 78. They are requesting a Sony camera kit and a Barco C10 for the second projector and some odds and ends to support items purchased in round 1. Total request is **\$3,377.92**. David motioned to approve. Fran seconded. Discussion: Is the camera an A7 or an A73? Mike responded A7. Julie suggested a UV filter for the lens because the students will bang it up. Mike thanked Julie for the suggestion. Approved unanimously.
- **Wilton grant-** BOE room is highly used and has three cameras in it for taping all events. The cameras are really old. The quality is degrading and they are no longer able to simulcast. The district is paying for new Smart Boards and wiring. The cameras will be

- remote PTZ cameras so students can be in the control room during meeting instead of at each camera. Total request is **\$3,750.00**. Natalie motioned to approve. Tim seconded. Discussion: Roman just asked for clarification of the space. Roman asked if they are NDI cameras. Fran noted there was an option NDI upgrade available. Roman recommended that Fran put the exact camera in the grant request before sending it on to Hal and to make sure what they chose had an NDI feature. He suggested BirdDog or NewTech cameras so the trcaster can control the cameras. Approved unanimously.
- **CSH grant-** they are looking to get a single camera with 3 batteries. Total request is **\$2,857.00**. Roman asked Dave to put in the details in the grant or attach the B&H quote. Mike motioned to approve. Fran seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - **New Canaan grant-** They were looking to order a portable trcaster in Round 1, but it was discontinued. The new model is more expensive so Roman wants to use some of the Round 2 money to make up the difference. Then he is asking for a camera to replace one that is producing poor image quality. Total request is **\$4,421.31**. Mike motioned to approve. Julie seconded. Discussion: Looking at the full cost the group discussed adjusting their grants. Approved in full amount unanimously.
 - **Westport grant:** Natalie is requesting one more microphone setup for the replacement of the old microphone setups used at the BOE meetings. 6 were purchased in Round1. She has a total of 14 to purchase. She will use next year's Round 1 to continue to replace the all sets. Total request is **\$1,191.50**. David motioned to approve. Fran seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. Access Awards Recap

- Trophy Update- Roman displayed the trophies to the group.
 - Please contact Roman with quantities needed for medallions for all participating students.(170 in total)
 - We need to request funding earlier this year to help increase student participation.
 - Roman has contacted a designer friend about creating a poster. She is willing to help. He said he is finding out about funding the process.
 - Mike reached out to Esme and copied Hal to get confirmation on funding.
 - Roman would like to hold the next meeting in person.
 - Mike asked if we expended all of this last year's money. Roman believes we did, but he will follow up with the teachers to make sure they have submitted the Repicky.
 - Fran still needs to pick up the awards and so she will need to make arrangements.
 - Fran suggested that the next time we meet we should go over the award rules and get ready to send it out.
 - Roman suggested that we create a checklist of what to do so we can standardized the process that includes target dates.

4. Tech Showcase

- [BirdDog Flex NDI Encoder](#)- takes any HDMI signal and it converts it into NDI format, which is a standard now to send audio and video through the network to another device. This means you don't have to have a long HDMI cord and you can capture the feed out

of a different network ports in the tricast. It was \$350 with the teacher discount from B&H. It can also go back the other way for outside shots back into the press box.

5. Upcoming Meeting Schedule- Next Meeting

- End of last year we determined that the second Tuesday of the month was best for this year.
- The group initiated a discussion to consider returning the meeting dates to the second Monday of the month @ 4pm. Frank motioned to approve. Mike seconded. Unanimously approved.

Probable Future Meeting Dates:

- January 8, 2024 @ 4pm. - Roman would like to have the meeting in person. Natalie will need someone to cover as secretary.
- February 12, 2024 @ 4pm.
- March 11, 2024 @ 4pm.
- April 8, 2024 @ 4pm.
- May TBD for judging

Meeting adjourned at 4:54 pm. Fran motioned to adjourn. Tim seconded. Passed unanimously.

Submitted by,
Natalie Carrigan
A9CC Ed Council Secretary