

A.9.C.C.

Area 9 Cable Council

www.a9cc.org

TO: A9CC MEMBERS
FROM: Hal Levy
RE: MINUTES OF September 17, 2025 MEETING VIA ZOOM

September 18, 2025

ATTENDANCE:

Darien: Jim Cameron, Mike Wheeler, Carrie Wysocki, Tim McGuire
Easton: Doug Dempsey
Greenwich: Craig Jones, ~~Horst Tebbe, Don Conway, Ken Borsuk, 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:
Westport: Hal Levy, ~~Stan Witkow, Natalie Carrignan~~
Wilton: Jeffrey Boehme, Maria Breece
Region 9: Mike D'Agostino
Altice: Chris Bresnan
Ed Committee: Leah Precipe
Guests: Alberto Vargas (Westport),
Excused: Horst Tebbe (Greenwich); Stan Natalie Carignan (Westport)

Hal called the meeting to order at 5:04pm with eight towns represented.

Announcements:

Hal Introduced new Education Committee member Leah Precipe, who has taken over for David Pisani at CSH. She will be presenting a grant application.

Hal introduced Altice VP of Governmental affairs, Chris Bresnan who is the Altice liaison to A9CC following the departure of Esme Lombard from Altice on 7/9. It Is unclear if Altice will be hiring a CT government affairs replacement in the future.

1. **Minutes** of the May 28 meeting was approved as written.
2. **Financial Report** was approved.
3. **Old Business:**
 - **I-Net Logs** or programming logs are due from E: *Norwalk, *Weston, Wilton, *NCC, CSH; G: *Greenwich, *Stamford, *Weston, *Wilton (*no grants taken in 2024). Logs must be submitted to qualify for future grants.
 - Members yet to be reappointed: Horst Tebbe, Craig Jones, Don Conway, Ken Borsuk (Greenwich); Paul Sedlak (New Canaan); Eric Morson, Bob Lion will not be continuing (Stamford); Jeffrey Boehme, (Wilton). Please ask your appointing authority tsend in your appointment letter. Let Hal know If you are not continuing,

4. Nutmeg TV petition to takeover Community Access Operations in Area 9

Nutmeg TV which delivers PEG programming for 8 towns in the Farmington CT area has petitioned PURA to takeover PEG in Altice's Norwalk and Litchfield systems. If PURA assigns a Docket and Nutmeg is successful, they would replace Altice as the Community Access Provider (CAP) in Area 9, replacing our town-specific PEG model with a centralized model. All subscriber generated access funding would go to Nutmeg. Currently, Optimum Area 9 subscribers pay \$6.66 per year for PEG, while Nutmeg Comcast subscribers pay \$11.65. If successful, Nutmeg could claim all equipment purchased with PEG funds. A motion for A9CC to oppose the Nutmeg takeover of PEG in Area 9 passed unanimously.

Our objective is to have Nutmeg withdraw its petition before a docket is created by PURA. We asked Chris Bresnan for Altice to join us in opposition to the Nutmeg takeover. He suggested that we meet with him in the near future to review the issue. Chris will contact Hal to select a meeting date at which, interested A9CC members will be invited to participate. If this proceeds to Docket, A9CC will look for party status and mobilize the community in opposition. We have funds in the A9CC operations account that can be drawn on for docket expenses and have had experience with a similar takeover bid by Sound View media in [Docket 05-04-10](#).

5. Status of PEG channels shuffle

On 8/19 & 8/22, Altice relocated PEG channels from 88, 78 & 79 to 1300, 1305 & 1310. A9CC objected to the move citing branding & other issues and asked for reconsideration noting that Altice did not confide in A9CC beforehand. A9CC held a special meeting on 7/30/25 to discuss the issue and develop strategies. Numerous press releases and legislator pressure prompted Altice to reverse the channel moves on 8/28. A9CC has asked that the channels be simulcast for a short period of time to mitigate subscriber confusion. It has been reported that the channels had returned to their original locations on 9/18. We thanked Chris for Altice's attention to our concerns.

6. 2025 Round 1 grant program - Final

\$65,000 each to E & G; 9 grants of \$7,225 on the Government side (Weston has opted out); Breakdown of the Educational portion to be determined by the Ed Committee; A maximum of \$3,000 for each grant could be allocated to operations; The deadline for submitting grants from the towns was May 19; The deadline for submitting grants from the schools was September 13; Unused Round 1 funds retained separately in E&G funds for Round 2 grants;

Town/School	Amount	Ops	Notes/Status
CSH	\$8,365.89	0	Approved, owes 2024 program logs

Delinquent Grant Reports:

Town/School	Amount	Date Paid	Date Due	Notes/Status
Easton G	\$2,500.00	12/17/2024	6/15/2025	Will submit by next week
Easton G	\$4,900.00	3/24/2025	5/23/2025	Will submit by next week
New Canaan E	\$1,000.00	12/16/2024	6/14/2025	Submitted after meeting
New Canaan E	\$4,187.88	6/3/2025	8/2/2025	Submitted after meeting
New Canaan G	\$3,000.00	9/24/2024	3/22/2025	Will submit by next week
New Canaan G	\$2,500.00	12/16/2024	6/14/2025	Will submit by next week
Norwalk G	\$7,225.00	6/3/2025	8/2/2025	Submitted after meeting
Redding G	\$2,500.00	12/16/2024	6/14/2025	Not present
Region 9 E	\$6,430.00	6/2/2025	8/1/2025	Submitted after meeting

7. Create 2025 Round 2 Access grants

	Edu	Govt
Round 1 unused funds	\$37,916	\$23,282
Added funds	\$5,084	\$5,084
Available for Round 2	\$43,000	\$28,366

\$43,000 to Edu, \$28,366 to Gov; Breakdown of the Educational portion to be determined by the Ed Committee; 7 grants of \$4,052 on the Government side; A maximum of \$2,500 for each grant can be allocated to operations; The hard deadline for submitting grants from the towns & schools is 12/5/2025.

8. Access Channel Programming Problems and Solutions

Jeff Boehme announced that the Wilton G channel remains dark because of a server problem that will cost around \$16K to remedy and the Town of Wilton is unwilling to give financial support to its G channel. As the Round 2 grant is maxed at \$4,052, he is asking if there is any way to overcome the shortfall. Members offered several suggestions including cheaper server solutions and PEGPETIA grants. Jeff stated that these were looked into and didn't solve it for one reason or another. Hal mentioned that if there are funds not taken in Round 2, we can take a look at the balance in the escrow account and consider advancing funds to Wilton against future grant programs if the Council agrees.

9. Other Matters - None

Future Meetings: 10/22/2025, 12/10/2025, 1/28/2026, 3/18/2026, 5/27/2026 (All at 5PM on Zoom)

Meeting was adjourned at 6:24pm.