

A.N.C.C.

Area Nine Cable Council, c/o Wilton HS, 395 Danbury Rd, Wilton, CT 06897

www.westportct.net/ancc

TO: ANCC MEMBERS
FROM: JOHN REPICKY
RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (Feb. 16, 2005 – Weston)

Feb. 17, 2005

ATTENDANCE:

Darien: Dave Dever
Easton: Leighton Jordan, Doug Dempsey, William Chiarenzelli, Richard Seclow
Greenwich: Stuart Reider
New Canaan: Tony Thompson
Norwalk:
Redding: Bob Moran
Stamford: Geza Ziegler, Michael Pensiero
Weston: Don Saltzman
Westport: Hal Levy, Judith Freedman
Wilton: John Repicky, Carole Kleinfeld, David Sherwood, Joe Bonomo
Cablevision: Chris Klimek

1) Meeting began at 6:05 pm with 8 towns represented. HL introduced Leighton Jordan, Easton; David Sherwood, Wilton
Voted: to approve the minutes of Jan. 12, 2005. Approved minutes will be posted on the ANCC website.

2) Treasurer's Report -

Activity	Date	ANCC Account	Access Escrow
Opening Balance	12/31/04	\$11,444.76	\$81,534.36
Interest & Dep.		2.13	
Checks & Debits		76.32	\$15,046.00
Closing Balance	1/31/05	\$11370.57	\$66,488.36

In Bob's absence, JR reviewed the treasurer's accounts. He noted that the escrow account balance of \$66,488.36 does not reflect the encumbrance for six grants that have already been approved. Deducting these six, plus the funds for the Access Awards program, the fund balance would be \$36,736.81. JR also reported that CV has not yet paid the \$2000 stipend for 2005. The Treasurer's report was approved.

HL suggested that reimbursement for meeting expenses be limited to \$85, as this amount should be sufficient to provide refreshments for regular meetings. This limit will not apply to the annual meeting. The suggestion met with the approval of the members present.

3) Cable TV in Municipal Emergency Management:

Bill Charenzelli addressed the group about requirements for local emergency operations centers, early warning systems, etc. He asked the Council to consider a way in which a Mayor/1st Selectman could go immediately on the air and give information to the town. JR noted that many of the towns can do this right now with the equipment they have. DS suggested the acquisition of low power am radio transmitters, since they will work with battery powered radios. Various members suggested a number of scenarios that could be used to address the problem. DS requested that this issue be noted in the needs assessment during the upcoming franchise renewal.

4) To Consider amending the ANCC By Laws to be more consistent with the DPUC Annual Report:

HL explained that the DPUC now requires a report in January rather than the report which we have always filed in May. In order to avoid issuing two reports, he proposed amending the By Laws to provide for a single report to be issued each January. He also suggested that each member review the by-laws and suggest any other changes that may be desirable. All proposed changes should be forwarded to the chairman. The chairman will notify the membership of all proposed changes at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting, at which time the amendments will be brought up for approval.

5) ANCC Position on proposed bills regarding CT-N:

Jim Cameron and Dave Dever of Darien attended the hearings yesterday on this bill. HL would like to get a resolution from the members in regards to support for the proposed bill, which in effect calls for CT-N to be carried on the basic cable channel. DS suggested that the Council stay with its original proposal to have CT-N carried, without specifying basic. Of the 120,000 subscribers in A9, only 8300 are basic only. Chris K. asked what basic channel would be dropped in order to carry CT-N? Dave D. gave his impression of how the hearings went. Carole K. distributed a draft of a letter that she would like the ANCC to send to the legislature. CK motion: To send the letter in support of SB 738 proposed by her. Motion: To amend the draft letter in a number of places. The group reviewed the letter and proposed a number of changes. Motion to amend; approved. The motion to send the letter was then approved (unan.)

6) I-Net: Chris K. distributed a list of I-Net channels that were not carrying signal as of 12/31/04. Please review your town's channels for accuracy. HL requested that each town report to him before the next meeting on the "dark" channels in their town.
- Chris K. reported no new activity on I-Net build.

7) Franchise Renewal: Chris K. had nothing new to report.

8) PEG Access: Bob Moran hopes to have something new for public access next month.
- SR announced that Dolly Curtis has a show about Victor Cromwell airing on access.

9) CV Info:

HL noted that the exec committee will begin discussions with CV on a 2005 grant program.

10) Other:

Darien & Wilton submitted applications for funds from the supplemental grants created at the last meeting. DS motion: To consider the two grant proposals at this meeting rather than wait for more proposals to arrive. Approved: Unan.

Motion: To award grants to Wilton (\$1140) & Darien (\$2500). Approved: Unan

There are now 3 grants remaining in the Supplemental Grant program.

Next Meeting: March 23, 2005 @ Redding town hall

Adjourned: 8:16 pm