

# 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 (Sept. 8, 2004)**

**Sept. 9, 2004**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Darien:  
Easton:  
Greenwich: Stuart Reider  
New Canaan:  
Norwalk: Marge Costa  
Redding: Bob Moran  
Stamford:  
Weston: Bob Atkinson, Don Saltzman  
Westport: Hal Levy,  
Wilton: John Repicky, Carole Kleinfeld  
Cablevision: Chris Klimek,

1) **Meeting began** at 6:15 pm with 6 towns represented. HL welcomed Carole Kleinfeld, new representative from Wilton. Voted to approve the minutes of June 2, 2004, with correction in Item 3 to "Secretary – John Repicky". Approved minutes will be posted on the ANCC website.

2) **Treasurer's Report** - BA reported:

Activity	Date	ANCC Account	Access Escrow
Opening Balance	5/25/04	\$15,385.40	\$107,382.37
Interest & Dep.		112.41	\$250.00
Checks & Debits		\$3,557.03	\$9,658.38
Closing Balance	9/8/04	\$11,940.78	\$97,973.99

The Treasurer's report was approved.

3) **Activities & Goals:**

HL outlined major activities that the Council will be considering this year: PFR for franchise renewal; town channels (running & funding) - use policies, etc.; customer service issues; new technologies. He asked members to submit other areas of concern for consideration.

4) **Cablevision Access Grants:**

HL reviewed the access grant funding. He noted that Darien has not submitted its grant request as outlined at the last meeting. Darien, Norwalk & Stamford did not make a request for 2003. Darien, Easton, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, & Stamford have not applied for a 2004 grant. As per previous resolution, letters will be sent to the towns notifying them of the December 31 deadline for 2004 grant applications.

5) **2007 Franchise Renewal:** CK explained that the window of opportunity for renewal opens this fall and the process could take 3 years. CV is not discussing renewal at this point. Hal & Don have done some preliminary planning on needs and desires for franchise improvements. JR suggested utilizing the Government access channels to keep the public informed.

**6) Review of the transition of CV's analog premium tiers to digital:**

As of 9/28, all upper tiers are being moved to digital. Customers need to remove the old box and get a digital box. Customers who do not comply will be downgraded to Family service, since that's the highest service that will work with analog. A few customers who have had promotional rates will see an increase as they transfer to digital. CK noted that the cable store has been packed with customers changing boxes, causing some inconvenience for the customers.

In changing to digital, customers will not see an immediate increase as a promotional rate will be in effect for 12 months. (The \$9.95 fee will be waived.) HL questioned how well the CRC's are handling this issue. CK claimed that the CRCs are dealing with the calls, but the problem is the crowds at the cable store.

**7) Access Policies:**

Cablevision has access policies that should be followed by the access channel providers. It's up to each town to develop their own access use guidelines. RM would like to make Redding's channel more of a community access channel. SR outlined Greenwich's approach and some proposed guidelines and release forms. They now have a town Gov't Access committee which will work on both promotion and production and is trying to involve local town organizations in town programming.

RM noted that there is a copyright-free resource: [www.creativecommons.org](http://www.creativecommons.org)

DS mentioned that Weston now handles dubbing requests by sending the tape to an outside vendor and charging the individual the vendor's fee.

**8) Tentative Schedule for 2004-05:**

HL proposed the following dates for '04-'05 ANCC meetings: Sept 8 – Westport; Oct 13 - CV; Nov 17- NC; Jan 5 - Weston; Feb 16 - Wilton; March 23 - Redding; Apr 27 - Greenwich; June 1 - TBA

**9) Other:**

JR noted that Ed. Access committee requested to have CT-N put on the I-Net. CK had no report on the outcome of that request.

Adjourned: 8:00 pm