



TO: ANCC MEMBERS
FROM: JOHN REPICKY
RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (Nov. 30, 2005 – Darien)

Dec. 2, 2005

ATTENDANCE:

- Darien: Dave Dever, Jim Camaeron
Easton: Richard Seclow
Greenwich: Stuart Reider
New Canaan: Paul Sedlack
Norwalk: Marge Costa, Victor Cromwell
Redding: Bob Moran
Stamford: Mike Pensiero, Geza Ziegler
Weston: Bob Atkinson, Don Saltzman
Westport: Hal Levy, David Dreyfuss
Wilton: John Repicky, Carole Kleinfeld
Cablevision: Chris Klimek, Deb Hutton, Steve Shaye, Myles Rich, Liz Losinski
Public: Susan Shultz (Darien Times); Brian Grogan (Moss & Barnett)

1) Meeting began at 6:01 pm with 9 towns represented. Minutes of Oct. 19 were approved. Hal welcomed Deb Hutton (new VP for Gov & Public Affairs), Myles Rich (Program Manager), Steve Shaye (consultant to CV on franchise renewal), Liz Losinski (VP for Govt Relations-Corp), and Brian Grogan (Moss & Barnett-Needs Assessment)

2) Treasurer's Report -

Table with 4 columns: Activity, Date, ANCC Account, Access Escrow. Rows include Opening Balance, Interest & Dep., Checks & Debits, and Closing Balance.

The Treasurer's report was approved. JR noted that there are a number of approved grants that have not yet been paid to the towns.

3) Access Grants

Requests for grants of \$5000 were presented by Weston (digital upgrade), Westport (remote cameras), Redding (remote wall-mount cameras), New Canaan (computer upgrade). All 4 grants were approved (Redding tentative w/ new funding list @ \$5000) A last minute request from Norwalk (\$5000 grant) was considered and approved.

4) Docket 05-04-10 Franchise Renewal & Needs Assessment:

HL introduced Brian Grogan and indicated the scope of the needs assessment as outlined in the RFP from the DPUC. BG addressed the Council and outlined the needs assessment process. M&B is a law firm which usually represents individual cities in franchise renewals. In CT, franchises are awarded by the State, so the DPUC hired them for the State. M&B subcontracts many aspects of the needs assessment. For example: Engineering tests are conducted by Jonathan Kramer; Consumers are surveyed by Issues & Answers. The survey takes 15 minutes; calls are made based on telephone prefixes; there will be 400 completed phone calls (yielding +/- 5% accuracy); survey is designed and analyzed by Dr. Constance Book; there will be questions on customer service, technical quality, PEG access, knowledge & interest in ANCC. There will also be questions on non-cable services. The survey will focus on areas that the DPUC can control, (i.e. survey will not ask about programming, rates, etc since these are not regulated by the Department.)

- Question re change orders to the RFP bid - A: They are possible but unlikely.
- Question re surveying the current cable services vs asking about the wide variety of potential services
- A: the needs assessment can only address items that can be controlled by DPUC (data & voice are not in the scope)

Another aspect of the needs assessment is to review local PEG programming with questions on access studio, equipment, etc

The Council then proceeded to give input on needs assessment issues, including: info on relationship to CV, customer service (No manager on site; Docket 97-06-03 settlement – corrective actions no longer in place; truck rolls for small problems; too long to reach a live operator; 4 hour window especially hard on working people; no web presence for cs needs); System outages (no problems, stable network); Programming Issues & Disputes (YES network & CT-N); Termination of Service (clarify promotional rates on bills, new broadcast basic installs sometimes come in as family basic and are suddenly terminated); Public Access Studio (one is sufficient); PEG channel capacity; PEG funding (JR noted difference in needs for E&G due to the additional number of E users). HL noted that the ANCC is staunchly in favor of the present PEG model and opposed to a 3rd party provider in Area Nine.

Motion: To allow HL to provide the written statements for the needs assessment.

(Note to members: Please forward comments regarding the needs assessment to HL asap. ANCC comments must be submitted to M&B by 12/15.)

5) CV rate Increase:

HL noted that the CV rate increase is 2.7% for basic - 4.4% for Family - 1.5% or below on digital services; Optimum up 7.5%

Converter Box +Remote up 9.9%; Family w/ 1 a la carte up 4%; I/O w/ 1 box & 1 premium up 4%;

HL will forward the spreadsheet to Council members and a more complete analysis will be posted on the ANCC website.

CK: CV has 3 different versions of the rate mailer; they are tailored to the customers in each region; CV has standardized rates in the tri-state area to make costs comparable.

6) CT-N Carriage:

CT-N is on the I-Net on CH 56. Towns can elect to put CT-N on their Govt Access Channel in conjunction with their local programming.

7) Docket 05-06-12 – Video over IP:

New schedule: Hearing on 12/7 and 12/15 in New Britain; Lot's of paperwork has transpired with many interrogatories between SBC and NECTA; ANCC has stated its position and has made two filings.

8) Other Business:

Easton Town Meeting: RS informed the Council of the incident over video coverage of political debate in Easton. FOIA excludes public coverage (video) of political debates. JC noted that a similar problem occurred in a Darien debate.

Meeting dates: 1/4 Norwalk, 2/15 Wilton, 3/22 Stamford Library, 4/26 Greenwich

Meeting adjourned: 8:40 pm