

A.N.C.C. - Ed Access

Area Nine Cable Council, PO Box 1144, Weston, CT 06883

www.westportct.net/ancc

TO: ED COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FROM: JOHN REPICKY
RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (Sept. 12, 2005)

Sept. 15, 2005

Darien:	Vicki MakAnthony
Easton:	
Greenwich:	
New Canaan:	
Norwalk:	Bill De Felice
Redding:	Gayle Bogel
Stamford:	
Weston:	
Westport:	Candace McGovern, Jack Culbert
Wilton:	John Repicky
Wright Tech:	Randy Whitman, Pat Paktinat
NCC	Stoney Duren
Maritime Aq.	Joe Schnierlein
Sacred Heart	Brian Highland
Conv. Of Sac. Hrt.	Karl Haeseler
Cablevision	Chris Klimek, Dominic Antonnacci

- 1) Meeting began at 1:31 pm with 9 schools represented. Minutes of May 9, 2005 were approved. Approved minutes will be posted on the ANCC web site.

2) Meeting Dates of 05-06:

The follow dates were set for meetings (all Mondays, 1:30 pm @ Westport Curriculum Center)
Oct 3, Oct 31, Dec.5, Jan. 9, Feb 27

3) 2005 Grants:

JR outlined the funding available to create a grant program for 2005. We received \$50,000 of Cablevision's grant funds, and we still have \$9,049.66 from last year's program. He noted that we could fund the Access Awards program with last year's remaining funds and still have the full \$50,000 for new grants. JC questioned how we could guarantee a measurable increase in access programming due to grants? JR commented that grant also serve to improve the quality of programs. JC suggested putting a tag line on CH78 programs to acknowledge the CV grants.

- SD & VM both brought up the need to have modulators moved. DA noted that CV supplied the original drop and requests for modifications are subject to a fee.

- KH asked if private schools can get an I-Net drop (in this case to facilitate delivery of programming to Greenwich HS for distribution on CH78). CK: Request would have to go through ANCC.

- JS: Is Maritime Aquarium eligible for a grant? There was discussion of how the MA programming would be used on CH 78, since this is the basis for access grants. Grant funds are not available for programs that would only be distributed over the I-Net. The committee would consider a grant from the MA based on those criteria.

- There was much discussion of the best way to balance funding with need and results (ie more and better programming). There was a general consensus that establishing a specific number of grants at a specific dollar amount would not be the best way to proceed. However, it was also determined that waiting for all schools to apply at the same time was not desirable.

Motion: To begin accepting proposals for grant funds at the October meeting. As a guide line, proposals should be in the \$3000 range and members should be ready to show how the requested funding will impact CH 78 operations. Approved: Unan.

4) Access Awards Program:

JR noted that we would need a committee to develop the 2005 program. Candace McGovern, Chris Klilmek and Karl Haeseler volunteered. If others wish to join, please contact Candace.

JR read some notes from last spring regarding suggestions for improvements. Among these were:

- allow entries as individuals or as a class;
- move the entry deadline to the first week of April;
- re-do the scoring rubric; remove "relevance";
- revise categories for entries with an eye toward increasing program length and quantity (NB: the intent is to get more programming on CH78; 3-minute videos don't help much)
- if we are going to have US Savings Bonds, be sure students give address and SS# on the entry form.

VM commented that judges need to see the whole program to judge it properly. JR noted that we want longer programs, and this may be impossible to do. CK said that other contests often request a segment or highlight reel. JC suggested having the students tell us the time-codes for the highlights of the program. CK noted that the video should be accompanied by a synopsis. CM suggested breaking up judging into groups. JR suggested judging by category. CK also suggested judging by age so that judges are not influenced by HS quality work when judging elementary entries.

- Members are encouraged to call or e-mail committee members with suggestions.

5) Other:

- JR reported on items from the last ANCC meeting. We have begun the process of Cablevision's franchise renewal. Since a needs assessment will be developed, members are asked to suggest items for the assessment. Also, there is currently a docket exploring the provision of Video Over IP by Verizon and SBC. The ANCC has intervenor status for this docket (we are the only cable council in the state to be granted status). The ANCC's position is that all providers of video programming should be treated equally and that all providers should make arrangements for PEG access.

- RW raised the question of the head end for CH78 in Stamford. The Committee had previously suggested that Wright Tech become the local head end. CV has not made the switch because they have not received permission from Stamford Public Schools.

Adjourned: 2:53 pm