

A9CC - Educational Access Committee

Area 9 Cable Council, 17 Crawford Road, Westport, CT 06880 | <http://edaccess.a9cc.org/>

To: A9CC Ed Access Committee Members **Date:** October 19, 2015
From: Susan Morris, Acting Secretary
Re: Minutes of Meeting (October 19, 2015)

Attendance: (yellow highlight & asterisk(*)) = present)

TOWN	Member(s)
Darien:	Ivan Crowther
Easton/Redding:	TBD
Greenwich:	Susan Morris*
Greenwich /Sacred Heart:	David Pisani*
NCC:	Stoney Duren
New Canaan:	Roman Cebulski*
Weston:	Kosta Myzithras
Westport:	Jennifer Cirino
Wilton:	Mathew Hepfer*
Cablevision:	Jennifer Young*

Roman Cebulski called the meeting to order at 1:30pm. 4 schools were represented, 4 districts.

1. Old Business

- a. Minutes from 6/1/15 approved . Motion by Susan; second, Matthew.
- b. Jennifer Young, from Cablevision gave an update on company status as well as head end upgrades.
 - i. Company:

“We’re keeping on with keeping on. Our understanding is that there will be no change for at least a year or two.” Altice, the acquiring company is much larger in Europe where it sells cable-based services including pay TV, broadband and fixed lines. Her advice to A9CC is to utilize available funds while they last in 2015-2016.
 - ii. Upgrades: Cablevision is moving forward with its \$100,000 headend upgrade plan to in an effort to improve customer end picture quality. Darien and Greenwich which feed through Stamford received new boxes and some re-wiring over the summer. All G & E districts will receive upgrades, in order of need. In spite of upgrades, the picture quality has not improved in some cases. Jennifer suggested initial quality of cameras, processing and tweaking of the dials may be culprits.

2. Introductions

3. Grants Applications - Susan will forward to Hal Levy.

- a. Mathew Hepfer - Wilton: Upgrade wires, connections, lenses, cameras to provide better quality video of Board of Ed broadcasts, sporting events. \$20,987.00. Approved.
- b. David Pisani - Convent of the Sacred Heart: Increase professional video quality by adding durable tripods, heads, plates, gimbal stabilized cameras and one drone copter. \$9,505.60. Approved.
- c. Susan Morris - Greenwich Public Schools - Provide access to capture and broadcast professional video from new performing arts center which will be the venue for many

town events as well as educational programs. \$11,156. Approved

- d. Roman Cebulski - New Canaan: Expand equipment and operations for students in TV Broadcasting class that has doubled to 35 students enrolled. \$8,383.42. Approved.

4. Goals

Roman shared his hope that we develop a core group of dedicated educators who build and share innovative projects. To that end, he will see if Kyle Seaburg from Norwalk will join us and suggest to Kosta that Geoffrey may be a better fit for our council. He also hopes that we can canvas A9CC towns and get a snapshot of each district's needs. We can then reach out to them and pinpoint possible grants that would help them provide content for Channel 78, among other things.

5. Next Meetings

- a. Continue with meeting the first Monday of each month so that we meet before the Government meetings.
- b. Proposed meetings (from June 2015 Minutes):
 - i. ~~November 2, 2015~~
 - ii. December 7, 2015
 - iii. ~~January 4, 2016~~
 - iv. February 1, 2016
 - v. March 7, 2016
 - vi. April 4, 2016
 - vii. May 2, 2016
 - viii. June 6, 2016
- c. Matthew suggested fortnightly after school. Meet once a quarter.
- d. Susan suggested a Hangout for Nov. 2 meeting, given that it would be difficult to get away the day before Election Day, Nov. 3
- e. Matthew suggested we do not have to physically be at a meeting to review grants.
- f. Roman recalls that the A9CC specified we must meet in person to approve grants.
- g. Save Dec. 7 for next round of grants before the A9CC meeting on Dec. 9.

Motion to adjourn by Dave; second, Mathew

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Morris
Acting Secretary