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Area Nine Cable Council, c/o Wilton HS, 395 Danbury Rd, Wilton, CT 06897 www.westportct.net/ancc

TO: ANCC MEMBERS

FROM: JOHN REPICKY

ATTENDANCE:

RE: MINUTES OF MEETING (April 26, 2006- Norwalk)

May 2, 2006

Darien:	Jim Cameron		
Easton:	Leighton Jordan, Richard Seclow		
Greenwich:	Stu Reider		
New Canaan:	Paul Sedlak		
Norwalk:	Marge Costa, Victor Cromwell		
Redding:	Bob Moran		
Stamford:	Mike Pensiero, Geza Ziegler		
Weston:	Don Saltzman, Bob Atkinson		
Westport:	Hal Levy		
Wilton:	John Repicky, Joe Bonomo		
Cablevision:	Deb Hutton, Steve Shaye, Myles Rich,		
Guest:	Dolly Curtis		

 The meeting began at 6:15 pm (after the technical meeting) with 10 towns represented. HL thanked Brian Genova and Dominic Antonacci for attending the tech meeting. Minutes of March 22 were approved.

2) Treasurer's Report -

Activity	Date	ANCC Account	Access Escrow
Opening Balance	3/22/06	\$13,991.79	\$37,422.62
Interest & Dep.		2.50	
Checks & Debits			\$2500.00
Closing Balance	4/26/06	\$13,994.29	\$34,922.62

Treasurer's report was approved. CV has been invoiced for the \$100,000 access funding for 2006.

3) Approve up to 5 Supplemental G-Access Grants:

- Wilton presented a request for \$1200 supplemental grant. Approved

4) Update on docket 05-06-12:

Draft decision postponed until May 5. The DPUC noted that there is pending legislation on this topic. DS attended a hearing on 4/21 and presented comments to the DPUC. ATT promised to supply PEG access but did not promise to build out all areas. When DS asked how they would provide PEG to non-served areas, they commented that it would be over the internet. ATT continues to contend that they don't need a franchise.

HL commented that this fight is both on the state and federal levels. ATT is seeking a federal franchise to avoid seeking thousands of local franchises with individual municipalities. DS noted that it took only 9 months for SNET to get a state-wide franchise, even with all the controversy over the granting of a single franchise for the entire state. HL pointed out that the proposed federal legislation includes a 1% PEG support and 5% local franchising support payment. Under the proposed legislation only the phone companies would have these fees, but the cable companies would have to continue as is until the phone companies achieved a 20% penetration in the cable franchise area.

5) 05-04-10 CV Franchise Renewal:

The Needs Assessment has arrived. HL went over some of the highlights. Members should review the report. There was some discussion of comments made regarding CV's PEG allocations. The DPUC requires \$6.23 per subscriber (approx \$700,000) but CV spent over \$800,000 last year. There will now be a PFR (Proposal For Renewal) submitted by CV. CV has also proposed a timeline for the renewal. JR commented that the Nov-Dec timeframe for public hearings might not be the best choice. Motion: To empower HL to contact the DPUC concerning the hearing schedule. Approved - We have been given 17 interrogatories that we have to respond to by May 19. The officers will respond.

6) Soundview & Area 2 Renewal:

The Needs Assessment noted that the 3rd party system is not working well in Area 2 for E&G access. R&B recommended a model similar to Area 9. In the Area 2 docket, CV has officially commented that they would be willing to support town-specific E&G access.

- HL noted that Soundview's statements regarding system-wide being preferable to town-specific were refuted by a number of local citizens.

7) PEG issues:

- Paul Curtis had a PEG issue in Greenwich which CV is working to resolve.

- Mike P asked about audio problems at Wright Tech. He asked who should be contacted now that Chris is gone. Dominic Antonacci is the contact for school issues.

8) Ed Access Awareness Awards:

- JR reported on the awards program. There were 15 entries at the elementary level and 35 at the secondary level. Many entries involve multiple students and some involve whole classes. In general, outreach for access programs is an issue. There was some discussion of how we can increase awareness of PEG programs among the public.

- Darien is waiting to get the town hall equipment moved. MR said that the construction quote has been scheduled.

9) Annual meeting & Nominating Committee:

The previous location is under new management. Members are asked to look into an alternate location. BA suggested the Red Barn. The Annual meeting is May 31.

- Speaker: HL would like to invite Bob Duff (CT Energy & Technology Committee)
- Victor C. volunteered to provide a video on the early years of TV.
- Nominating Committee: Bob Atkinson & Geza Ziegler were elected to committee.

10) Other:

- DS suggested hiring a recording secretary if needed.
- CT-N has been on CH83 since March 31, but it does not show up on the channel guide as CT-N.

Meeting dates: 5/31 Annual Meeting TBA

Meeting adjourned: 8:05 pm

ADDED NOTE: Annual Meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, May 30.