

# A9CC - Educational Access Committee

Area 9 Cable Council: <http://edaccess.a9cc.org/g/>

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To: A9CC Ed Access Committee Members  
From: Natalie Carrignan, Secretary  
Re: **Minutes of Meeting for April 20, 2026**

Date: **April 20, 2026**  
Location: Virtual ([Zoom Link](#))

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## Attendance: (yellow highlight = present)

TOWN	Member(s)
Darien:	<a href="#">Tim McGuire</a>
Easton/Redding:	Mike D'Agostino
Greenwich:	<a href="#">Sean Mayo</a>
Greenwich /Sacred Heart:	David Pisani
CSCC- Norwalk:	Julie Casper Roth
New Canaan:	<a href="#">Roman Cebulski</a>
Norwalk:	Trevor Kline
Stamford:	Alec logman
Weston:	<i>Vacant</i>
Westport:	<a href="#">Natalie Carrignan</a>
Wilton:	<a href="#">Maria Breece</a>
Altice:	

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Roman called the A9CC Ed Access Meeting to order at 4:06 pm. 5 towns were represented ;5 districts/locations.

## 1. Old Business/Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from [March 9, 2026](#). Natalie motioned to approve. Maria seconded. Approved unanimously.

## 2. Grants

- Update current status of [Grant Spreadsheet](#)
- Reminder to submit Grant Reports as soon as possible
- Round 1 Grants for 2026 is open.
  - Full council minutes from last meeting, funding has been received from Altice in the amount of \$65,000 each for government and for education, to be split up with a maximum of \$3,500 for technical operations. Deadline for schools is September 11, 2026. Unused funds would be kept separately from G and E to be used for Round 2.
  - Eight eligible entities if we include CCSU so it would be a total of \$8,125 per Round 1 grant. It is were to be seven eligible entities the total grant could be for **\$9,285.72**. Roman will reach out to Julie and he will send letters to Stamford, Norwalk, and Weston. [Julie confirmed she will not be submitting a grant.](#)
  - **Greenwich Grant-** Continuing the video podcasting. He is looking for a couple more machines and expanding where they are using the podcasting equipment.

He is specifically making one in a pack. There are also microphones for the Man on the Road segment. 2 licenses for \$9,100 at the moment. The group will allow him to get batteries/SD cards, etc for to make up the difference to be a total of \$9,285.72 or as close to it as he can. Discussion- Roman asked where they are doing this work? Sean has 5 studio spaces and then he has some travel packs. Natalie motioned to approve. Maria seconded. Passed unanimously.

- **Wilton Grant**- Total \$9285. \$3,000 is for tech interns, the remaining amount is for equipment. The PTA gave her more money for a second set, so the equipment will be for lighting for the second set, but it will be portable. The equipment will be for all 3 schools. The HS students work with the students at the lower schools. This grant has a birddog kit that is easy to travel with and use. There is also a Nikon camera kit. There are also some mics that are sets of 4 for larger group interviews and film groups. Natalie motioned to approve. Sean seconded. Approved unanimously.
- **Nutmeg proposed takeover**- we do not have any updates at this time. It is best to have the money spent by May if possible vs September. We can meet on May 11 strictly for any remaining grants to make the full council May 27 meeting.

### 3. Access Awards - Maria Breece chair

- Discussion about composition of compilation video for the May 27 full council meeting.
  - Roman will get a sense of time from Hal how much time to have for the sharing and see how much highlights of the examples that are the best to put forward.
    1. We can keep this in mind during the judging so we can give the students some guidance and save them time
  - There should also be one full video of all winners that we can show on our channels
- Reminder of Dates
  - **May 4 for judging**, Maria confirmed the space is available.
  - **Videos due April 27** for students, the hard date to have everything in the folders would be the **28th** and the videos can air at the latest over the weekend prior to the 4th.
  - Confirmed - two entries per school per category.
  - Confirmed- no AI content accepted within the videos in this year's rules.
- [Website](#) updated with example content for most of the categories. Rules confirm changed.
  - The categories were very successful. The HS adult assisted was well received. Maria is asking for a MS level adult assisted. Everyone agreed
- Maria asked everyone to make sure you have access to this year's folders. We are not making folders by school, just put them into the category/level folder.
- Roman asked if anyone has had more than two
  - Maria is having the teachers decide at the school level what to put forward to the district level
- Roman reminded everyone that if there is a question about a category they can share it early with the others and we can help guide them.

### 4. Tech Showcase-

- Open to anyone with a share
- New Canaan share - Rode wireless mic system/kit, it does not come with a plug (USB brick), only the wire. There is a level guide on the receiver so students can see instantly that a signal is being received.

- New Canaan film festival through the film club. There are outside judges, it is a live event that Roman streams. They are looking for submissions. Roman will send out the link. Please encourage your students to submit. It is the same deadline/one day earlier as our contest.

#### **5. Set Meeting Schedule**

- Set meetings for the year - May TBD (maybe 11th), June 8 (CSH is out)

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 pm. Maria motioned to adjourn. Natalie seconded. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Carrigan,  
Secretary