

Cable Advisory Council Area 2
Bridgeport, Fairfield, Stratford, Milford, Orange, Woodbridge
www.cacarea2.com

Meeting Minutes

March 30, 2023, via Zoom

Attendance - Ron Davis, Chairman, Marlene Silverstein, Vice Chair, Cindy Gerber, Ryan Anastasio – Woodbridge, Janet Montalbano, Kara Flannery - Milford

Comments Ron asked members if they had any comments prior to the beginning of the meeting. Kara explained what was happening in Milford recently with the Board of Finance approving cuts to the Board of Education's proposed budget.

Call to Order – 7:05 P.M. Ron welcomed all present members.

Treasurer's Report Janet reported that the operating account balance is \$9,675.00. Esme questioned whether Altice had received requests for the yearly stipend and the 2nd quarter grant funds. Marlene asked Esme to forward her the information and said she would follow up.

Chair's Report Ron reported that the family of Howard Jacobson had contacted him regarding 500.00 in scholarship funding, asking if the CAC would be able to match the amount. Members discussed how to get the information out to possible recipients and what the requirements should be for submission. The council decided that three \$1,000 scholarships will be offered and will include the funds from the Jacobson family. Cindy offered to distribute the information previously used for the scholarship submissions to members. Cindy, Ryan and Marlene offered to distribute to the media outlets. Ron also announced that Gerry Speno was leaving FairTV and Fairfield is looking for a new manager. If anyone knows anyone who might be interested, please contact Fairfield. Also questioned was whether Pua Ford was still the active coordinator for Woodbridge Government Access Television. Cindy said she would follow up and let the members know.

GATA Marlene said the grant applications were sent out in February and are due back July 15, 2023. She will put in a request for the funds for the April and July quarters. Last year the total requests were for less than the total grant amount of \$100,000.

Towns Kara said Milford is excited that they can now stream to the cloud and YouTube and their channel at the same time. They are no longer limited by physical locations and can now use a two-channel file server. She questioned the life of a file server to which Ron replied that Orange upgrades their server every few years. Ryan read that the Woodbridge Government Access Television minutes list Pua Ford as the current coordinator and suggested that Woodbridge may be having a problem finding a replacement. Ron said he would put the word out to anyone who may be interested.

Ron reported that OGAT had been down for an entire week and asked Esme how she could help. Esme replied that in this one case, the outage was due to a fiber break. Ron replied that he has no contact information to request assistance. Esme suggested in the future, checking the outage map which allows users to make a complaint at the same time. Janet added that the number of outage complaints and street closures in Milford have been very intrusive. Esme suggested customers can call with their address and phone number and said Altice also tracks complaints via social media.

Altice Esme said that Altice was busy working on the fiber to home project. Additionally, she noted the March 28th channel drop of WTNH in parts of both the Fairfield and Norwalk areas and reported PURA had been sufficiently advised. Altice will be happy to let customers know what their options are. Esme offered to follow up with members and send them a copy of the WTNH filing with PURA.

Adjournment Marlene motioned, seconded by Cindy to adjourn. Adjournment at 7:37 P.M.