

## TOWN OF NOBLEBORO BROADBAND COMMITTEE

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2022 at 7:00 pm (EST)

Via Zoom - Topic: Nobleboro Broadband Committee

1. Call to Order
  - a. Quorum Present: Peter Gabbe, Marianne Pinkham, Michele Hallowell, Bill Silver, Nate House, Mary Welt, Dean Levy
  - b. Not present – Mark Morrison, Richard Spear
2. Updates
  - a. Survey status (Bill) – Reviewed raw data, inconsistencies in data, sources of completed surveys, balance within survey data results, results v. property locations. Reviewed next steps in obtaining survey responses. Responses continue to come in. Data will continue to be collected and parsed.
  - b. Press releases (Marianne) – Marianne will continue to draft and enter press releases. Will attempt to print a QR code. Free Press printing should include the survey information.
  - c. Funds status (Peter) - \$6,500 less \$30 and survey costs.
  - d. Tidewater status – Received response from Tidewater, who opted to put off a discussion in February. We should not receive corrected maps or presentations until February. Twin Villages chose Tidewater as its preferred ISP. Tidewater willing to overbuild to ensure that everyone in the Towns are served.
  - e. Axiom Discussion (Marty) – Discussions with Axiom, which has been in the process of wiring communities north of Portland and up the coast. Axiom interested in doing an advanced engineering study to address inconsistencies in engineering. Cost for doing this analysis is \$15,000-20,000. It would allow us to know for sure what it would cost us to do a buildout of our community and options of what that buildout would be based on parameters we give up front and give along the way. Likely will issue a RFI for ISPs like Tidewater, Spectrum, Axiom, and other interested parties to respond. Committee would apply for grants to fund the study, in addition to use of currently held funds and potential funds. Currently the Committee is working to complete the Island Institute grant and will apply for other funds, such as Connect Maine.
3. Old Business
  - a. Grant preparation (Marianne) – *See above.*
  - b. Digital Literacy program (Peter) – “Digital equity” deals with access, tools, and education to use digital equipment. There is funding for digital equity in grants, etc.
  - c. Spectrum Info status (Bill) – *See above.*
4. New Business
  - a. Charts on service distribution (Bill) – *See above.*

- b. Request For Information (RFI) (Evan) - Evan will work on drafting RFI for an advanced engineering study of what is involved in this community for a buildout within Nobleboro and Marty work with Evan to do so.
  - c. ConnectMe grant Application deadline (Evan) – Will be open next week. Evan is on top of these deadlines. This next round is approximately 60 days long.
  - d. Election of new Officers for 2022-2023 (Peter) – Peter Gabbe would like to step down as the Chairman of the Broadband Committee and will not run for election. Transition will coincide with the Town meeting in March.
5. Adjourned at 8:35 pm