

**TOWN OF NOBLEBORO BROADBAND COMMITTEE
INTERIM MEETING**

Monday, November 29, 2021 at 7:00 pm (EST)

Via Zoom

- I. Call to order
 - a. Quorum present – Chairman Peter Gabbe, Marty Welt, Bill Silver, Nate House, Mark Morrison, Michele Hallowell. Marianne Pinkham and Dean Levy joined meeting after technical glitch.
- II. Agenda additional items
- III. Update
 - a. Follow up communications with Tidewater (Bill)
 - b. Follow up communications with Spectrum (Peter) – Spectrum contacted us for list of addresses for which we want for quoting.
- IV. New Business
 - a. Discussion on direction given current knowledge
 1. Follow up on R& D (Marty) - Marty added Axiom to list of service providers in our matrix. Axiom has a different model. It's a full service provider, but the funding model is one where they attempt to obtain grant money to fund the project and then go to the town to float the bond. Bond is paid by a portion of the monthly payments paid by those on that particular network. Once bond is paid in full, Nobleboro receives a return on investment. Follow up call to flush out the details. Infrastructure is fiber. December 20, 2021, at 12:30 pm will be a follow up Zoom call. Information session.
 2. What is our next step regarding direction and research and development?
 - a. Nate – color coded map of Nobleboro on every road on it, overlays of who has service, what kind, on every road. Peter – can circulate what we've obtained from ISPs within the group. Can ask Spectrum which addresses to price out streets and addresses. We're missing the information contained in the questions Bill gave to Tidewater (e.g., what about people who have access who do not have service, percentages of requests for fiber, do Tidewater's percentages reflect Nobleboro requests or just all of Tidewater's service area). Likely will get this level of detail it in an engineering study.
 - b. Bill – Discussion of information gathered to date regarding served, unserved, and potentially overserved areas.
Tidewater map shared on the screen and minutes suspended to reflect and protect proprietary nature of map.
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 - c. Marty – looked at various numbers in each category discussed last time. Treated Consolidated and unserved numbers together. Maybe the Committee recommends another plan with another ISP; possibly Starlink or OneWeb (low orbit satellite providers). Peter – we don't have enough information from Tidewater, Spectrum, Axiom, satellite options so that we can determine what else to do. May have to develop piecemeal alternatives to build out all of Nobleboro. Create a menu of options to present to grant providers and lean on community broadband advocates.
 - d. Bill – we need to know who in the Town doesn't have broadband and would like to have it and then we customize a menu of solutions. Determine who

wants it and what we can do to provide a menu of options. Michele – to the extent we're able, update Excel spreadsheet and list from ISPs with addresses that are served, unserved, etc.; add data from survey to determine who wants broadband and doesn't have it; cull and process data.

- e. Peter – Currently, funding for broadband connectivity is for wire connectivity, not satellite.
 - f. Bill – buildouts are labor intensive and we have a labor shortage. Will be a lengthy process. Part of the committee's job should be to educate people about options available to them given their particular address.
 - g. Marty – when will we be ready to send RFIs out? Peter – likely after we obtain more information on our options and lists of people to whom we'd want to send it to.
 - h. Michele – requests that we obtain citations to the laws and regulations to see if there are any nuances to the laws that may apply to Nobleboro. Nate to provide.
- b. Town Meeting scheduled for December 1, 2021, at 4:30. Peter prepared a presentation that he'll give at the meeting.
- V. Timing of next meeting
- a. Regular Zoom Meeting Monday, December 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm
- VI. Adjournment at 8:27 pm