

Meeting Minutes for Cornish Broadband Committee (DRAFT)

Chair: Mike Fuerst

Date: October 5, 2022

Time: 5:30 pm

Town Offices

Townhouse Rd.

Cornish, NH 03745

Attendees: Mike Fuerst, Mitch Davis, Steve Jameson, Shelley Brookings, Corey Fitch, Nelly Palmer

Kevin Noble

Attending via ZOOM: Melissa Pierce, Manager, Government & Regulatory Affairs, Comcast

Ms. Pierce updated the Committee on Comcast's efforts to apply for Federal funds administered by the State to provide broadband services to unserved portions of the state including Cornish. Data provided by Comcast including specific areas and addresses served in Cornish were reviewed. There was a discussion of how Comcast would provide services to the town. Questions were raised regarding whether and how Comcast would provide service to home and who might be obligated for the cost of running fiber/coaxial from road to home. Comcast will be back in touch when the second round of funding is awarded. Additional federal funds will be available next year as well.

NH Electric Coop scored the most points in the first round of grant applications and may be the ISP who will be awarded the contract to provide broadband services to underserved areas in the State. It is believed that Cornish was included in this initial proposal by NHEC, although the exact details have not yet been made public.

The Committee will invite the representative from NHEC to our next meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding the apparent overlap of NHEC poles, and the areas of Cornish served by Comcast. We want to make certain that NHEC's efforts will not be duplicative but expand service to underserved areas of Town. The committee considers it a priority to attempt to bring reasonable broadband services to all residences/businesses in Cornish who desire it. This was accomplished by the towns in southwest NH within the past couple of years.

Survey will be available until October 16, 2022 unless the committee finds need to extend the response time. As Oct 3 there were more than 100 responses.

The minutes from September 20, 2022 will be acted upon at the next meeting.

Next meeting will be determined by availability of broadband provider presenters.

Kevin moved that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Mitch. Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.