

Meeting Minutes for Cornish Broadband Committee (DRAFT)

Chair: Mike Fuerst
Secretary: Cris Hiatt

Date: 17 November 2022
Time: 5:32 pm
Cornish Elementary School
Townhouse Rd.
Cornish, NH 03745

Attendees: Mike Fuerst, , Steve Jameson, Shelly Brookings, Corey Fitch, Nelly Palmer
Kevin Noble

Not available: Cris Hiatt, Mitch Davis

Corey made a motion to accept minutes from November 2; Shelly seconded and it was passed unanimously.

Survey notice was mailed to all mail addresses in Cornish. No information yet on responses. Survey will close on December 1.

Information from BEA shows that NH Electric Coop will be making broadband available to 61 unserved addresses in Cornish in the first round of grants. It is not clear whether some of these addresses also have access to Comcast broadband.

The second round of grants will be awarded later this year. This should give us a better idea of the number of remaining unserved households in Cornish.

Rulemaking for the terms for Phase 3 grants is currently taking place.

The total federal money available to the State is \$122,000,000.

There will be additional federal funds from a different federal grant source available next year.

Apparently an additional \$100,000,000 coming to the State. No rules established for these funds yet.

There was discussion concerning the possibility that those households in Cornish with no, or very poor, internet access may not benefit from the current grant proposals. The committee feels strongly that our efforts need to be focused on ensuring 100% access to reasonable broadband coverage for all households in town. This has been accomplished in other rural communities in NH, including several in the southwest corner of the state.

Next meeting will take place on Thursday November 1, 2022 at 5:30. Location to be determined, Steve moved that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Shelley. Meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm.