

Meeting Minutes for Cornish Broadband Committee -draft

Chairman: Mike Fuerst

Date: July 24, 2023

Time: 5:30 pm

Cornish Town Offices

Townhouse Rd.

Cornish, NH 03745

Attendees: Mike Fuerst, Jason Bourne, Shelley Brookings, Steve Jameson, Kevin Noble, Corey Stevens, Jessica Butell.

Absent- Cris Hiatt,

In attendance: Barbara Nyholm, St Gaudens Rd, Cornish

The meeting opened at 5:32PM.

Nelly Palmer notified Mike after the June meeting that due to personal reasons she had to resign, effective immediately.

The Selectmen have appointed Jessica Butel and Corey Stevens and have also nominated Barbara Nyholm who is deciding whether to join.

Jason confirmed that the authorization to release the Cornish town-wide E911 data to the UNH mapping program had been sent to the State by the Selectmen.

The committee met with Darren Fagan of Grantham by Zoom. He has been involved with Grantham's broadband expansion efforts. Grantham will benefit from 2 rounds of ARPA funds and may be able to provide all of their households with Broadband access with those funds. We discussed the importance of having accurate information regarding the number and locations of the remaining unserved and underserved addresses in our communities. He will provide us with Grantham's Request for Information letters. He indicated that if the ARPA grants do not cover 100% of the Town that Grantham would be interested in discussing the merits of a joint application with Cornish under the BMGI program.

The committee discussed next steps which will include: 1. Meetings with ISPs to work toward possible collaboration on future grant applications under the BMGI and BEAD programs and to obtain updated, more accurate information on served/unserved/underserved addresses in Cornish; 2. Meet with representatives of the Town of Plainfield and the City of Claremont about possible collaboration opportunities.

Steve will contact NH Broadband (NH Electric Coop)

Kevin will contact Comcast.

Shelley will contact Consolidated Communications.

Mike will attend the Town of Plainfield Selectmen's meeting and will talk with the city manager of Claremont.

Kevin will get the draft rules for the BMGI program, talk with Matt Conserva at BEA.

Jessica will confirm the number of addresses being upgraded in Cornish under the first 2 rounds of ARPA grants. She will also investigate whether the data on the FCC broadband map and the UNH broadband mapping site have been updated to include the addresses proposed under the ARPA grants.

The committee approved the creation of a subcommittee for communication with ISPs consisting of 3 members (Shelley, Steve & Kevin). They will compile a set of common questions to ask ISP concerning

their plans under BMGI, possible collaboration with Cornish, the possibility of including nearby towns in one application and timelines for application and implementation under BMGI.

Motion to adopt June 26, 2023, minutes by Shelley, seconded by Kevin, passed.
Next meeting on Monday, August 28 at 5:30 PM

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.