

Minutes for the Cornish Broadband Meeting 04/22/2024.

Attendance: In person: Steve Jameson, Jason Bourne, Corey Stevens, Kevin Noble, Peter Martin.

Online: Michael Fuerst, Jessica Butel, Shelly Brookings

Public: Bill Caterino.

HUB 66: Michael Mateja and Andrea Vient

The meeting was called to order at 5 37 pm.

Kevin made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from 2/26/2024. Jason Bourne seconded. Old business included HUB 66 proposal.

Peter shared that a member of the Plainfield community informed him that they had challenged the status of their internet connection identified on the FCC. Within days the status was changed to underserved from served.

The next meeting date was discussed as it is scheduled to occur on Memorial Day. The committee agreed to move the date pending the meeting with HUB 66.

Introductions were made to HUB 66 staff.

Andrea informed the committee that the application was accepted by the State of NH. The Challenge period has closed. There was an additional 30-day for challenges to be made. Consolidated Communication and HUB 66 were recipients of the grants. HUB 66 was informed that there had been challenges made but the identity of the challenging parties was not revealed. HUB 66 plans to rebut the challenges. It is unclear what happens to the funds awarded if the number of sites is reduced. Andrea stated that the big communication companies are challenging many of these grant programs to protect market share.

Kevin shared that the BEA has not decided how to manage either reduced or increased numbers of serviced addresses. Kevin shared that some data on the FCC site lists addresses as unserviceable, which is not accurate.

Mike Mateja plans to begin checking pole infrastructure in Cornish and Plainfield to ensure licensability. Kevin shared that Comcast has run fiber to some parts of Cornish but has not run coaxial copper wire to addresses. Andrea stated that Matt Conseva at BEA has told her that customer that is serviceable must be connected to service within 10 days of the request and at no additional cost. Andrea stated that the challenges will be available on May 3rd and suggested that the committee and HUB 66 reconvene to discuss.

Michael Mateja discussed siting a central station in Cornish and Plainfield. He said public buildings with standby power are preferred but not required. Climate control is not required but is preferred for operational efficiency of the equipment. Mike F. asked if a significant number of addresses are challenged and deemed as served if the grant would be reduced. Andrea said HUB 66 plans to assess the addresses and move them accordingly from underserved to served. Michael M. stated that serving the entirety of each community was better than serving on parts. Peter asked if TDS has challenged the grant award, but nothing has been heard.

Kevin asked Matt Conserva if TDS will be able to extend service under EACAM. BEA was unaware if that was possible. Andrea listed the other towns included in the grant as Canaan, Enfield and Grantham. There are plans to serve parts of Hanover but not as part of the grant. Kevin says he can merge the data sets of challenged addresses to list of served and unserved addresses from previous committee work. It was suggested that the Subcommittee meet to resolve the challenged address after May 3rd to reconcile. Kevin will send email addresses of Subcommittee members. Dan Lloyd, a member of the public in attendance, asked if any cooling requirements to which Michael M said none were needed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.