

Plainfield Broadband Committee

Meeting Minutes July 25, 2016

Committee Members Present: Kimberly Longey, Howard Bronstein, Michal Lumsden, Lew Robbins, Sally Silberberg, Leslie Rule

Kimberly called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM at Town Hall.

A motion was made and seconded to appoint Kimberly Longey acting chair. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to appoint Sally Silberberg acting secretary. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the June 26 meeting. Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the July 11 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

MBI Update:

Cornell Robinson is sole representative from MBI (also lead guy in Goshen and also lead guy in Hawley)

Invitations to Paula King and Allan Kidson will be extended to join the initial meeting with Cornell Schedule August 1st first meeting. Agreed to meet ahead of time at 6:30 to go over our questions for Cornell.

Regionalization:

WiredWest: Leslie provided a report on the general discussion held during the WiredWest board meeting on Saturday. WiredWest has pivoted from the functions of design and build to providing services to its member towns. WiredWest needs to address issues pertaining to membership, as many towns are not active, yet remain members. This is affecting quorum for meeting and ability for WiredWest to move ahead into service for the towns that want to remain members.

WiredWest is planning now to issue an RFI for proposals. No quorum was achieved for this recent meeting, so no decisions were made. This is an info exchange forum. No business or recommendations for our committee at this time.

Cummington Consortium Meeting: Kimberly provided a brief summary of a meeting held in Cummington that was attended by representatives of Cummington, Plainfield, Ashfield and

Worthington. General focus was on process and timing for collaboration and formation of a small “sub-regional” group. Kimberly informed this group that Plainfield is keenly interested in collaboration and regionalization, our town is focused on moving ahead with the MBI sustainability assessment as an independent town network. We will seek to regionalize with suitable partners once construction is underway.

Wireless Update: Middlefield got \$125K from MBI for a pilot project, but town is struggling with internal battles on how to implement. Hawley is going full steam ahead on a wireless solution and working with with MBI as agent for construction and administration.

Outreach and Communications:

At our last meeting we agreed to submit an update to the town through the Plainfield Post August 5th edition. Michal drafted an update with the intention of adding a sentence or two after the meeting with Cornell Robinson. The deadline for the editor of the Post is August 2nd.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize Michal to distribute the current draft of the article to the editor of the Post this week, and to empower Michal to finalize the article without further committee review next week. The motion was approved unanimously.

Financial:

Kimberly will attend a meeting in Ashfield USDA meeting on Wednesday and will report back.

Strong sense from WiredWest towns that town treasurer and bond counsel needs to be included and involved in the sustainability assessment early in the process.

Lew will arrange for finance committee to invite Clarke Roule and anyone else.

Technology:

Lew provided a summary of his research on GPON and Active EtherNet and the memo distributed prior to the meeting. He circulated extensive notes in advance of this meeting. Committee members discussed questions and concerns regarding the technology choices before us.

Meeting adjourned 8:40PM

Minutes above as approved at the 2016-09-12 meeting.