

Plainfield Broadband Committee
Meeting Minutes Aug 8, 2016

Committee Members Present: Brian Hawthorne (Chair), Howard Bronstein, Kimberly Longey, Michal Lumsden, Lew Robbins, Leslie Rule, Sally Silberberg
Guest: Cornell Robinson, Plainfield MBI project director

Agenda: Continuing with readiness review

Motion to defer the reading of the minutes of the July 25 and August 1 meeting made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Pole licenses: HB has talked to Alan K. about the pole license; has put on Select Board agenda

Committee members continued to fill out the MBI "Last Mile Program Readiness Packet"; Cornell leading the process: reviewing, discussing and adding info online. Finished the "Decision Tree".

Discussion Points

Tiers speeds and pricing.

100 mg and 1gb, and other various speeds

- What is the cost/benefit ratio
- Factor: Higher strand count, splice the strand at the hut, splitter is in a wrap right next to the port
- Split at the host, then the splitter rack becomes obsolete, you purchase another card.
- Consider a homerun 100% typology using gpon initially and splitters inside hut that can be easily upgraded later to active E later

Redundancy

- Town is a POI (Point of Interconnection): place where two networks connect, the serving hub for an area of Western Mass
- Plainfield to purchase 2 redundant connections to the middle mile. We want redundancy, we want to connection but weither it is
- Depending how many circuits purchased from Axia, possible to negotiate multiple connections (configuration) but only pay for a certain amount of bandwidth
- Switching between two flows of data, would be getting the same amount of data, only paying small cost for switcher
- Plainfield: Two connections to the middle mile, 1 MBI and 1 other provider for true redundancy.

General discussion items

Batteries vs generator: Having batteries are a good solution because there isn't way to make a generator issue-proof.

Hut / Base Station Location

Suggestion location: beside the current hub

Overlapping:

- Offers room for growth with zero additional make-ready

KL made motion to have 10 years as the standard year span, planning block. Passed unanimously.

Kimberly to send a blurb to Cornell on

- Finance paragraph on PAC-W+
- Stand alone business

Discussion

- Ways to parse partnerships/small cluster regionalization. Costs will vary: first year will be cost heavy, costs might go down when we regionalize. This conversation is ongoing
 - Cultural-Creamery towns PAC-W +
 - School-Franklin
 - Emergency-all three counties
 - Community Health
- Depreciation: different models to be discussed.
- Fiber depreciation is 30 years, electronics remains at 7 years
- Insurance: Perma insurer catastrophic lost; but with limits of

Michal makes motion to authorized Kimberly to have a teleconference with Cornell re: on the spreadsheet. Passed unanimously.

List of to-do elements

- Draft Business Plan, Kimberly to Leslie
- Bond Counsel Data
- Leslie to confirm numbers with Cynthia re seasonal. Assume 7% seasonal at 8 months of the year

Next meeting, August 15, 2016 @ 6:30 p.m.
Plainfield Town Hall

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Minutes above as approved at 2016-08-15 meeting.