

Town of Readsboro, Vermont
Broadband & Cell Committee
Regular Meeting
April 6, 2016

Present: Robert Marechal, Omar Smith, Rebecca Stone – Broadband & Cell Committee members

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Agenda Additions/Deletions

None.

Approval of Agenda

Approved as posted.

Reading & Approval of Records

Omar moved to approve the minutes of March 30, 2016. Bob seconded. So voted.

Communications

Becky reported CoverageCo has not responded to the letter sent requesting an update from them on cell coverage expansion in Readsboro. Upcoming connectivity meetings in neighboring towns: Halifax, April 14th at 6:00 p.m. at the Halifax Community Hall; and Whitingham, April 18th at 5:30 p.m. at the Jacksonville Municipal Center.

Old Business

A) Discuss Follow Up with VTel, Verizon, Fairpoint, Southern Vermont Broadband Cooperative

Omar reported he is awaiting a callback from VTel customer service and plans to reach out to Stephen Whitaker. Becky indicated Verizon does not currently have projects scheduled but they will provide information specific to what they require in order to install connection devices/towers. Bob has followed up with Fairpoint and is waiting on their response on map updates and system upgrades. Becky provided road list for Bob to forward to Fairpoint. Omar stated that SVBC will be available to do testing in the near future.

B) Status of Establishing Informational Meetings in May

Becky has confirmed potential meeting dates with Department of Public Service and legislators for May 16th and May 23rd. Becky will contact representatives from Fairpoint and VTel to confirm the dates. It was noted that voting on the school budget will take place on April 13th at the Readsboro Central School and Bob anticipates being available to hand out *Connectivity Surveys* for residents that did not have a chance to complete a survey yet.

C) Discuss Strategic Plan

Omar indicated he would take the lead on developing a Strategic Plan and will set up a meeting with the Department of Public Service. By having a Strategic Plan in place it will assist in BCC's initiative for connectivity funding.

New Business

A) Review List of Town-Owned Properties

Becky presented a list of Town-owned properties with the intention of identifying potential tower and transmitter sites. The list needs to be broke out in more detail and identified on maps as a reference tool. Town-wide site visits will be scheduled in May. Potential use of national park land will be a subject for future discussion.

Discussed the process of outreach with officials being reviewed by the committee before communications are sent. So noted.

Hearing of Visitors

None

Adjournment

Omar made a motion to adjourn at 6:10 p.m. Bob seconded. So voted.

Noted the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Stone, Member, Broadband & Cell Committee