Broadband Implementation Committee

Regular Meeting

February 16, 2024/1pm/Zoom

Attendees

Tom Sevigney, Bruce Harris, Craig Mansfield, Laurel White, Stuart Palmer, Irene Haines

Entry Point: Eric Banyai, Nicole Banyai

Meeting called to order 1:03 pm

Acceptance of Minutes for 1/26/2024 motion Stu, 2nd Bruce

Discussion Signage

Lawn sign stakes were delivered 1/15/2024, signs are due in 2/20/2024

Larger 4'x8' signs are being ordered through Bryan Perry's print company. $88/sign x 10 signs=$880

Town property locations: Municipal Office Complex lawn, Hill at the Village Pizza Plaza, Old Municipal lot at the bridge, Millington Green, Intersection of Route 156 & 82, Sunrise Resort, Lake Hayward area/SNET lot, Transfer Station, Mount Parnassus & 82, and possibly Two Wrasslin Cats, with permission

Presently we have 760 people "interested", each newspaper article and newspaper insert and public outreach event generates signups greatly

Outreach through the schools

Laurel spoke with the new Superintendent Dr Teresa DeBrito who is in favor of allowing usage of school communication services. Laurel will clarify what that looks like before the next meeting.

Tom will send out an email blast to all that have hit the "interested" button next week to see who is interested in lawn signs. We will limit the distribution to areas with the highest traffic flow for ultimate contact outcomes. He will also encourage people to write letters to the editor to continue the efforts in generating more interest takers. Hopefully businesses who have expressed interest will allow for lawn signage at their business locations to continue this push towards our need for 60%.

State Grants

Things are ramping up toward the stage of Grant applications. We still have little information but need to be prepared for when this goes live. Craig points out we need to get more information from Entry Point about what financial supports(grant matching) we will have when the grant asks where funding is coming from. Entry Point is working toward having this information but is not ready yet. They are looking at March 1 as a deadline. Irene asked if Theresa is still participating in our committee and Tom will reach out to her this weekend to confirm she is. She has been the resource of information from the government. As far as the actual Grant Writing, Craig can help with this, Entry Point will have a lot of the technical information we will need so Erik and Nicole confirmed they will be participating.

Tom shared an article from a tech website, techdirt.com. Entry Point asked to have him share it with them. Please find it attached it here.
https://www.techdirt.com/2024/02/08/america-tires-of-big-telecoms-shit-driving-boom-in-community-owned-broadband-networks/

Meeting adjourned 1:22pm

Next Meeting March 1, 2024

Respectfully submitted, Laurel White, secretary