MCUB meeting notes
08.27.2019

Present were Stephen John, MCUB Chair, Ty Gibbons, MCUB Secretary, Cathy Cunliffe, James Meade, Bill Esses, Mark Francillon, Joe Prignano, and Annie Bartlett.

Introductions were made for new attendees.

The committee approved the minutes from the July 23rd MCUB meeting.

Steven reported on visiting the Select Board meeting on August 22nd, and that the Select Board approved the RFI letter to send to regional service providers. Steven reported that he sent out the six RFI letters electronically on Friday, August 23rd, and that he also sent the letters by mail on the 24th and 27th.

Consolidated Communications has replied with a Non-Disclosure Agreement. Ty quoted some sections of the agreement, and the committee discussed whether the the committee should sign. Steven will follow up with a question about the NDA to our contact at Consolidated Communications.

Vtel also replied to the NDA, and asked what addresses MCUB would like to know VTELs coverage for. The committee has a Marlboro grand list address data base, and will ask Vtel for coverage information for every address in town.

Bill Esses discussed how to go about a town survey, and what the committee might want to include on the survey. Jacob Smith is developing survey questions. Bill said he would sent out a Beta version to committee members.

Steven shared a note from Chris Lynch from Matrix Design. Chris reached out to the Committee as a potential business collaborator for the design and build of a fiber system.

Brent Seabrook is working on a topographical map which we can use to develop the coverage map. Bill wondered if it would be online so that it could be continuously updated.

Joe Prignano wondered how much the public might need educated about the technical aspects of connectivity.

Cathy said that we may need a map of where the utility poles are. She spoke with Duncan Cable about the possibility of fiber on Higley Hill Road. Duncan could work with existing poles, but cannot go through the woods where there are not

poles.

James noted that a coverage map and the RFI are necessary in order to put out a proper RFP to regional providers.

Bill asked what the ultimate purpose of a topographical map. Steven noted that topography is very important to a company like Vtel.

The committee circled back to what the internet survey should be composed of. There was agreement that the survey should have an introduction, and then four to six simple questions. Bill will set up a beta survey and send to the rest of the committee.

Ty Gibbons had to leave the meeting early, and Bill Esses took over note-taking at 8 pm.

Bill agreed to put together the survey and send a preview to all present for review and suggestions.

Steven pointed out areas on the Marlboro Town Map and talked about what internet was available in those locations, basically noting the outliers in our town who either had very good or very bad internet service.

Steven adjourned the meeting at 8:28PM

First portion of notes respectfully submitted,
Ty Gibbons, Secretary