

## Broadband Commission

November 8, 2021 6:00 PM via Zoom

### Regular Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** Chairman John Morosani called the regular meeting to order at 6:03 PM with Erich Marriott, Steven Simonin, Bruce Schnitzer, and John Bongiorno. Burke Gibney joined at 6:08 PM. Also present was Denise Rapp.

Absent: Jeff Zullo.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion: S. Simonin moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on September 27, 2021. J. Bongiorno seconded. All present voted aye, and the motion carried.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

### **Old Business:**

#### 1. Wifi in the center of Litchfield

J. Bongiorno reported on a conference call that he and J. Morosani participated in with Wendy Rego and Paul Tarsa of the Connecticut Education Network (CEN) on October 14. They were pleased to hear that there are numerous CEN drop points in Litchfield: Litchfield High School, Town Hall, Litchfield Fire Department, Center School, Litchfield Intermediate School, Litchfield Historic Society, Oliver Wolcott Library, Bantam Fire Department, Northfield Fire Department, and East Litchfield Fire Department. CEN confirmed that the Town would be allowed to share its CEN account with the other Litchfield CEN fiber locations to enable muni wifi traffic to be back hauled to the internet. It was thought that a muni wifi network could be funded by Litchfield's ARPA funding. It was agreed that we would undertake an initial proof of concept of the muni wifi network in the center of Litchfield emanating from Town Hall and at the Northfield Fire Department. In both cases, in addition to an exterior muni wifi network, both buildings would also be wired for internal wifi. Should the concept work sufficiently well, muni wifi networks would be rolled out in Bantam and East Litchfield as well. To that end, J. Bongiorno, assisted by S. Krucker will prepare a bid spec for review at the December 6 meeting.

#### 2. Coordination between the 8 Optimum towns

J. Morosani reported that Kitty Kieffer, COG's broadband coordinator, would not work with the Optimum 8 towns as Northwest ConneCT chairman Wayne Hileman feels that Northwest ConneCT's efforts should be in favor of all the member towns in Northwest ConneCT, not a subsection. The next step for the 8 towns will be to try to get a meeting between the 8 towns.

**Next Meeting:**

The next Commission meeting will be December 6, 2021 at 6:00 PM

**Adjournement:**

B. Schnitzer made a motion to adjourn at 6:47 PM, seconded by S. Simonin.

Respectfully submitted,



John W. Morosani