

Communication and Technologies Committee
July 19, 2021
Meeting Minutes

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 3:37 p.m. In attendance were Committee members Clark Stivers, Matt Hochman, Lucas Callado, and Todd Edgar. Staff present was Steve Cornell. Jill Goldthwait, town council member, was also in attendance.
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** There were no comments from the public.
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the Communications and Technologies Committee on May 11, 2021, were unanimously approved.
- IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** The agenda was unanimously approved as posted.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Next Steps After Town Meeting

Nothing is immediately required of the committee at this point as the RFP is moving forward. However, there will be opportunities later in the process for which the committee may want to be prepared. Ideas for future consideration were discussed including identifying uses for the \$45k in funding that has been set aside for possible fees related to the current use of Spectrum's dark fiber, methods for finding users/businesses/services that may have uses for the network, and communications for stakeholders.

B. LD 1219 Discussion

An evaluation of LD 1219, *Resolve, To Facilitate the Modernization and Streamlining of the Utility Pole Attachment Process*, was planned but the bill died between Houses on June 17, 2021.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Town Website

Jill Goldthwait joined the committee to discuss organization of the town website. As a frequent user of the site, Jill asked about the possibility of user testing in order to make content more accessible. Specific issues related to the ease of finding meeting information, including times; information related to the marine resources and design committees; code information vs. committee information; and council communications. Jill requested a review from the perspective of "non-tech folks."

Discussion ensued about the possibility of submitting comments via the website and what overhead that could generate as well as the possibility of dedicating some position to the management of the website.

Steve Cornell provided access to the analytics for the website and a brief review of those

findings will be presented at a future meeting. Then, the possible need for a usability review will be evaluated.

B. Local Access Services

Options to provide a long term management of the local access channel services that Jeff Dobbs currently provides were discussed. Ideas presented included the MDI High School Television and Film program or the Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce. Matt Hochman volunteered to inquire if the high school might be interested.

C. Membership

The need for additional members on the committee was discussed. Currently, the committee has a quorum only if all members are in attendance. The town council may be able to make an announcement at their meetings.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS: It was confirmed, thus far, the agreement for the use of dark fiber was still being honored. The next meeting of the CTC was confirmed to be on Monday, August 23, 2021, at 3:30 p.m.

VIII. COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS: No comments or requests for future agenda items were made.

IX. ADJOURN: At 4:44 pm, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Todd Edgar, Secretary, on August 21, 2021.
--