**11 September 2020**

**Location: Zoom Conference Call**

**Attendees:** Butler Smythe,Robert Publicover, Hannah Barrows, Phil Glaser, Doug Cowan, Arthur Lynn

Overview/Comments: Another relatively short meeting with Brooklin, Penobscot and Stonington not in attendance. A couple items are longer than normal because of the content (see #5 specifically).

1. No specific information has been received on the GWI Fiber effort for Sedgwick, Brooksville and Penobscot through the USDA - other than Butler’s recent communication with GWI for the second Reconnect round – which is in part a ~$400,000 connection to the area from the 3-Ring Binder. They are hoping to hear mid-September on that.
2. All should have seen the Ellsworth American Article on Broadband issues – specific to Blue Hill – but applicable to all. Butler noted he was also interviewed by the Portand Press Herald after he sent a “story” to one of their editors resulting in the call. This was connected to a Maine Broadband Coalition email and a response to it.
3. Butler made brief reference to the ConnectMe map (FCC Data) and his intent to use Blue Hill specific sections on the Blue Hill page of the PUB site. ISP’s noted in some area will not exist for that area (i.e Redzone Wireless and others).
   1. Butler did write a letter to the BH selectmen noting his actions - specifically regarding CCI shortfalls for DSL - with no response in almost a month.
   2. He noted that any town can have their own page and he can set that up as well as provide simple training and access should anyone want to have a town page. Blue Hill is the only so far.
4. 10 September 2020 PBS News Hour had a good piece on Telehealth and its impact for a specific Doctor relative to opioid counseling and treatment (i.e prescriptions) in the wake of COVID. Doug and Butler had both seen and thought it was worth a look.
5. Butler noted that a summer resident in the East Blue Hill area had called to discuss his Internet options. Of concern… He had Premium Broadband but their WIFI service in the area was dropped. He asked them what he could do, and they said they could get him DSL - and they did. He has a CCI phone line paying CCI for that service and now Premium Choice Invoicing him for DSL - using CCI DSL – at a rate of $60 per month with no option for any out of area discount in the winter -which is an option with CCI. He’s overpaying for something he should get from CCI direct. He’s concerned he’ll lose any Internet if he cancels as the RT is “full.” Butler gave him options and Hanna recommended communicating with ConnectME on the issue (Action for Butler).
6. Butler provided Survey results via email prior to the meeting.
7. Based on a question on cost an capability, Butler provided a summer resident and his family with a cost for Fiber to the Home - out the East Blue Hill Road – not to include East Blue Hill – for the worst connected area in Blue Hill as defined in the report at the bottom of this page - <http://www.peninsulautility4broadband.org/blue-hill.html>
8. Hannah noted that there is a Broadband Survey (Capacity/Speed) being developed that we should be seeing this fall. More details to follow soon and Butler noted his interest in starting a ZOOM effort to start talking to the larger community about important facts as well as listening to community issues. In short – Butler let took the action to talk to the Blue Hill Library for starters. PUB support will be needed. More to follow.
   1. This may be a means of talking to folks about the survey!

**Actions** (Butler)

1. Letter to Blue Hill Selectmen re: CCI contact and concerns. COMPLETED 17 August. No response from Selectmen.
2. Survey summary (to date) to Hannah COMPLETED and updated to all 10 Sept.
3. Blue Hill Public Library for ZOOM etc. – Butler For action
4. ConnectME re: Premium Choice – Butler for Action

**OTHERS**

1. Next Meeting – 0800 on 9 October 2020 via **Zoom**