

NEK Community Broadband CUD

Minutes - 4/30/20

- 5:30pm: Call to Order
 - 37 attendees joined by 5:30pm
- 5:34pm: Additions or deletions to the agenda
 - Evan Carlson(Sutton) reviewed agenda; asked for input/changes through raised-hand feature
- 5:35pm: Review minutes from previous meeting (none)
- 5:36pm: Review meeting procedure
 - Paul F: When will the public be able to comment? How can I see the documents we're reviewing?
 - Evan: Public comment at the end. Asks Katherine Sims (Craftsbury) to please drop Documents in chat
- 5:40pm: Record all present, primary and alternate board members
 - See detailed attendance sheet [here](#).
 - All towns with signed paperwork as of today (see attendance doc) have a representative in attendance except Stannard. Groton is in attendance, but the forms are not yet signed.
 - Guests: Jody Fried, Paul Fixx (Hardwick), Scott Campbell (St J), Dave Snedeker (NVDA), Calvin Cutler (WCAX); Eli Emerson (Primmer, Piper, Eggleston & Cramer); Emily Laxxner (Hardwick)
- 5:48pm: Establish Secretary & Pro Tem Chair
 - **Vote #1 (Chair Pro-Tem)**
 - Evan makes a motion to appoint Jody Fried as Chair pro tem, Michael Strait Seconds
 - **23 in yays, one nay (Burke), Motion passes**
- 5:55pm: Acceptance of member appointments with signed resolutions
 - Coventry, Stannard, and Hardwick were able to get their paperwork signed
 - Only Groton and East Haven still need to get their paperwork in
 - Chair entertains motion to accept the signed resolutions from Albany, Barnet, Barton, Brighton, Burke, Concord, Craftsbury, Danville, Glover, Greensboro, Kirby, Lowell, Newark, Peacham, Ryegate, Saint Johnsbury, Sheffield, Sutton, Waterford, Westfield and Wheelock.
- **Vote #2 (Acceptance of Town Appointments)**
 - Concord (Bill Humphrey) moves to accept the town appointments as read by Jody F. (Chair Pro-Tem). Jennifer Barone from Burke seconded the motion. Discussion about several late-added towns; Coventry, Lyndon, Hardwick, Stannard
 - Kristen (Albany) moves to add the noted towns to the motion. Noah Armstrong (Glover) seconds
 - **24 yays (Unanimous), Motion passes**
- 6:05pm: Review role of board members
 - Evan discussed the role of board members
- 6:05pm: Introduce legal team

- o Eli Emerson (Atty.) introduced himself. Explained the Second Tuesday in May clause in the bylaws. After the first year, we'd like to hold the annual meeting on that date. The first year there is an expectation that CUDs would meet earlier to be able to move work forward.
- o Jock (Peacham) asked about rules for posting public meetings. Eli distinguished between different types. For regular meetings we should post on a website. Emergency meetings have less requirements for posting notice. This is a special meeting.
- o Jock pointed out we should post via paper in three places. Eli clarified requirements.
- o Scott C (St.Johnsbury Alt.): Is this not a municipal body? Eli: I don't think so. More like a solid waste district.
- 6:15pm: Consent Agenda Vote
 - o Evan summarized the consent agenda
 - o Motion to vote on the consent agenda; moved by Mike Strait from Brighton
 - o Objection from Jock (Peacham); confusion about the agenda because some folks were looking at an older version. Discussion ensues to ensure all participants are following the correct agenda. Take-away: avoid changing packet material to board.

o Vote #3 (Consent Agenda)

- Motion to approve the consent agenda from Kathleen Monroe (Barnet)
- Bill Piper (Waterford) seconds
- No discussion; Jody called the question as presented
- **23 voted yay, Peacham abstained. Motion passes**
- o Groton's signed paperwork was emailed in; Groton representative is now authorized to vote in subsequent motions. Eli said we don't have to formally recognize him, although good practice.
- 6:25pm: Discussion, questions, amendments to Bylaws, Conflict of Interest Policy and Committee Charters
- 6:30pm: Slate vote on Bylaws, Conflict of interest policies, and Committee Charters

o Vote #4 (Bylaws)

- Mike Strait (Brighton) moves to accept the bylaws, etc. as presented. Noah Armstrong (Glover) seconded. No discussion
- **Motion passes unanimously (25)**
- 6:35pm: Appointments: Chair, Vice Chair, Clerk, Treasurer

o Vote #5 (Chair)

- Annie McLean (Sheffield) moves to elect Evan Carlson (Sutton) as Chair. Laura B (Hardwick) seconds.
- No other nominations
- No discussion.
- **24 yay, No vote recorded for Sutton. Passes.**

○ Vote #6 (Vice Chair)

- Bill Piper (Waterford) and Mark W. (Newark) withdraw from VC
- No additional nominations
- Carol F. (Greensboro) moves to elect Kristen F. (Albany) as V.C. Dana C. (Kirby) seconds. No discussion.
- **23 yay, no votes recorded for Albany or Greensboro. Motion passes**

○ Vote #7 (Treasurer)

- Bill H (Concord) moves to elect David Snedeker (NVDA) as Treasurer. Mike S (Brighton) seconds. No comments/discussion.
- **24 yay, no vote recorded for Sheffield. Motion passes.**

○ Vote #8 (Clerk)

- Kathleen M. (Barnet) moves to elect Annie McLean as the Clerk. Evan C (Sutton) seconds, No further discussion.
- **23 yay, no vote recorded for Hardwick or Sheffield. Motion passes**

● 6:50pm: Elect Executive Committee

- Slate of 5 executive committee members established through a google form, each member voting for top 5 out of remaining 8 non-Chair and non-VC candidates.
 - Lowell abstained from that process. Top 5 are:
 - Katherine Sims (Craftsbury)
 - Nicolas Anzalone (Saint Johnsbury)
 - Bill Piper (Waterford)
 - Noah Armstrong (Glover)
 - Jonathan Baker (Danville)

○ Vote #9 (Executive Committee)

- Motion from Annie McLean (Sheffield) to approve appointment of top 5. Jennifer B (Burke) seconds
- Kristen (Albany) discussed how we think county representation is important, and that it is unfortunate we didn't appoint a representative from Essex County. She pointed out that we are considering a technical committee for additional opportunities to contribute.
- **24 yay, no vote recorded for Waterford. Motion passes**

● 7:10pm: Establish regular meeting schedule

- Jody (Chair pro tem) recognizes Evan Carlson (Sutton) as Chair to lead the discussion
- Given the tie between monthly and bi-monthly, Evan recommends monthly to make sure the board is up to speed on the actions of the executive committee.

- Voice Vote (Regular Schedule)

- Chair moves for a monthly meeting, date and time to be determined next week. Jonathan B. (Danville) Seconds
- Discussion: Kristen (Albany) suggests we do voice vote to save time. Eli (attorney) recommends we adopt the schedule formally next meeting. The next meeting can be a special meeting
 - **Motion moves unanimously - not recorded in Roll-Call Vote Sheet.**
- 7:15pm: Strategic Overview & Authorization of Exec Committee for urgent action items
 - Chair suggests we ask for questions from the board instead of walking through all of the strategic vision
 - Kristen (Albany) clarifies that the next meeting will largely be about the strategic plan
 - Laura (Hardwick): I'm getting asked a lot about 5G from people. What are our plans there?
 - Chair clarified that 5G has a reduced range from other wireless technologies
 - Jody asks for any questions about the consent agenda. No questions.
- 7:20pm: Public Comment
 - Paul F. (Public) - concern about the availability reported by the state website. Looks inflated.
 - Chair: it is. Those numbers are self-reported by providers
 - Paul F. (Public) - I would also like to suggest that you provide transparency into your work. I would also like to suggest that you accept public comments at the beginning so that if members of the public have comments about what you are voting on they can make those comments before the vote.
 - Emily L (Hardwick): Agree with Paul that transparency is important. Is there a list or map of towns that are included? (yes) There are strong opinions about the type of internet service people want to have.
 - Michael B (Kingdom Fiber): I'm on the board from CVFiber. Congrats on getting to this point so quickly! I'm keenly interested and rooting for you. I want it to succeed. I hope that my company can be a big part of that.
- 7:29pm:

- Voice Vote (Adjourn)

- Noah A (Glover) moves to adjourn. Carole F (Greensboro) seconds. No discussion.
- **Passes unanimously**
- (applause) Meeting adjourns at 7:30pm

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