

Minutes of the Heath MLPAC Meeting  
October 13, 2020 @ 11am

Present: Art Schwenger, Sheila Litchfield, Jan Carr, Margo Newton, and Ned Wolf

Art called the meeting to order at 11:01 am. Members read the minutes of the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Margo moved to approve the minutes with emendations. Jan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Members read the minutes of the October 6<sup>th</sup>, 11 am meeting. Sheila moved to approve the minutes with emendations. Ned seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sheila reported that Jordan Hawes of TriWire has expressed interest in using a room of the former school at 18 Jacobs Road as a headquarters for crew meetings, maps and a storage place for MST's. Without use of such a room TriWire will have to use a Connex box or a tent heated during work hours. Sheila asked Robyn about the proper sequence in arranging for a possible rental. At 9:30 am on October 13 Sheila met Pam, Brian, and Jordan at 18 Jacobs Road for a tour of the building during which Pam showed the art room at the south end with an external door. The proposal from Pam and Brian was that TriWire rent the art room for \$1000 /month. The money would not go into a broadband account but into the school building use account. Jordan turned down the offer as not acceptable. Jordan will get back with a proposal. He talked of bartering - TriWire might reduce the cost of Heath's MLP network. Members wondered whether the expectation of an MLP network would be built into Heath's broadband because it's a business. Sheila has reached out to Jim Drawe to ask about the MLP network.

Art has put up lawn signs around the town. Jan has sent the following invoices to Jim Drawe: lawn signs \$157, postcards \$247, and Staples \$123.39. Wired West will handle the invoices. If at the end of the fiscal year Heath has a surplus, some of that surplus would be used to cover the invoices.

Using a link from WG&E, members have access to the CRM where 35 sign-ups for broadband service have been recorded. Jan said that 155 people have tried to sign up. When should we send people to customer service? Ned mentioned how Laura has made "Tips for entering your address" accessible on the website but perhaps not in an attention grabbing way. Need to find out who at WG&E we should refer the person to who says, "I've dug my trench and am ready to go?"

Members shared conversations with the potential customer they have called whose drops are estimated to cost more than \$3000.

Sheila asked about a customer who wants a second drop for another building. If that building is on a separate parcel and has its own 911 number, is it eligible for a credit? The committee favored a second credit in this case knowing the network benefits by having 2 drops. Jason Erali is interested in getting 2 drops on separate parcels. Just one of those drops appears on the PDU list. Both of Bob Dane's 2 drops were on the original PDU list. Art said that the PDU list shows that businesses get counted as dwelling units. Sheila noted that Burnt Hill Blueberries has only a drop for the house on the PDU and only one

E911 number assigned. She will follow-up with Kris about number of drops they would like; Ken said the second E911 number for the barn would be an "A" as it is off a driveway shared by the house.

Art asked who has the key to the hut? Sheila said that instead of using a key one enters by pressing the correct sequence of numbers, and she has the code. A follow-up item is to clarify Tim's work associated with the hut.

Ned reported on conversations with David Dvore, Laura Dorman, and Hilma. David said that at one time he questioned whether someone with a Verizon email address, who leaves Verizon for Ooma phone service, might have to change to a new email address. More recently he thinks that such a person would not have to get a new email address. But he said that someone who now has a Crocker email address and who decides to subscribe to Ooma phone will have to get a new email address. David said that one could bypass Wired West and subscribe to broadband phone service through Ooma directly but that there would not be as many options and the technical support would not be as good.

Ned thanked Laura for the edits to Heath's FAQ's that she had made and asked her to continue by editing the question about the deadline for signing up. Laura informed Ned that Heath's name will not be added to the drop down list on the WhipCityFiber.com website until all the addresses are in the database.

In talking with Hilma, Ned mentioned that the Town Accountant had paid for the interest on broadband borrowing by using more than \$21,000 from a broadband borrowing account, even though those interest payments were listed in ATM Warrant Article 3 as operating costs approved at the August 1, 2020 ATM. Hilma spoke of Sheila's having sent an email about this matter and agreed that it needs attention.

Sheila reported that we've received 2 invoices for police details each for \$1200. The committee wants an estimate for the total cost of police details to understand the potential impact of this unbudgeted item.

Ned made a motion to adjourn at 12:43 pm. Jan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ned Wolf