

Minutes of the Heath MLPAC Meeting
February 23, 2021 at 11 am

Present: MLPAC: Art Schwenger, Jan Carr, and Ned Wolf;
MLP Manager, Sheila Litchfield

Art called the meeting to order at 11:06.

Members read the minutes of the 11 am MLPAC meeting on February 16. Jan made a motion to accept the minutes. Ned seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Members read the minutes of the 2 pm MLPAC meeting on February 16. Jan made a motion to accept the minutes with emendations. Ned seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sheila said that she will post the MLPAC meetings on the calendar of the Town's website. She said that the 2 most recent DocuSigns from WG&E have been signed and completed. Laura Dorman has said that she's ready to send out 3 informational emails. Laura has asked whether we are interested in having an online information session in place of the big meeting we would have had if there had not been a pandemic. Members agreed that it would be good to have the online information session in the next couple of weeks. WG&E will send us a link. We will talk with WG&E this afternoon about a good time.

Sheila asked whether Laura's emails are available in pdf format so that she can post them on the Town's website. Laura said she can send them as pdf's. Before Sheila posts on the website she will send the document to committee members for possible edits.

There was a consensus that our marketing should include sending Jenny at Mohawk Estates an email once a week with the first one saying that the deadline has been extended to March 19 and the second one restating the disconnect/reconnect policy for seasonal service.

Members reviewed the names of those on their call lists.

Jan reported from the Dashboard that there are 343 CRM entries from 326 unique locations.

We are awaiting a final bank statement for the recent quarterly report sent to Bill Ennen. There are pending questions for Bill.

Sheila is still working with Hilma to be sure that invoices get to the Accountant. Sheila will postpone her Financial Report until next week prior to the March 4th MLB meeting.

The MLPAC discussed 3 candidates for 2 empty seats on the committee. We are about to transition to operations having been focused on construction. How do we distinguish between these 2 important parts of the broadband project?

Art recommended we seek people with business acumen balanced with a strong sense of public responsibilities. He recommends a person who keeps the customer in focus regardless of politics and who is a team member. The committee acknowledged strengths of the candidates. Ned made a motion to recommend 2 of the candidates to the Select Board as members of the MLPAC. Jan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sheila communicated this to the Select Board by email.

Sheila reminded members that there are 2 Charlemont residents near the border with Heath who have signed up for broadband. The IGA of March 2, 2020 between Heath and Charlemont says nothing about transferring the ownership of the 2 poles serving those houses from Charlemont to Heath. The MLPAC expressed support for that transfer of ownership.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf