



Town of Middlefield Communications Committee

Open meeting: July 17, 2015

Committee members present:

Howard Knickerbocker
Joe Kearns
Steve Harris

Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 4 pm.

Approved previous meeting's minutes as read.

Discussed recent trips by Communications Committee members:

- A visit to meeting of Hawley Broadband Committee at which we reviewed Crocker's analysis of projected fiber operational costs and discussed further coordination between our towns.
- Attended a meeting of the Royalston Broadband Committee at which we discussed their implementation of a fiber/wireless broadband network at approximately one-half the cost of an all-fiber one, and agreed to follow up on their implementation and technical specs.

Joe Kearns reported on the WiredWest meeting he attended, where he obtained the latest version of the WiredWest business plan.

Discussed and agreed to post Communications Committee analysis and docs on the [Last Mile Broadband Docs](#) page of the town website, such as the Crocker analysis of fiber operational costs for Leverett with estimates for Middlefield, Hawley & Worthington, and the committee's analysis of the costs of financing MBI's fiber.

Discussed our astonishment to learn, in following up with following up with Interisle, Royalston's technical consultant, that MBI had already contracted Interisle to complete a study of "Fiber, wireless, and hybrid broadband options for Middlefield"! It was agreed to request MBI to renew their Interisle agreement to update the study to incorporate the latest technologies and town-supplied data & requirements.

Discussed the boilerplate response Verizon sent to Senator Downing's staff that Middlefield's DSL service is "at capacity" and agreed to reply asking for specific technical details.

Discussed progress in upgrading electrical service to the town hall.

Discussed continuing work in upgrading Middlefield's emergency communications.

Discussed coordinating last mile implementation with Becket (Bancroft) and Worthington (River Road).

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.