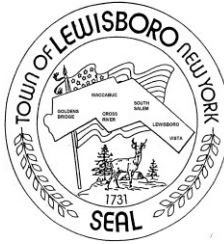


TOWN OF LEWISBORO
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Minutes of the AAB Meeting

June 29, 2021

Meeting was held via Zoom videoconference and called to order by Joseph Neu at 6:35pm

Present: Joseph Neu (Chair), Rob Cummings, Tony Gonçalves (Councilman/Town Board Liaison), Brian Porco
Absent: Jim Moreo, Neil Berman, Chris Nelson (KLSD Liaison)

Approval of Minutes and Housekeeping

- Resumption of live meetings does not apply to advisory boards. However, the AAB agreed to try a live meeting before the end of the summer.
- Board approved minutes from the March 16, 2021 meeting without objection.

Unfinished Business

- **Collaboration plan for CityScape Community Poll and Other Items.** Rob agreed to send around the text he drafted with Jim to connect the AAB's efforts with the CityScape Community Poll.
- Chair will reach out to the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Chair to schedule a time to connect with them on matters within the AAB's purview.

New Business

- Tony updated the board on conversation he had with Verizon that was prompted by NYSEG plans for work at Wild Oaks involving underground electrical lines, which are buried in Wild Oaks. This would give Verizon the opportunity to expand its Fios fiber network there, which they did not do previously because they did not want to pay to dig up roads to do so. The Verizon representative said this would be of potential interest and would come back to him. Tony will follow up.
- In conjunction with this, Brian recommended that the town approach NYSEG about including conduit for fiber in their work project.
- Update on CityScape Wireless Project and Next Steps. Chair recapped the key items from the CityScape presentation to study area town representatives on June 16. The next steps with the poll were to incorporate the recommendations submitted on that call and then send it to the public to respond. CityScape noted that other towns have leveraged the distribution methods used for police reform committees. The AAB noted that we could also use the distribution channels of the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee's survey. The next step for the CityScape Study beyond the poll was to update each town publicly on the project, presumably again at a Town board meeting.
- Tony agreed to get back to CityScape to confirm a date and if this presentation was indeed intended to be at a Town Board meeting.

- Chair continued to share highlights from the CityScape June 16 presentation to study area town boards. The most important of which were the preliminary maps showing coverage based on their propagation models. These maps make clear where additional infrastructure is going to be needed. These areas are consistent with what the AAB's research has shown, including from conversations with AT&T and Verizon.
- CityScape also indicated the Salt Dome tower as a proposed location in these maps, so the AAB again sent them an email noting that we would like them to consider other locations along with that site.
- Site Q14 in Ridgefield (water tanks on Peaceable Ridge) appears like it would benefit Lewisboro with a stronger signal. It is a 25-meter-high water tank on an elevation of 264 meters above sea level (so not as good as a tower). Chair suggested we ask AT&T and Verizon about this site (T-Mobile appears to be the only carrier at the site; Ridgefield PD and Fire also have antenna there). Brian agreed to reach out to Ridgefield Fire to see if a tower was ever considered there.
- Tony also sent CityScape address points with population numbers using the Town's access to the appropriate contact with Westchester County. This allowed them to complete the capacity maps that were missing from the June 16 presentation.
- The AAB presumed they would present these maps to the town.
- The progress suggests they may be closer to completing this project in 6-8 months than the 18 months they had indicated at the last Town board meeting presentation (which CityScape had indicated to the Chair was possible with active town cooperation).

Polling of the Board and Other Action Items

- Chair is watching the allocation to Broadband in the Biden Infrastructure Bill, including the funding available to support municipal broadband. Money is one thing, as another member noted, we also need regulatory cooperation and that of the existing providers.
- Tony will get an update from Optimum/Altice on Fiber-to-the-Home project to see if a Q4 rollout is still part of their planning.
- Brian noted that KLSD recently brought in Altice fiber to augment Crown Castle due to better bandwidth/cost.
- Could this fiber support municipal broadband or a partnership? Brian will see if we can connect with both Altice and Crown Castle again to see if the town can piggyback on fiber brought in for the schools.
- Tony will Look into NYSEG Wild Oaks project as trigger for Verizon to expand Fios there and for the Town to encourage conduit laying with any such projects. This can include a "Dig Once" policy. We can also speak to Verizon and AT&T for fiber as part of small sites, which CityScape has also indicated will be needed.
- More people in town might also ask to connect to fiber on utility poles or otherwise near their homes.
- Brian updated the AAB on status of the emergency frequency tied up by the acquisition of InSight by American Tower. It is a low priority for them and may take 18 months. He is asking the town to help put pressure on them to move faster. LVAC has expressed interest in an antenna on the Cross River tower and he is working with them on how best to do this.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.