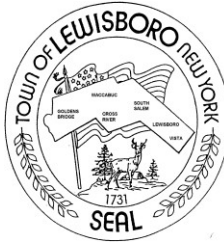


TOWN OF LEWISBORO
Antenna Advisory Board
PO Box 500
South Salem, NY 10590



Email: AAB@lewisborogov.com
Website: www.lewisborogov.com

Minutes of the AAB Meeting

October 27, 2021

Meeting was held live at the Cyrus Russell Community House and via Zoom videoconference and called to order by Joseph Neu at 7:02pm

Present: Joseph Neu (Chair), Rob Cummings, Lynne Geaney, Tony Gonçalves (Councilman/Town Board Liaison), Brian Porco; Jim Moreo (via Zoom)
Absent: Chris Nelson (KLSD Liaison)

Approval of Minutes and Housekeeping

- Board approved minutes from the August 3, 2021 meeting without objection.

Existing Business

- Updates on Fiber Infrastructure and Fiber to the Home Rollout:
 - Tony noted that Optimum's government affairs representative was presenting to an upcoming town board meeting (November 8) with updates on current and new infrastructure roll out plans.
 - Board suggested we ask them to submit any other junction boxes they might need in addition to the two submitted already for Town Board approval so that they could be considered together.
 - Tony also updated the AAB on additional Verizon Fios fiber being added to the Wild Oaks coop development (Goldens Bridge)—using conduits/fiber already in place there. This was enabled by Tony's introduction to the right contact with the coop owner/property management company.
 - Jim suggested that the town look into the possibility of extending fiber to the nearby affordable housing development as well. Tony will ask the developer.
 - The Chair recommended that this be part of an ask, mandated by town planning and zoning, that developers be required to lay fiber or conduits with any new development approved (alongside a "Dig Once" policy).
 - Brian updated the AAB on the KLSD fiber replacement project with Altice to confirm that they will not be replacing fiber to the Lewisboro Elementary School site.
 - AAB will also continue to seek an expert on municipal broadband who might advise us on among other things leveraging the KLSD fiber infrastructure that already exists in town.
 - Carrier outreach: AAB discussed continued outreach to the carriers on the

SS Presbyterian Church location and others indicated by the CityScape maps. Tony noted we should get back to T-Mobile to see if they have any updates on the status of their interest in expanding in Lewisboro. An updated contact is needed from them. The board also discussed inviting carrier representatives to speak at future AAB meetings or even to Town Board meetings.

- Chair also shared the email from Verizon about updating the antenna on the tower in the Leon Levy Preserve.
- Brian shared that upgrades are also being sought by American Tower on the Vista Fire House tower, to include a permit for adding Boost mobile. The fire department is thus seeking to use the opportunity to add desired equipment (repeater and antenna) to the tower.
- Ryan Reynold-endorsed Mint Mobile would also be welcome on towers (via T-Mobile or otherwise).

New Business

- Open Meetings, Virtual Continuation and Recordings. Chair updated Board on conversation with Town Attorney regarding FOIL requests for meeting recordings. The Chair suggested that it might be easier for everyone if the AAB streamed the meetings on the YouTube channel run by Lewisboro TV and will reach out to them.
- CityScape Poll Results. Rob presented his preliminary analysis of the results from the survey/poll, aimed to gather town resident (and those who work in town) input on wireless infrastructure in Lewisboro. The formal results summary will be part of CityScape's Northern Westchester County Wireless Telecommunications Infrastructure Master Plan Study.
- Key summary points:
 - Respondents were overwhelmingly Lewisboro residents
 - Verizon beats out AT&T nearly 2:1 with Sprint/T-Mobile and others far behind.
 - Average number of household wireless devices was 5
 - Cell service is severely lacking for 1/3 of town residents and only adequate for another 1/3
 - Only 1/4 of respondents rated cell service driving around town as acceptable or higher.
 - 98% of residents consider high quality cell service as essential.
 - 61% of respondents rated cell service quality higher than aesthetics (2%) or Good Connectivity with minimal visual impact (35%).
 - 52% of respondents want taller towers with fewer locations rather than smaller towers with larger numbers of them (29%) with 19% saying it doesn't matter to them.
 - 77% of respondents favored using town-owned or school-owned property to house cell towers.
 - The comments in favor of improving wireless infrastructure were consistent across all respondents regardless of the town area indicated as their home location.

- Judging from the comments, they were even more vocal about improving our internet/broadband services, which were not the subject of the survey.
- The AAB concluded that the survey results validate the AAB's mandate to advise on improvements to the town's infrastructure on both the wireless and wired sides.
- The Chair will reach out to CityScape with the results and ask when they plan to present their analysis to the town.
- A few residents also commented in the survey and outside it, how they might offer up property that they owned as a tower location. The AAB will thus advise that a mechanism be considered to vet such offers, including suggesting that residents review the CityScape maps to see if the proposed locations would serve areas identified as needing coverage or additional capacity. While the town code indicates that town property be considered first, it does not preclude private property from being used.
- The AAB also discussed possible school property use such as on Shady Lane where the KLSD offices used to be.
- In reference to a comment in the survey about John Jay Schools coverage, and areas of concern due to the number of students and sports activity there, the board also discussed validating that coverage has improved thanks to the Cross River tower at LVAC and the addition of AT&T antennas more recently. This would also highlight the benefits of the tower and better infrastructure more generally. If more capacity is needed there, it also would argue for a micro site addition.

Polling of the Board and Other Action Items

- Lynne suggested we reach out to the Comprehensive Master Plan Committee to share our results and see if there is any relevant data or opinions from their survey to compare as well.
- Chair will reach out to that Committee and reiterate our offer to assist with any elements of their project in the AAB's purview.
- Tony noted that meeting at Cyrus Russel Community House reminded him of the need to install Wi-Fi there.
- Chair noted he will keep pushing the carriers with Brian's help for follow-up to comment on the CityScape maps.
- AAB will also follow up with Homeland Towers to request an update from them.

Meeting was adjourned to executive session to inspect the Cross River Tower at 7:52pm.