Shutesbury Broadband Committee		
3_16_2022	5:00 PM DST	On Line Zoom Meeting
Facilitator	Gayle Huntress	
Minutes keeper	Jim Hemingway	
Committee Attendees	⊠Gayle Huntress ⊠Steve Schmidt ⊠Graeme Sephton	⊠Jim Hemingway ⊠Craig Martin
Other Approved minutes	February 16, 202	2

Hut Report: all looks good within the hut; the short fiber cable has been replaced by Crocker with one of proper length. Another one needs to be replaced that feeds the passive splitter at Lake Wyola. Gayle will investigate with Tim Otto on April 6th about when this replacement repair will likely take place. Very few trouble tickets this month, all pretty minor ones.

We have 15 new power plugs for the battery backup units that some of our subscribers bought from ShutesburyNET should they begin to fail once the battery inside these units is no longer able to hold a sufficient charge.

\$125,283 presently in our MLP account, most of which will be needed to service the Greenfield Cooperative Bank 10 year loan debt in April. This will be our fourth payment.

Lengthy discussion about reimbursing the Shutesbury Elementary School for \$1,753.80 for the government eRate funding that they think they might lose because of our ISP transition from Crocker to SHELD. Debbie at the school was unaware that we were making an ISP transition and apparently it is too late to make any changes to their eRate application which has already been filed. Should we reimburse them for this oversight? Doing so would set an unwelcome precedent for any future changes that might occur in our relationships with our subscribers when vendor changes happen. It is likely that much of the amount the school wants for a reimbursement goes to Crocker to pay for the management of their firewall, a relationship that is unlikely to change during the upcoming fiscal year.

The MLP voted on this request whether to reimburse the school for \$1,750.38: Hemingway, No; Sephton, No; Schmidt, No. Gayle will work with Debbie at the school on this issue and provide her with our recommendations and analysis.

The billing transition from Crocker to SHELD will take place at the end of July. Crocker will continue to be our ISP until then. Gayle has given the current draft of the intergovernmental agreement to SHELD for their analysis. Gayle wants to begin messaging our subscribers about the transition in May.

The MLP presented their FY2023 budget to Fincom earlier this month which they accepted with few questions. Some FinCom members asked about the increase in Gayle's salary as well as all

of the unspent money for pole rental charges from the utility companies, which we have not paid because we haven't received a bill from them. Steve wonders if we should itemize our new white label bills with more detail once we make the switch to SHELD. There is general agreement that the details in the bills we send to our subscribers are currently sufficient and should not change. But we will continue to list separately all of the state and federal taxes as we have in the past.

Graeme asked about the proposed visit MLP members would like to pay to SHELD and HG&E sometime soon. We would also like to pick up some of the Calix U4 and U6 Gigaspire routers for evaluation purposes at that time as well. Gayle will set up this upcoming tour date in the near future.

We will meet again before our upcoming annual town meeting – next meeting is April 27, 2022 at 5pm. Meeting concluded at 5:50pm.