

Shutesbury Broadband Committee		
9_21_2022	5:00 PM DST	On Line Zoom Meeting
Facilitator	Gayle Huntress	
Minutes keeper	Jim Hemingway	
Committee Attendees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gayle Huntress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Hemingway <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Schmidt Craig Martin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graeme Sephton	
Other		
Approved minutes August 17, 2022		

Hut Report: not much excitement at the hut this past month except for the wasps that have found a way to get inside our toolbox next to the hut. Gayle is working on the details for the security changeover at the hut from Crocker and Sertex to SHELD and HG&E which will happen over the next two weeks. Protocol for entering the hut will be the same as before.

No service reports yet from SHELD – the first one for September will come in early October. Gayle has access to the SHELD case tickets as they come in on line. Graeme has requested access to the same information about service calls and requests that Gayle is currently getting.

Financial Report: Gail Weiss has been asked to send Gayle the income and expense reports that she provides on a somewhat regular basis to Becky and FinCom. Unfortunately, these reports do not contain much detail about incoming MLP revenue which Gayle would like to be able to review on a more regular basis, something that Gayle has requested from Gail Weiss.

SHELD has revised their web page which now includes our logo. 360 of our subscribers have not yet paid their bill or set up their account with Kelly at SHELD as of this week. Some of our subscribers have not received their paper bill yet which would contain their new SHELD account number that would be needed for them to set up their account. So far SHELD has received 150 calls from our subscribers with billing questions. Some of the billing addresses that were given to SHELD for some of our subscribers were not accurate. Part of the problem has been with those who do not have a 01072 billing address, most of whom get their mail delivered from Amherst. Craig and Steve are examples of those with Amherst (01002) mailing addresses.

Gayle has ordered a new 1x16 splitter for use with our FSA03 network in the hut. Graeme suggested ordering an additional spare 1x16 splitter in addition to a spare for the 2x16 splitters located in the FSA04 distribution box by Lake Wyola. Fortunately, much of the equipment we use SHELD also uses as well in their fiber network which gives us some additional equipment backup possibilities should trouble occur.

The new CrownCastle 10gb backbone connection is still pending. Despite this, our phone VOIP switchover process to BigRiver will take place in October even if the new CrownCastle 10gb connection has still not taken place. And so Crocker will continue to provide us with a 10gb CrownCastle connection for the time being. Fortunately, these two issues, that is, the new CrownCastle circuit and the VOIP switchover to BigRiver, can be dealt with separately and are not mutually dependent on each other.

Gayle is concerned about having some sort of plan in place to give us, the MLP members, access to all of her files and notes that are within her purview just in case some sort of an emergency comes up. The MLP is currently very dependent on her for access to all of the inner workings of ShutesburyNet. She suggests that we will look into this issue after the SHELD switchover is complete. Gayle will work on an access and "key man" plan for the end of the year.

ShutesburyNet access to ARPA funding for making improvements to our Broadband network... \$50 million of ARPA funding given to Massachusetts has been transferred to MBI (Massachusetts Broadband Institute) which will be used just for broadband and broadband related issues. It is too soon to tell if the Shutesbury MLP will have any access to this funding apart from the request we have made to the Select Board for a portion of the share of the ARPA funds that have already been allocated to the town, funding that we would like to use to provide service to those in Shutesbury who currently do not have it.

Graeme has made inquiries about the new cell phone tower on Wendell Road and what future plans the tower owners might have in addition to what they are currently providing for the nationwide emergency service network.

Gayle suggested we should wait until next month or possibly November before discussing what has gone well and what hasn't with the transition from Crocker to SHELD. If desired, Gayle will do a full debrief with the MLP this November.

Meeting concluded at 6:05pm