

Newbury REDInet, Regular Meeting Agenda

Monday, September 28, 2020, 4:30 PM

1. **Call to order:** 4:40 p.m.
2. **Attending:** Claude, Ed, Brad, Liane, Bonnie, Dan. Guests: Rick and Linda as note taker.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The Sept. 14 minutes accepted with a correction to the numbering system, making the “Executive session for the vote” into item #7.
4. **Treasurers report:** Claude spoke with Michael Dehart at VT Dept. of Public Service and with FX of EC Fiber about the BIG 20 grant and is waiting to hear back. Checking account balance is \$6356.76. Invoice from Matrix should be sent to Town. About \$4,000 remaining in USDA grant. Ed notes that our pole survey might need to wait until spring if VT decides not to help.
5. **Review of Partnership with ECFiber:** Ed thanked Claude for his dedication. REDInet members will contact survey respondents to ask them to sign up with ECFiber as an expression of interest. Dan pointed out that a credit card number is not required in the subscription document on the EC Fiber website.
6. **Bylaws + Revision of Mission:** See email of 9/24/20.

3.0: MISSION AND PURPOSE

The mission of the REDI District is to ~~provide~~ **facilitate the construction and operation of** a reliable and affordable high-speed broadband **internet service provided by East-Central Vermont Telecommunications District, (ECFiber).** **And to assist** ~~related services to~~ residents and business owners within the REDI District **to become connected to the ECFiber network.**

The purpose of the REDI District is to enhance the quality of life for the residents of the District by fostering economic development, enhancing education and learning, improving wellness by improving access to health care, and by promoting public safety, civic participation, and social interaction. None of the foregoing shall preclude any other activities undertaken by the district in order to fulfill its mission and purpose.

Duties intended to be part of the Mission:

1. Represent Newbury at ECFiber meetings.
2. Provide technical guidance to subscribers needing conduit systems.
3. Provide grants to low income subscribers to assist getting connected.
4. Assist subscribers in managing their use of the fiber speeds available.
5. Represent subscribers in customer service questions with ECFiber. Change or delete “5?) Email suggestions to Claude.

Dan asks if we can dissolve the district. Claude: Maybe remain a REDInet but change our mission? Dan will make a presentation about what will happen, what we can do if we remain a REDInet, or if we become “just” a committee. Ed suggests keeping REDInet structure until the network is built, just in case.

Do our bylaws establish number of times we must meet a month?

6. We can't vote on bylaws change until our annual meeting in January 2021. Continue discussion next meeting. Claude wants to get League of Cities and Towns to review bylaws. Can we actually change them with a quorum? Claude will create mission and purpose. Clarify by bringing in ECFiber. Brad asks if we're not meeting at Space on Main should we be posting in three public places? Post in West Newbury post office, and at Tenney and Baldwin libraries. Brad moves that we only meet the 4th Monday of every month instead of twice a month. Dan seconds. Unanimous approval.

Dan moves that instead we cancel the first meeting of every month. Vote to cancel the first motion. So moved. Minutes should note that we are canceling our regular REDInet meetings of Oct. 12 and Nov. 9, 2020.

7. **ECFiber Meetings:** Claude and Brad are Newbury's board reps.
8. **Future Meeting schedule:** Changes to meeting schedule noted in item #6.
9. **“Head end” location,** Tenney Library, Report on Library board, meeting 9/17/20. Claude sent a package to FX. Engineers need to review routing, etc., before a decision is made.
10. **Subscriber survey:** Dan presented our survey results. Discussion of survey purpose.
 - a. We've had one or two more responses, now up to 114.
 - b. Survey follow-up questions: Brad reports. Can we just use ECFiber survey? Brad: should we check with ECFiber first to see if needed? Tell them, the more people respond, the sooner we'll get our service. Somewhat complicated email message. Work on and present at next meeting. Liane will draft an email message, email to group for review.
11. **Other Business:** Meeting ends at 5:50 pm.
12. **Next REDI meeting:** The regularly scheduled meetings of Monday, October 12, 2020; December 14, 2020; and January 11, 2021 are canceled. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, October 26, through Google Meet, at 4:30 pm.

Submitted: Linda Ide, 10/16/2020