

North Country Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee Meeting

MINUTES

Friday – July 13, 2018

10:00am to Noon

AHEAD First Floor Conference Room
Mount Eustis Commons, 262 Cottage Street, Littleton, NH

In attendance: Doug Arion, Jo Lacaillade, Alison Chisolm, Steve Knox, Mike Scala, Kate Griffin, John Hennessey, Mike Claflin, Anne Duncan Cooley, Miquel Morales, George Hunton, Beno Lamontagne

Tri County CAP: Carrie Portrie, Marilinne Cooper

NCC Staff: Michelle Moren-Grey

Meeting called to order at 10:05am by Vice Chair, Jo Lacaillade – Welcomed everyone.

Roundtable introductions were made by attendees.

Acceptance of Minutes: none to be accepted work session

Presentation of Bristol Fiber-Optic network Project – Bill Dowey

Michelle Moren-Grey reminded committee of the regions boundaries and that all of Grafton County are within the ED District. Bill Dowey, Chair of the Bristol Economic Development Committee presented the Fiber-Optic Project for Committee approval. Bristol will construct a three-mile, middle mile fiber-optic cable network. This network once installed will create economic growth by providing a high-speed, low-latency compliant network, suitable for voice, video, telemedicine, and robotics applications. Telecom carriers have committed to provide cellphone/wireless services in Bristol utilizing the network for communications backhaul to their POPs. This will allow cellular/wireless service needs for businesses, first responders, residents, and municipal operations. High speed broadband will support the application types identified above in current and future enterprises.

Discussion about the project – if the project is successful in being funded it will essentially in addition to increasing service to Bristol act as a model for other rural communities.

Motion to place the Bristol Fiber-Optic Cable Network Project on the CEDS Project Priority List made by Mike Scala, seconded by Doug Arion Passed unanimously.

Tri-County Community Needs Assessment Facilitated Focus Group – Marilinne Cooper & NH Listens - Marilinne gave a brief overview of the goal of the session. This session and others around the region with various stakeholders will assist in strengthening TCC programs and feed into updating the vision and strategy of the organization.

Meeting was turned over to TCC.

Roundtable and Updates

Only announcement made due to limited time was save the date for SBA's Small Business North Country Summit – Colebrook 9/26/18 and Berlin 9/27/2018.

Adjournment: The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:05pm