

MATHEWS BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
19 January 2021 9AM - 10AM on ZOOM

Present: Judy Rowe, Thomas Jenkins, Joe Syslo, Jeff Beekhoo, Chuck Huntley, Julie Kaylor, Greg Lewis, Cynthia Hayes, Willie Love, Debbie Falco, Page Herbert, Dee Russell, Mindy Conner, Sherry Hamilton, Amy Dubois, Donna Givens, Donnie Lewis, and Elizabeth Tollis.

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The January 19, 2021 meeting of the Mathews Broadband Advisory Board was called to order at 8:59 am by Chairman Judy Rowe.

MINUTES: The January 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes were emailed to members for review. Judy asked for corrections and additions. There being no corrections or additions, Greg Lewis made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented, and Dee Russell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- I. I. Election of Vice Chair and 9th Voting Member - Greg reported the Nomination Committee move to nominate David Blanks as Vice Chair and for Rob Quartel to continue as a voting member. The motion carried to elect both.
- II. Updates:
 - A. Smart Poles - Jeff Beekhoo asked if we received the write-up of the Splash Page so that he can finalize it and then finalize activation of the Smart Poles.

Judy asked Cynthia to send letters to private property owners for allowing smart poles to be installed.

Jeff suggested press releases to go out once all the kinks are worked out.

- B. Library MiFi Lending - The 25 MiFi units are ready for checkout today, but some will need some components that are backordered.
- C. Tower at MVRS - Jeff there is nothing new. still waiting on Verizon... has a verbal okay from counterpart.
- D. VATI grants - Jeff reported there were some updates because of RDOF. He still has no idea when awards will be announced - may be April
- E. Digital Literacy - Dee is awaiting a map from the county to put on the website.

NEW BUSINESS:

- I. I.Strategic Plan - Jeff reported the final was sent to Judy yesterday for review.

Jeff is working with Willie to do a drive out and determine the best place to run.

Judy reported she returned the plan to Tyler this morning with a few minor adjustments, and will send it out to members once she receives it back from Tyler.

Jeff said he will present it to the BOS for approval at the next meeting.

- A. Houston, when are we go for launch? We are looking for a date to launch the Smart Poles, MiFi Lending launch of information to the public next week.
- B. Demonstrations, videos, radio, press - Judy met a private preschool director yesterday who expressed issues uploading videos to her preschool children. Judy suggested the use of Smart Poles. Jeff suggested taking a demo unit to the preschool's location and setting it up there. Judy wants to be able to put demonstrations, videos, radio, and press releases out to the public.

Donna Givens asked about partnering with Bay Aging for a telemedicine grant.

Judy called Charles Burford (Peach Point) concerning his submission for public comment at the next BOS meeting. She updated him on the VATI grant the BAB has applied for for that area.

Judy shared an Essay Exam of a MHS junior about the need for broadband and what the BAB is trying to do about that need. Kudos and thanks to this student.

- C. What's next? Judy asked where do we head now, specifically. Jeff responded with plans to do an RF analysis to determine exactly how service would work for each address. Jeff said then a true cost analysis could be taken to the BOS.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Judy hopes to have another meeting with education group.

Thomas reported that this meeting has been hosted from the SmartPole in the Admin Parking Lot. Judy commented on how clear Thomas' picture. was.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:39 am.

CALENDAR:

BOS Meeting: 26 JANUARY 2021 1:00 PM

BAB Meeting: 2 FEBRUARY 2021 9:00 AM ZOOM

BAB Meeting: 18 FEBRUARY 2021 9:00 AM ZOOM

BOS Meeting: 25 FEBRUARY 2021 1:00 PM