

Broadband Meeting

10/7/2024, on Zoom

In attendance: David Hill, Michael Porter, Erhardt Groothoff, Richard Hackel

Minutes by Richard Hackel

Michael reports as of 9/30/2024 there are 417 subscribers. 206 have been installed and are currently functioning or have deferred active-status until spring.

The Broadband party will be this Sunday, 10/13/2024, at the Island Hall. May Hall is catering it. It is generously funded by the Island Institute, Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG), Axiom, and the Recompense Fund. Some people from these organizations will be coming from off-island to attend, and some of us will pick them up at the noon boat and return them afterwards.

The party also signifies the end of Digital Inclusion Week on Oct 13. Clara McCool from GPCOG will be helping us formulate and fund plans to educate digital literacy and otherwise help those who need help in understanding internet technology.

Michael reports our project is under-budget, We budgeted \$1,825,571, and have spent \$1,351,854 so far. There is an additional \$125,000 grant money that has come in. We will be able to put extra money into a fund for future upgrades as needed.

Upon the completion of the final installations, the Broadband Committee will submit a completion report to the Town, and the Committee will pivot from an installation committee to a maintenance committee.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 28th at 5pm, on Zoom.