

Belvidere ARPA Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday 04/27/23

Meeting called to order at 6:35. Attending the Meeting: In Person at Town Offices: Kathy Marchant, Lindsey Fletcher Minor and Jack Slagel and by Zoom Andy Iwaskiewicz and Mary Hysick. Town Clerk Cathy Mander Adams was also present as host.

General discussion regarding our next steps in evaluating the suggestions received from Belvidere residents.

Topics included:

--Report by Andy on his work to the spreadsheet created by Fran Leavitt and then modified by Andy which lists the suggestions given to us by residents, and how it can be organized and color coded to group similar suggestions. There were also other ideas to aid our analysis and decision making.

--Discussion about how to weight projects by relevant criteria.

--Discussion about prioritizing projects that work to improve the general community of Belvidere, and how the Belvidere Community Club plays an important role in this community and how they had a significant financial hit during the pandemic (by not being to put on the Bluegrass Festival, their major source of income). Questions were raised about their non-profit status (yes it is a non-profit), and about salaries (no one gets a salary).

--A letter was brought to our attention by Cathy Mander Adams. It was from the Community Club and given to the Select Board in anticipation of potential funding by ARPA. The letter was written in 2022.

--It was pointed out that the letter was not presented as part of our request for suggestions, so to make sure it was included in our work Jack Slagle moved and Kathy Marchant seconded a motion to include the letter in with the other suggestions.

The motion passed, 4 yes votes and 1 no vote.

Mary Hysick then notified us (over Zoom) that she was resigning.

--Further discussion about methods for whittling down the possibilities, and about similar approaches used by other other Vermont communities, and about ways we might weight suggestions such as by relevant criteria.

--Also discussed were the possibilities for additional funding for broadband deployment

At 7:49 Jack moved to adjourn the meeting, Kathy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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by Zoom Andy Iwaskiewicz, Mary Hysic, and ___?___?___.
Town Clerk Cathy Mander Adams also present.

(Mary H. taking notes for first part of meeting)

...later in the meeting...

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