MONADNOCK BROADBAND GROUP

AGENDA

February 14, 2023
10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Keene Library
Ruth Huntress Auditorium
60 Winter Street
Keene, NH 03431

Join on a computer or mobile device:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81361355402
Meeting ID: 813 6135 5402
Passcode: 582700
Join by telephone: 1-646-558-8656

I.   Welcome

II.   Digital Equity and Access Needs Assessment (5 minutes)

In addition to issues related to access, SWRPC recently explored topics related to digital literacy as part of a needs assessment sponsored by the Monadnock United Way and Keene Senior Center. SWRPC staff will provide an overview of the findings of the final report as well as lead a brief discussion meant to inform whether the subject matter is appropriate for future agendas.

III.   Internet for All and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (30 minutes)

Clay Purvis has been recently appointed to his new position at the NTIA focused on Vermont and New Hampshire's unprecedented federal broadband funding through the federal Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD), Digital Equity, and other programs. Mr. Purvis will update attendees on program activities and timelines.

IV.   Current Broadband Mapping Initiatives (15 minutes)

This fall, the Federal Communications Commission's National Broadband Map received a major overhaul and now features address-level information, challenge process and outreach toolkit. More recently, the University of New Hampshire (UNH) received support from the State to undertake additional mapping activities, including a speed test. David Justice from UNH will update the group on their activities.

V.   NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs Update (10 minutes)

The Department's Office of Broadband Initiatives has issued a number of requests for proposals for broadband mapping as well as infrastructure improvements. Matt Conserva will provide a summary of these activities.

VI.   Legislative Update (10 minutes)

Proposed legislation appears from both the House and Senate as HB 257, HB 298, SB 16, and SB 222. SWRPC staff will provide an overview.

VII.   Advocacy Opportunities (10 minutes)

A number of communities recently advocated for the acceptance of federal funds by the State to improve broadband infrastructure. This agenda item is meant to acknowledge the success of these efforts and remind participants about the potential role for MBG as a regional clearinghouse.

VIII. Member Updates (10 minutes)

A chance to learn about what others are doing. Attendees are encouraged to describe activities related to addressing broadband and telecommunications challenges and opportunities in their communities.

IX.   Next Steps

An open forum on strategies for moving forward, coordination, collaboration, etc.

X.   Adjourn