

Broadband Taskforce Meeting Minutes

3/22/2021 via Zoom

1:00-1:55 PM

Topics of Discussion:

1. Opening Remarks – Our proposed purpose is to be an organic, collaborative group to inform county legislators and community members about the importance and benefits of bringing broadband to Adams County. We will act as collaborative decision makers with an understanding that whatever discussion is had, or decision made, we will assure that it is aligned with our overarching goal with an understanding that one solution will not work for all circumstances.
2. Overarching goal: Bringing quality broadband access to all of Adams County.
 - a. Our Options include:
 - i. United Fiber and Data- Proposed by community Media of South Central Pa. to continue fiber optic network and bring it back to the county by accessing existing systems that connect phones and television to use for internet. We would work with Points of Presence to determine where the existing networking equipment resides.
 - ii. Proposed by Pa.net- Use a wireless service to bring broadband to Adams County. The advantage to wireless is geography and rapid deployment. The idea is that small towers would be installed throughout the county to use for wireless connection.
 - iii. Starlink – Satellite connection.
 - iv. Kinber Fiberoptic Network (KFN)- <https://kinber.org/network/maps-diagrams/> Proposed by Bob Messner of HACC and Mick Murphy of WellSpan Health. KFN recently sold to First Light Fiber and the proceeds were used to build a fiberoptic plan. Ideally, this resource would build a loop structure to establish redundancy. This service currently covers a good portion of Pa. Could there be a possible interest in financing some additional fiber, here?
3. Things to consider:
 - a. Is there a requirement that basic broadband be available to anyone who is connected via telephone?
 - b. Independently laid fiber by a local company.
 - c. FCC and PEW for coverage mapping data.
 - d. What else might we need to be the best informed moving forward?
 - e. Who else can we bring to the table for future discussions?