

Jamaica Planning Commission (JPC)
Draft Meeting Minutes - Regular Meeting
May 16, 2022
Jamaica Town Offices, 28 Town Office Road
Jamaica VT 05343

Commissioners present: Bryan Zieroff, Chris Robbins, Charlie Peck

Public present: none

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The draft minutes of the May 2 JPC meeting were approved as written.

1. Chris reported that the “Tri Mountain” hybrid broadband access initiative, proposed by Winhall and other nearby towns, appears to be unfeasible, based on comments from the VT Public Service Department that such an initiative would face significant difficulty in securing state and federal grant funding. Chris further commented that the recently announced federal Affordable Connection Policy (ACP) will have substantial benefits for qualifying low and moderate income DVfiber subscribers and will significantly assist DVfiber’s efforts to supply low cost, affordable high speed internet access to all Jamaica households and businesses.

2. The Selectboard has voted to proceed with the JPC recommendations to reclassify or discontinue certain identified town highway segments and a legal trail. Charlie has been in communication with Greg regarding the preparation, by the town attorney, of legal documents necessary to proceed with the JPC recommendation, and about possible Selectboard action to proceed with the JPC recommendation to authorize the opening of LT 11 and LT 25. The JPC is a statutory party to the proposed reclassification/discontinuance proceeding, and should be represented at the public hearing on those proposals. On a motion by Bryan, commissioners present voted unanimously to appoint Charlie to represent the JPC in future Selectboard actions on the JPC recommendations, and at the Selectboard public hearing.

3. The draft JPC recommendation for the use of available ARPA and IIJA funds was discussed. Bryan will supply additional information on possible need for use of some of the ARPA funds to advance the community wastewater disposal initiative. Chris will supply additional information about the use of ARPA funds to support the DVfiber broadband initiative. Using that information, Charlie will re-draft the document and circulate to members for review and approval before forwarding to the Selectboard.

4. There being no further business, and no public concerns expressed, the meeting was adjourned.