

Minutes of the Broadband Committee  
Town of Charlemont  
April 29, 2015

- The scheduled meeting for Tuesday, March 31, 2015 (scheduled for immediately after the WiredWest information session) was not held due to lack of a quorum.
- Meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Bob Handsaker.
- Committee members in attendance were Bob Handsaker, Toby Gould, Ken Hall, Mary Ellen Banks, Steve Ferguson and newly appointed member Cheryl Handsaker who has filled the open seat.
- Visitor in attendance was Trevor Mackie.
- Cheryl Handsaker and Steve Ferguson gave a report on the MBI meeting in Ashfield.
- Bob Handsaker gave a report on the Leverett meeting where he learned about the financial details of Leverett's project and the technical specifications. The project is schedule to go live this summer.
- The idea was discussed of creating a private fund, separate from the town or the Broadband Committee, to help residents who might have difficulty paying the \$49 WiredWest deposit. We agreed this should be separate from the Broadband Committee.
- It was agreed that we would continue outreach to encourage people to sign up for WiredWest and to support the warrant article. We will focus on Saturdays at high traffic sites like Avery's store, Cold River Package and the Coffee Bean.
- Motion was made by Toby Gould to have Bob Handsaker enter into discussion with MBI about alternative network proposals and how to apply so we are prepared if the warrant article is voted down at town meeting. Mary Ellen Banks seconded. Approved unanimously.
- It was agreed that we should schedule a joint meeting with the Select Board prior to annual town meeting. Bob Handsaker will set up this meeting.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.