

#3...May 22 2019

Spring greetings already!

This email is going to those 237 people who indicated on the broadband survey that they would like to be kept up to date by email. Included in this third update are:

1. Current status of the GWI loan application 2. Update on the Broadband Literacy project 3. Legislative action thoughts

1. Current status of the GWI loan application

As we are all aware, the government was shut down, meaning nobody in USDA could work on the loan applications they received. The shutdown and associated disruptions went on for almost two months, causing a delay in submitting the application for Brooksville, because the applications that were already in the pipeline before the shutdown have to clear before our application can go in. Also, because so much time has elapsed we may need to provide a little more survey data to show that we are still in the desperate situation we were in last year. If anything it's gotten worse for some of us. Premium Choice's Blue Hill tower was decommissioned, affecting people in the eastern part of town, and Redzone abandoned its customers served by its Belfast tower, affecting people in Harborside.

GWI has not abandoned us however. Kerem Durdag, the Chief Operating Officer, will be coming to Brooksville for a public meeting to explain what is going on and what to expect.

**The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m.,
Wednesday, June 5, 2019
at the Brooksville Town Hall, 1 Town House Road, Brooksville, Maine 04617**

The meeting is open to the public and we are inviting representatives from neighboring towns as well. Hope you can make it! We're all in this together.

2. Update on the Broadband Literacy project

We are having a lot of trouble finding our target client base for this project. It is a bit like trying to push a rope! People who want to help should contact Doug Cowan, email dougcowan@gmail.com, or talk to Brook Minner at the library. We "have computers, will travel" – but where would you like us to go, and what would you like to learn?

3. Legislative action thoughts

There are apparently a lot of bills at the state house trying in various ways to jump on the broadband bandwagon. Let's just say, some of the bills are more helpful than others. We'd like to get behind and support the bills that will really make a difference, but to do that, we need

more information. Would you like to be on a legislation subcommittee that will help keep Brooksville in the know? Please contact me if you are interested in this – email or phone.

Thanks for your attention and unwavering interest in better internet for all the people in Brooksville!