

**Town of Wiscasset**  
**Broadband Committee Minutes**  
**December 9, 2021, 11AM**

Present: Carla Dickstein, Evan Goodkowsky, Marty Fox, Dusty Jones, Dennis Simmons, Susan Corbett (National Digital Equity Center)

**Presentation from Susan Corbett, National Digital Equity Center**

Susan presented Digital Equity Plan that she provides through the National Digital Equity Center. Digital Inclusion includes, Affordable Broadband, Affordable Equipment, Digital Literacy Training, Public Computer Access. The center provides digital literacy classes, free devices for low-to-moderate income individuals, a partner affiliate onsite program, and a volunteer program.

Susan discussed how to identify low- and moderate-income households, the demographics of Wiscasset, and the demographic information of students that have taken courses through the Equity Center.

Susan is going to send drafts of plans on Digital Equity and a draft letter of agreement if the town chooses to work with NDEC.

**Financial Commitment from Town for Broadband Work**

Marty discussed getting a financial commitment from the town toward costs for digital equity plans and other planning activities as well as future broadband costs that will require some town match.

**Committee 2022 Budget**

The committee discussed what was going to be needed for a future budget and decided to schedule a budget workshop as soon as possible in order to submit a 2022 budget to the town by January 13th. Dennis thought the town's federal funds from ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) could be used for the committee's work.

The meeting for the budget workshop was scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.