



Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission
Regular Meeting

www.ci.austin.tx.us/telcommission

MINUTES

Wednesday – March 9, 2011

Please go to

http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/10_1.htm

for backup material associated with this agenda.

All Channel 6 programming is cablecast on Time Warner and Grande cable channel 6, AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 and webcast online. Over 20 meetings per month, including this commission meeting, are available on demand online, typically within a few hours of cablecast. Schedules and video at: <http://www.cityofaustin.org/channel6>

Current Commission Members:

Kedron Touvell, Chair	Chip Rosenthal, Vice Chair
Wendell Ramsey	Lemuel Williams, Jr.
Randall Kolb	Melvin White
Elizabeth Quintanilla	

The following items are posted for discussion and possible action.

1. Call to order – March 9, 2011 - 6:40 p.m.

Commission members in attendance:

Kedron Touvell, Chair
Chip Rosenthal, Vice Chair
Wendell Ramsey
Lemuel Williams, Jr.
Randall Kolb
Elizabeth Quintanilla

Commission members absent

Melvin White

City Staff in attendance

Rondella Hawkins
Paul Lewis
John Speirs
Jane Reina

2. Adoption of agenda.

The agenda was adopted by consent of the Commission.

3. Citizen Communication: General

The first 10 speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

Scott Johnson- Spoke of his concerns regarding the City of Austin Cell Tower Siting Ordinance.

4. Approval of minutes – February 9, 2011 Commission Regular Meeting

The minutes from the Commission regular meeting of February 9, 2011 was approved on Commission Kolb's motion; Commissioner Rosenthal's second on a vote of 4-0-0. (Commissioner White absent) (Commissioner Ramsey and Quintanilla arrived late).

5. Invited Presentations

- a. City's Web Redesign Project (AustinGO) (Doug Matthews) (wp3)

Doug Matthews, City of Austin, Chief Communications Officer gave an update on the City's Web Redesign Project (AustinGO) which included: Phase 2 RFP (The Build); project current status; and project timeline. See link for presentation.
<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=149418>

- b. Austin Free-Net update (Juanita Budd, Executive Director and Dale Thompson) (wp3)

Juanita Budd, Executive Director and Dale Thompson, Financial Manager of Austin Free-Net (AFN) gave an updated on Austin Free-Net's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grant that AFN received. See link for presentation.
<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=149419>

6. Staff Briefings

- a. Legislative, Regulatory and Policy update. (Paul Lewis) (wp4)

Paul Lewis, Assistant Manager of the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs report included: Texas Cable Association's legislative proposals; Community Access Preservations Act; FCC to Issue Notice of Inquire; Moratorium on Internet Taxes and Electronic Commerce; Cell Tax Fairness Act; FCC moves to shift phone subsidy to Rural Broadband; and appeal of Ruling on Texas Cable Association and Time Warner Cable suite on Senate Bill 5.
<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=149242>

- b. Technology Ascertainment Survey update. (Rondella Hawkins) (wp3)

Rondella Hawkins, Manager of the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs report included data analysis of the Technology Ascertainment Survey. <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=149223>

- c. Request for Proposal (RFP) on public access television management contract update. (Rondella Hawkins) (wp1)

Ms. Hawkins reported the RFP closed on March 3rd with 2 proposers. She gave the current timeline for the RFP and a reminder that the City of Austin's No Contact Ordinance states if you are a potential vendor participating in a RFP issued by the City you cannot have direct contact with a Council Member, or City Board or Commission members to discuss the RFP. All discussion on the RFP needs to be directed to the designated City Buyer which in this case is Jeffery Dilbert at jeffery.dilbert@ci.austin.tx.us or (512) 974-2651.

- d. Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs) update. (John Speirs). (wp2)

The GTOPs update was included in Item 7. a.

7. New Business

- a. Discussion and possible action on 2010 GTOPs grant recommendations (John Speirs) (wp2)

John Speirs, Program Coordinator, with the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs presented the grant recommendations to the Commission with a brief summary of the program they requested funds for.

Motion to accept the Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs) Review Committee's 2011 GTOPs recommendations as follows: Austin Children's Museum awarded \$15,000; Austin Learning Academy awarded \$ 18,000; Austin Speech Labs awarded \$24,850.; Breakthrough awarded \$20,000.; Goodwill awarded \$15,000.; Knowbility awarded \$6,700.; Latinitas awarded \$18,171.; Skillpoint Alliance awarded \$15,000.; Webb MS Family Resource Center Awarded \$17,279.00 was approved on Commissioner Rosenthal's motion; Commissioner Kolb's second on a 6-0-0 vote. (Commissioner White absent)

These approved recommendations will now go to the City Manager for final approval.

- b. Discussion and possible action on a Resolution in Support of the federal Community Access Preservation Act. (CAP Act) (Paul Lewis) (wp1)

Paul Lewis, Assistant Manager of the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs presented a resolution to the Commission regarding support of immediate passage of the Federal Community Access Preservation Act (CAP Act). See link for full text of resolution.

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=149241>

Motion to accept a resolution stating the Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission recommend that the Communications Act of 1934

be amended by way of the Federal Community Access Preservation Act (CAP Act) so that funding for public, educational and governmental access channels may be used to support basic operational costs and ensures that their content is treated the same as other local broadcast channels, was approved on Commissioner Rosenthal's motion; Commissioner Quintanilla's second on a vote of 6-0-0. (Commissioner White absent).

- c. Update reports on networking relationships with other boards/commissions and groups, citywide and Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission (ACT&TC) information items.

Austin Connects hosted the 2nd Annual Community Technology Symposium on March 1st at AMD's Lone Star Campus. The mission of Austin Connects and the role of the symposium is to provide educational and networking opportunities in support of digital literacy and inclusion. They had 100+ attendees from community tech non-profit organizations, government, social services and education. See link for more information. <http://www.austinconnects.net/>

Austin RISE Week is March 7-11, 2011. RISE Week offers entrepreneurs a combination of interactive learning sessions, inspiring keynotes, unique competitions, funding opportunities and celebratory networking events.

8. Discussion of agenda items for ACT&TC future meetings.

Proposed items for the April 13, 2011 regular meeting agenda.

- Legislative, Regulatory and Policy update. (wp4)
- Technology Ascertainment Survey update. (wp3)
- Request for Proposal (RFP) on public access television management contract update. (wp1)
- Presentation from Austin Energy.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.