# Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission
## Regular Meeting          www.austintexas.gov/cttc

## MINUTES
## Wednesday – February 8, 2012

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**Current Commission Members:**

| Lemuel Williams, Jr., Chair | Chip Rosenthal, Vice Chair |
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| Wendell Ramsey | Kedron Touvell |
| Melvin White | Elizabeth Quintanilla |
| **VACANT POSITION** | |

**The following items are posted for discussion and possible action.**

1.    Call to order – February 8, 2012 - 6:30 p.m.

   Commission members in attendance:
   Chip Rosenthal, Vice Chair
   Wendell Ramsey
   Melvin White
   Elizabeth Quintanilla

   Commissioner Members Absent:
   Lemuel Williams, Jr., Chair
   Kedron Touvell

   City Staff in attendance:
   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.

    No citizens signed up for general citizen communication.

4.  Approval of minutes – January 11, 2012 Commission Regular Meeting.

    **The minutes from the Commission regular meeting of January 11, 2012 was approved on Commissioner White's motion; Commissioner Quintanilla's second on a vote of 4-0-0. (Commission Williams and Touvell absent)**

5.  Code for America Program presentation. (Stephen Elkins, Doug Matthews). (wp4)

    Matthew Esquibel with the City's Communications & Technology Management & Support introduced the Code for America fellows, Joe Merante, Emily Wright Moore and Aurelio Tinio.

    Austin is partnering with Code for America to produce lightweight creative technology that empowers the city to become a platform for community engagement. The project will extend access to government that allows city agencies to easily and effectively deliver information and service. The goals of transparency and openness are becoming standard expectations in nearly every level of government. To learn more visit www.codeforamerica.org/austin.

    Code Across America: A National Day of Civic Innovation is coming to each of the 2012 Code for America partner cities. On February 25th at 1309 E. 7th Street in Austin, they will be encouraging developers to use data.austintexas.gov to work on a series of projects suggested by city departments and community leaders to demonstrate the power of open data.  Please send any suggestions and ideas you may have for them at austin@codeforamerica.org.

6.  Report from Open Government Working Group and discussion and possible action on on-going open government activities. (Rosenthal) (wp4)

    Commissioner Ramsey reported that the working group met on January 31 with Stephen Elkins (City of Austin, Chief Information Officer) and Matt Esquibel (City of Austin, Webmaster) to discuss the Open Government resolution recently passed by the City Council, and return to the Commission with recommendations on how best to support this program.

    The purpose of the meeting was to inquire of staff as to plans to respond to ordinance directive, to identify opportunities for commission and community participation, and recommend a process for ongoing open government work.

    For the full report visit http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=163577

    **Acceptance of the report and recommendations from the Open Government Working Group as:**

**1. The Commission should form an Open Government Working Group to support staff in the continued development and implementation of the open government directive.**

**2. The working group should be kept small and informal, and work cooperatively on issues identified.**

**3. The initial composition should be three commissioners, with support from a similar number of staff members. This initial group should extend invitations to about four more people, mutually agreed upon, from the community. Example of people who might be good candidates are: city council staff, civic software developers, open government policy experts, etc.**

**4. Staff in attendance agree to take the action item to review the open government resolution, propose specific actions in support, identify ways the working group could participate, and provide as a discussion document at the first working group meeting.**

**5. The first meeting of the working group should be around the second week of February. Since this involves a cross section of people, we'll need to be sensitive to scheduling needs.**
**was approved on Commissioner Ramsey's motion; Commissioner Quintanilla's second on a vote of 4-0-0. (Commission Williams and Touvell absent)**

**Motion to form a new Open Government Work Group to assist staff in the continued development and implementation of the open government initiative with members Commissioners Williams, Rosenthal and Ramsey was approved on Commissioner White's motion; Commissioner Ramsey's second on a vote of 4-0-0. (Commission Williams and Touvell absent)**

7.  Staff briefing on Legislative, Regulatory and Policy update. (Paul Lewis) (wp5)

    Paul Lewis, Assistant Manager of the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs, Legislative, Regulatory and Policy update included; INet deactivations from Time Warner; PEG channels coordination for equipment purchases; Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA); FCC DAS held a forum February 1st on distributed antenna systems & small cell solutions; FCC Reform Act Legislation; FCC Basic Tier Encryption; Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act that included HR 2485, SB 911; and the Wireless Tax Fairness Act of 2011. For the full report visit http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/document.cfm?id=163641

8.  Staff update on Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs) (John Speirs) (wp2)

    John Speirs, Program Coordinator with the City of Austin Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs reported the Grant Review Committee completed the first round of scoring. The grant applicant's oral presentations to this committee are scheduled for February 17 at City Hall.

    The City partnering with Skillpoint Alliance will host the Austin Connects and Austin 501 Tech Club reception and meet-up February 15th at Skillpoint Alliance, 201 East 2nd Street from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. This will be an opportunity for community representative to preview the community technology resource directory and map and give their input on this project. 30 organizations are invited.

Grant recommendations from the GTOPs Grant Review Committee are scheduled for action at this Commission's March regular meeting.

9.  Report from Technology Survey Working Group. (Quintanilla) (wp3)

    Commissioner Quintanilla reported that the Technology Survey Working Group met in early February with a brief update from Dr. Straubhaar. He will be ready with more information at the stakeholders meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at the Fling Saucer from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Invited to this meeting are staff from City of Austin, Non-Profit agencies and Education agencies

    **Motion to accept the name change from the Technology Survey Working Group to the Community Technology Assessment Working Group was approved on Commissioner Quintanilla's motion; Commissioner Ramsey's second on a vote of 4-0-0. (Commission Williams and Touvell absent)**

10. Discussion and possible action on 2011 Commission workplan accomplishments. (Williams).

    The draft had been read into the record at a previous meeting. Commissioner Rosenthal presented a summary of proposed changes and corrections since last discussed.

    Commissioner Quintanilla reported that the Technology Survey Working Group preferred to use "Austin Residential Community Technology Survey" as the consistent name for the survey. By consensus, the Commission agreed to adopt this nomenclature for all references to the survey in the 2011 workplan.

    Commissioner Rosenthal proposed a list of annotations to the workplan to indicate sections of City Code supporting the workplan item. The list was reviewed by the Commission, with corrections and changes discussed. By consensus, the modified list of annotations was incorporated into the workplan draft.

    **Motion to accept the 2011 Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission workplan accomplishments was made on Commissioner Quintanilla's motion; Commissioner Ramsey's second on a vote of 4-0-0. (Commission Williams and Touvell absent)**

11. Discussion and possible action on revising 2012 workplan to add annotations to City Code. (Williams)

    The item was tabled until the March 14, 2012 meeting.

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

    Commissioner Quintanilla attended TechChange.

She also state that the local Wordpress group, **a free and open source blogging tool and content management system powering** a large portion of the Internet, is taking a more proactive approach to insure there is education and make sure more people are aware of what Wordpress is.

Commissioner White stated that a press conference is scheduled for Thursday, February 9th to announce Austin Free-net opening a new computer lab at the DeWitty Center in collaboration for the Digital Workforce Academy.  They are also opening a computer lab in Cedar Creek, Texas.

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

Proposed items for the March 14, 2012 regular meeting
- **Discussion and possible action on revising 2012 workplan to add annotations to City Code.**
- Report from Open Government Working Group.
- **Report from Community** Technology Assessment Working Group.
- Action on grant recommendations from the GTOPs Grant Review Committee.
- Public Access Community Television (aka channelAustin) update.

14.  Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm