

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE FOR
EMERGING TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, April 25, 2012**

Call meeting to order.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm by Council Member Morrison.

There may be discussion and action on any or all of the following items:

1. General Citizen Communications (3 minutes to speak)

There were no speakers.

2. Approval of minutes from the February 15, 2012 regular committee meeting

A motion to adopt the minutes as to form from the February 15, 2012 Council Committee for Emerging Technology & Telecommunications regular meeting was made by Council Member Riley; seconded by Council Member Morrison. Vote 2-0 with Council Member Spelman absent.

3. Presentation: Community Solar (Michael Osborne, Special Assistant to the General Manager for Energy Development, Austin Energy)

Mr. Karl Rábago made the presentation on community solar power generation arrays stating that Austin Energy is working with the attorneys on this issue. Figuring out how to pass on the rebates to the correct customer is difficult as the arrays are usually owned by more than one customer.

Mr. Jeff Howard of Community Sun spoke in favor of the community solar arrays stating that only about 25% of rooftops are have the capability to have solar panels installed.

4. Update: Greater Austin Technology Partnership (Council Member Laura Morrison)

Council Member Morrison provided an update on this new effort by the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce to assist local high tech companies to fill job openings. They will also be looking into local training opportunities for high tech workers.

5. Update: Open Government Working Group (Chip Rosenthal)

Mr. Chip Rosenthal reported that the group has been formed per Council Resolution. Mr. Rosenthal stated that the Working Group will be providing recommendations on Open Data, Open Source Platforms, Mobile Applications, and Social Media to the Community Technology & Telecommunications Commission (CTTC) as directed in the resolution. The group currently consists of Lemuel Williams, Chip Rosenthal, and Wendell Ramsey from the CTTC; Stephen Elkins, Matt Esquibel, and Paul Lewis from City Staff; and Bobby Levinski, Julio Gonzalez, and Conor Kenney from the community.

**6. Presentation: Moving to Measured Performance in Home and Multifamily Retrofits—
Designing and Upgrading Energy Features in an Integrated Way (Karl R. Rábago, Vice
President, Austin Energy)**

Mr. Karl Rábago made the presentation on measured performance of Austin’s buildings. This is made possible through a \$10 million grant received from the Department of Energy. All funds must be spent by June 2013.

7. Discussion: Recommendations on the proposed Solar Advisory Committee Resolution

Two changes were incorporated into the resolution prior to voting: to change the number of members from eleven (11) to thirteen (13); and to allow the Committee to appoint members to fill a vacancy.

A motion to approve the resolution with the incorporated changes to form a Solar Advisory Committee and the list of suggested members (below) was made by Council Member Riley; seconded by Council Member Morrison. Vote 2-0 with Council Member Spelman absent.

Suggested members: Solar Industry Association—Steve Wiese (Texas Renewable Energy Industry-TREIA), Solar Manufacturer—BJ Stanbery (HelioVolt), Solar Component Manufacturer—Ron Van Dell (Solar Bridge), Solar Commercial Industry—Mark Begert (Meridian Solar), Solar Residential Industry/Community Solar—Stan Pipkin (Lighthouse Solar), Economic Development—Jose Beceiro (Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce), Consumer Industrial/Commercial—Roger Wood (CCARE), Consumer Advocacy & Residential—Tom “Smitty” Smith (Public Citizen), Environmental Non-profit—Collin Meehan (Environmental Defense Fund), Academia—Varun Rai (University of Texas at Austin), Resource Management Commission—Chris Herbert, and Electric Utility Commission—Michael Webber.

8. Consider agenda items for next meeting.

There were no items for consideration.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40pm.