



## COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

<http://www.austintexas.gov/cttc>

### MINUTES

#### Regular Meeting

Wednesday – March 9, 2022 – 6:30 PM

City Hall – Boards and Commissions - Room 1101

301 W. 2nd Street - Austin, TX 78701

Please go to [http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards\\_commissions/meetings/10\\_1.htm](http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/10_1.htm) for backup material associated with this agenda.

All ATXN (City Channel 6) programming is cablecast on Spectrum, Grande Communications, and Google Fiber on their cable channel 6, on 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 the cablecast. Schedules and video can be found at:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/atxn-video-archive>.

#### **CURRENT COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Sophie Gairo - Mayor Steve Adler

Nehemiah Pitts III - Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison, District 1

Steven Apodaca – Council Member Vanessa Fuentes, District 2

Malcolm Yeatts - Council Member Sabino “Pio” Renteria, District 3

Vacant - Council Member Gregorio Casar, District 4

Dave Floyd - Council Member Ann Kitchen, District 5

Vacant - Council Member Mackenzie Kelly, District 6

Maxine Eiland - Council Member Leslie Pool, District 7

Jennifer Ramos - Council Member Paige Ellis, District 8

Nicole Thompson – Council Member Kathie Tovo, District 9

Sumit DasGupta - Council Member Alison Alter, District 10

#### **Commission Members Present**

Nehemiah Pitts III

#### **Commission Members Attending Remotely**

Steven Apodaca

Malcolm Yeatts

Dave Floyd

Maxine Eiland

Nicole Thompson

Sumit DasGupta

### **Unexcused Absence**

Jennifer Ramos

Sophie Gairo

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting Called to order at 6:38 pm.

### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

The first ten speakers who register to speak no later than noon the day before the meeting will be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

No members of the public signed up to speak.

#### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 9, 2022**

**Motion to approve the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes made by Commissioner DasGupta, seconded by Commissioner Thompson passed on a vote of 8-0.**

#### **2. STAFF AND COMMUNITY BRIEFINGS (A member of the public may not address a board at a meeting on an item posted as a briefing)**

##### **a. FY 2021 Residential Technology Study: Qualitative Analysis of the Digital Divide in Austin by MEASURE Austin (Paulette Blanc, Meme Styles, and Reyda Taylor)**

The Presentation by MEASURE Austin can be viewed here:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=378693>

The draft report by MEASURE can be viewed here:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=378696>

The timeline of historical inequities by MEASURE can be viewed here:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=378694>

##### **b. Update from Communications and Technology Management Department (Chris Stewart, Chief Information Officer)**

The Presentation by CIO Chris Stewart can be viewed here:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=378692>

##### **c. Austin Free-Net: Update on Digital Literacy Training, Digital Navigation, Device Donation, and Future Planning (Jess Ross, Executive Director of Austin Free-Net)**

Presentation by Jess Ross can be viewed here:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=378695>

### **3. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)**

- a. Commission Discussion on FY 2023 Budget Priorities (Commission discussion and possible action)**

**Motion to recommend \$100,000 in additional funding for Austin Free-Net made by Commissioner Dasgupta, seconded by Chair Pitts, passed on a vote of 7-0.**

**Motion to recommend \$450,000 to support the Austin Film Society's Producer Workforce development program made by Commissioner Apodaca, seconded by Commissioner DasGupta, passed on a vote of 7-0.**

**Motion to recommend funding for two interns at \$15 and \$20 dollars per hour to support the Community Technology unit of Financial Services Department made by Chair Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Eiland passed on a vote of 7-0.**

### **4. COMMISSION UPDATES (Discussion and Possible Action)**

- a. Digital Inclusion, Civic Engagement, and Strategic Technology and Telecom Policy Working Group**

Chair Pitts noted the data coming online from MEASURE Austin, and the need to analyze it for insights. He also noted staff's participation in the Net Inclusion 2022 conference.

The Grant for Technology Opportunities Program has oriented it's review panel, and application reviews are under way.

This working group is also working on continuing the Digital Inclusion Town Halls, and is working with Austin Public Library, Financial Services Department, and others.

- b. Knowledge, Information, and Data Stewardship Working Group**

This item was not covered due to technical difficulties.

- c. Technology, Infrastructure, and Innovation Working Group**

Commissioner DasGupta noted that this working group spend most of the meeting discussing the budget recommendations presented at this session. The group also discussed GAATN, and will be reviewing some additional documents (GAATN bylaws) that were submitted at this meeting.

Chair Pitts noted that he is still working with the Autonomy Institute, and is looking to schedule another meeting with them, along with Austin Transportation Department.

Commissioner DasGupta and Chair Pitts also expressed their desire to close the digital divide, especially in light of the presentation from MEASURE Austin.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Presentation from Housing and Planning Department on the FY 2023 action plan  
Presentation from the Economic Development Department  
GTOPs 2022 Recommendations  
Officer Elections

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn by Commissioner DasGupta, seconded by Chair Pitts, passed on a vote of 7-0 at 9:23 PM.**

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. Please contact Jesse Rodriguez at the Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs at (512) 974-7676, for additional information; TTY users' route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Community Technology & Telecommunications Commission, please visit their website at <http://www.austintexas.gov/cttc> or contact Jesse Rodriguez at [jesse.rodriguez@austintexas.gov](mailto:jesse.rodriguez@austintexas.gov).

Posting Submitted by: Jesse Rodriguez, Business Process Specialist, Wednesday, October 13, 2021