



Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission

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

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday – June 14th, 2023 – 6:30PM

Austin Public – Studio 1

1143 Northwestern Ave, Austin TX, 78702

Please go to http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/10_1.htm for backup materials associated with this agenda.

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The Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission convened in a REGULAR meeting on Wednesday, June 14th, 2023, at 1143 Northwestern Ave, Austin TX, 78702.

Current Commission Members

Vacant - Mayor Kirk Watson

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

Steven Apodaca – Council Member Vanessa Fuentes, District 2

Brianna Smith - Council Member José Velásquez, District 3

Cristina Garza - Council Member José “Chito” Vela, District 4

Thomas Rice- Council Member Ryan Alter, District 5

Gabriel Nwajaku- Council Member Mackenzie Kelly, District 6

Maxine Eiland - Council Member Leslie Pool, District 7

Amarige Azzam - Council Member Paige Ellis, District 8

Janine Clark – Council Member Zohaib “Zo” Qadri, District 9

Sumit DasGupta - Council Member Alison Alter, District 10

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance:

Nehemiah Pitts III, Chair

Steven Apodaca, Vice Chair

Gabriel Nwajiku

Brianna Smith

Cristina Garza

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:

Sumit DasGupta
Thomas Rice
Janine Clark

Board Members/Commissioners Not in Attendance:

Maxine Eliand
Amarige Azzam

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Pitts called the Community Technology and Telecommunications Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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 were signed up to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission Regular meeting on April 12th, 2023

Motion to approve the minutes with the recommended changes made by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Chair Pitts. The minutes from (4/12/2023) were approved on a vote of 6-0-1.

2. Approve the minutes of the Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission Regular meeting on May 10th, 2023

The commission chose to table the approval of the minutes for the next meeting once the proper edits have been made.

3. Approve the minutes of the Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission special called meeting on May 24th, 2023

The commission chose to table the approval of the minutes for the next meeting once the proper edits have been made.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

4. Google Fiber community update (John-Michael Cortez – Government and Community Affairs Manager)
5. Homeland Security and Emergency Management Briefing on Emergency Messaging Capabilities (Juan Ortiz – Homeland Security and Emergency Management)
6. Quarterly Legislative Update (Khotan Harmon, Senior Program Manager, Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs of the Financial Services Department)

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

7. Work Plan Discussion and Working Group Assignments (Commission Discussion and Action)

Chair Pitts informed the commission that the three current working groups are in the process of completing their annual reports. Chair Pitts then mentions the current commissioners assigned and vacancies on said working groups. The commission went through the previous work plans of these groups to assist newer commissioners decide which group they would like to be a part of.

Chair Pitts gave a summary of the Digital Inclusion, Civic Engagement, and Strategic Technology and Telecom Policy current standing. Chair Pitts highlights possible updates to seek regarding the group's work on the homelessness response system and public information/resource kiosks. As well as the success of creating strategic partnerships with local technology companies and the need to develop those partnerships. And Chair Pitts describes the successes and continued work on library wireless hub programs, GTOPs, DECA, and state legislative tech policy evaluation. Chair Pitts also recommended sunsetting the group's work on emergency broadband relief carrier evaluations to be decided by the group at another meeting. The digital inclusion summit and community circles were added to the list of work the commission can address in the upcoming fiscal year.

Vice Chair Apodaca gave a recap of the work being done by the Knowledge, Information, and Data Stewardship Working Group. Apodaca emphasized the success of this group with projects such as broadband access data mapping, citizen engagement, changes to the City of Austin Website, and the creation of the city council voting database. Vice Chair Apodaca discussed sunsetting the residential technologies study item since it had been tolled into a larger project being done by Travis County, sunsetting the collaboration with UT for research since it is now a lower priority and also sunsetting the 3-D printing homelessness solution since it is better suited for the commission on homelessness. The group is also looking for future updates on smart cities, monitoring/security in public areas, and the citywide technology pilot in order to continue their work in these areas.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to have the Commissioners review the work plans and rank the working groups they would like to join in order of preference, seconded by Chair Pitts. The motion passed on a vote 7-0.

Motion to extend the meeting past 10PM made by Commissioner DasGupta. There was no second.

8. Working Group Assignments (Commission Discussion and Action)

The commission was not able to address this item due to a lack of time.

WORKING GROUP/COMMITTEE UPDATES

9. Update from Digital Inclusion, Civic Engagement, and Strategic Technology and Telecom Policy Working Group

The commission was not able to address this item due to a lack of time, but some updates were discussed as a part of the work plan discussion.

10. Update from the Knowledge, Information, and Data Stewardship Working Group

The commission was not able to address this item due to a lack of time, but some updates were discussed as a part of the work plan discussion.

11. Update from Technology, Infrastructure, and Innovation Working Group

The commission was not able to address this item due to a lack of time.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Approval of May meeting minutes
- Approval of Special Called meeting minutes.
- Working Group Assignments

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Garza, passed on a vote of 7-0-0 at 10:04 pm.

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For more information on the Community Technology & Telecommunications Commission, please visit their website at <http://www.austintexas.gov/cttc> or contact Dan Martinez at dan.martinez@austintexas.gov

The minutes were approved at the July 12th Regular Meeting on Commissioner DasGupta's motion and Commissioner Garza's second. The motion passed on a vote of 7-0-1. Commissioner Eiland abstained.