

CITY OF FULLERTON TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES January 29, 2009

January 29, 2009 9:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Burtner called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Roger Burtner, Chair Harry Lamberth

Fred Canfield Ed Smith

Mike Carter Thad Sandford

Larry Iboshi Paul Stover, Vice Chair

Members Absent

Helen Hall

Madusha Palliyage Carl Samantello

Staff

Robert Ferrier, Assistant to the City Manager

Guests

Sam Ricchio, Fullerton School District

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting (January 8) were not completed in sufficient time for Chair Burtner to review prior to this meeting, so approval was postponed to the next meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. <u>Creation of an educational/municipal (institutional) fiber/wireless network,</u> <u>FullertonNet</u>

Additional discussion regarding ISMS evaluation

Chair Burtner pointed out that the majority of the January 8 meeting had been spent discussing the ISMS evaluation, and asked if there was a need for additional discussion, and whether Mr. Ferrier had anything additional to report.

Mr. Ferrier began by thanking everyone for their comments regarding the draft report, and indicated the final report reflects the comments made. He indicated the next issue to decide is where the committee goes from here. At the last TWG meeting Mr. Ferrier had indicated that probably the next step would be to present ISMS's report to Council at an Open Study Session, but he did not have a date yet for when that might occur. The first Open Study Session is to be held February 17, but the agenda for that session is already filled with redevelopment projects. He noted that the City Manager in consultation with the Mayor decides which items are placed on the Open Study Session agenda.

Chair Burtner pointed out that the TWG had never had the opportunity to present their findings to Council in January 2008, as had been requested by Council Member Bankhead. Mr. Ferrier noted that that particular presentation had been delayed so that a consultant could be hired to perform a third-party review of the TWG's recommendations. The process of issuing an RFP, interviewing consultants and hiring ISMS, and ISMS' time to complete the study delayed the project until this point in time.

Vice Chair Stover pointed out that it is important to get the information before Council in a timely manner, noting that the information could be out of date in as little as four months, considering how quickly technology changes, and the impact of the work would be lost and a waste of the money spent by the City and School District for the study. He suggested that since the first Open Study Session includes Redevelopment Agency items, and the I-Net has been included in part of their plans, the TWG's report presentation be included at least as an addendum to that meeting.

Mr. Canfield suggested that if it was not possible to get on the Open Study Session agenda that the TWG could present their report to Council in a regular session.

It was discussed that perhaps another way to build support for the project, prior to submitting to Council, would be for the TWG to present the project to every city department and agency that would be impacted by the project, e.g., the Planning Commission, Engineering Department, Fire Department, General Plan Advisory Committee, EDAT, etc.

Vice Chair Stover moved that the committee present the work of the TWG relative to the I-Net program to as many outside and inside agencies regarding the work before them. The motion was seconded by Thad Sandford and unanimously approved.

Mr. Stover pointed out that at the last meeting ISMS had offered assistance with preparing the presentation. Mr. Sandford suggested that it was contractually required of ISMS. It was agreed that Mr. Ferrier would contact ISMS (today, January 29) and request a draft presentation.

Mr. Ferrier indicated that President Obama's stimulus package of \$819 billion includes funding for telecommunications infrastructure. It was agreed that that was yet another compelling reason to move forward with the TWG's project and have a plan in place when those funds become available.

Mr. Lamberth asked if anyone had presented the microtrenching to Engineering to get their feedback and buy-in with that methodology. Mr. Ferrier stated he was quite positive the Engineering Department was familiar with the different techniques, and considering the amount of money spent by the City every year in resurfacing or reconstructing streets, any process that would allow Engineering to eliminate the need to tear up the streets and waste previously spent resources would be strongly supported by Engineering.

Mr. Stover suggested that it would be helpful in the presentation process if the TWG could have confirmation of Engineering's support so it could be related to Council.

Mr. Ferrier suggested that he could forward the video link of microtrenching to Engineering and ask if they would have any concerns using microtrenching in their projects. Mr. Iboshi added that he would like Engineering's opinion or feedback regarding microtrenching because he believes there are problems with the depth. Mr. Carter also expressed concern, noting that the cable could be vulnerable to ground shifts or penetration if the depth is not great enough, and would make the system very susceptible to terrorist attack or vandalism. Chair Burtner indicated the microtrenching can go down two to three feet, and Mr. Stover suggested that damage to the cable could be easily repaired.

Mr. Carter believes that the concern needs to be addressed, especially for those people involved with security.

Mr. Canfield noted that is why it is important to refer the matter to Engineering Director Don Hoppe and his staff because they are the ones that have to answer whether the depth is sufficient or not, based on their expertise.

2. Technology Park Proposal

Chair Burtner asked Vice Chair Stover if he had anything further to discuss regarding the Technology Park proposal. Mr. Stover restated that EDAT was aware and have actually been moving on the Beckman site that is going to become available, and they are in concert with the idea that it is definitely a project that they and the TWG should be looking at as an option. Mr. Stover emphasized that it is his perspective that if the TWG could ultimately get some space within the City designated as a technology park, it would significantly help to advance technology and its infrastructure in the City overall.

Mr. Lamberth asked if there is a white paper available on technology parks that might provide a vision of what such a park would look like for Fullerton. Mr. Stover noted that he did not have such a paper, but thought it would be an excellent project for the TWG to begin work on.

Chair Burtner suggested that he would speak with Planning Manager Al Zelinka about the General Plan and the I-Net, and ask him to address the TWG in terms of what their thinking is with regards to a technology park.

Mr. Lamberth pointed out that Washington is contacting counties, cities and states looking for projects that are ready to roll, that have been planned and are waiting for

funding. He asked if it is possible to come up with an RFQ, even if it is informal and just for planning purposes, so that the City is ready to receive funding should it become available. He further suggested that in addition to the technology park, there are other projects, such as the Anaheim emergency response system at the Airport, that should be integral parts of a telecommunications infrastructure project.

Mr. Stover suggested that Cal State Fullerton, one of the major employers in all of Orange County should also be included. Mr. Sandford suggested another entity would be St. Jude.

Mr. Stover pointed out to Mr. Lamberth that what he was suggesting was something the TWG had been recommending from day one, but had yet to be accomplished, and that is to have a master plan. Mr. Stover suggested that might be something the General Plan staff could come up with. Chair Burtner noted that there have been staff changes within the last year in the economic development and planning departments of the City, and suggested that the TWG probably needed to have some conversations with them. Mr. Burtner advised he would coordinate a meeting.

Mr. Sandford suggested that Congressman Ed Royce might very well already have some ideas for the funding that will become available as part of the stimulus package. Mr. Lamberth suggested that someone contact Congressman Royce and inform him of the proposed technology park and telecommunications infrastructure project and the need for funding. Mr. Stover indicated he has worked with Mr. Royce many times, and would be happy to contact him regarding these projects.

3. **CERT Training**

Mr. Canfield distributed to the TWG members a one-page info sheet regarding the CERT training. He reported that he had contacted the Fire Department's Disaster Preparedness Specialist Fernando Villicana, who is in charge of the CERT training, to find out when TWG members might sign up for the training. Mr. Villicana indicated they are currently involved with a lot of training with the school district during the spring and summer, and it would probably be fall before a class would be available. The training consists of three classes – three consecutive Saturdays – six to eight hours each day. Mr. Canfield asked the TWG members to let him know if they were interested in participating and he would put together a group list for Mr. Villicana.

4. <u>Telecommunications Master Plan</u>

Chair Burtner noted that from previous meetings there had been an indication from the TWG members that the Telecommunications Master Plan is a project they would like to work on. He indicated he had obtained copies of two plans – one for El Segundo, the other for Santa Monica. He asked which members would like to be involved. Messrs. Lamberth, Sandford, and Stover volunteered.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

To be determined

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Burtner distributed a memo from Ofer Amrami, Network Specialist in Fullerton's Information Technology division, reporting that eight of the nine nodes of the downtown wireless system had been replaced/upgraded. The ninth node, at Villa del Sol, is having some interference problems and is also scheduled for replacement. He noted that the new nodes are abg, which have much higher throughput than the old b's.

Chair Burtner stated that it was encouraging to see that the City was willing to put some money into upgrading the system after four years (noting that FullertonWireless went live February 15, 2005).

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Burtner asked for a motion to adjourn. Thad Sandford so moved. Mike Carter seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15.

Next meeting scheduled for February 19.