

CTTAB

September 12, 2006 Minutes

City of Seattle, Seattle Municipal Tower
27th Floor, 700 – Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

<p>Present Bill Baron Charles Brennick Maryann Budlong Michael Davidson Paul Green Harry Hart, III Damien Koemans Jerry Lin Manny Ovena Nina Sanders</p> <p>Excused Todd Achilles Huat Chye Lim Shivani Tejuja</p>	<p>Absent Leah Altaras Pwint Htun Ann Robinson</p> <p>Visitors Ken Meyer</p> <p>Staff David Keyes Ken LeBlond Jill Novik Tony Perez Busbong Sears Bill Schrier</p>
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1. Announcements; Agenda Approval; Review of June, 2006 Minutes; Report from the Chair : New Get Engaged member Michael Davidson and Acting Electronic Communications Division Director Busbong Sears were introduced.
 The July, 2006 minutes and September agenda were approved as written.

2. Director’s Report: Bill Schrier
 See attached.

3. Board Business

Public comment policy:

Action: the amended public comment policy was amended and is to be included in CTTAB’s Rules and Procedures.

Board information: Hart requested that Board members submit brief biographical information for a CTTAB profile, similar to the one he compiled for City Council.

4. Committee Reports: Budlong requested that all committee chairs provide an update on their work plan by the October meeting.

Technology Matching Fund: Sanders reported that the celebration on July 20 at 911 Media Arts Center for TMF recipients was successful.

Youth Civic Engagement: Planning is still underway for the youth project; it’s been somewhat delayed by limited staff and the time required for the wifi evaluation. It will move into higher gear after January, 2007. A major first piece of this project is likely to be a youth web portal.

Keyes said that Leah, Shivani and he had met with the YMCA and Seattle channel to begin planning outreach strategies. They will return to the Y for additional outreach and may contract with them for organizational development and to manage content for the portal. The current plan is to use \$100,000 of the youth engagement funding in 2007.

ArtsZone: Koemans and Sanders provided an update. They noted that the two of them have been the stalwart attendees, with the last meeting proposed for October. They have helped identify questions for a survey of arts leaders as well as ideas for branding of the programming block. In conversations about what ArtsZone should and shouldn't be, arts leaders indicated that they don't just want to show arts events, but want to show behind the scenes and inside stories, as well as fringe areas not usually covered. Part of the idea is to make arts more tangible and to highlight the creative process. The Channel is working on defining blocks of programming and will likely include more live broadcasts and partnering with local arts organizations for material produced by them. The Seattle Channel is refining its role as curatorial, rather than as sole producer.

One item of interest is that, apparently, not a lot of artists watch TV, which is a barrier to other artists seeing this block of programming. Sanders added that much of the new media will be available in non-broadcasting format as well, so people will be able to see streaming content if not on TV.

5. Cable Office: Tony Perez and Jill Novik

28 firms or partnerships responded to the July 7 deadline for the broadband Request for Interest. Perez thanked CTTAB members Achilles and Baron, part of the review team. The group was pretty unanimous in its decision to hold further conversations with 11 teams during the week of September 25. Baron added that there was quite a wide range of responses.

Millennium Digital Media: the transfer to WAVE Broadband appears to have fallen through. The Cable office has started the work for the Millennium franchise renewal and encouraged CTTAB members in Millennium territory to take and promote the web survey. There will likely be public meetings in 2007 which CTTAB will be asked to co-host, similar to those for Comcast. Sanders suggested that the Douglas Truth Library be used for a public meeting centrally located for the Millennium franchise.

6. SeaStats: Bill Schrier and Busbong Sears for Terry Wittman

Schrier and Sears noted that the site will be live after 5 pm on 9/13 with crime statistics added.

Wi-Fi: new user statistics are in and available. Ken LeBlond, intern, has completed 25 business surveys. The program is also developing new cards to promote the Wi-Fi service.

Jerry Lin expressed some concern with the Wi-Fi cards noting that it is important to convey presence of a hot spot only if there is one on site.

TMF celebration: there is an opportunity for CTTAB to assist at this July 20 event. Please contact Keyes if interested.

7. Community Technology: Keyes distributed a RecTech job announcement.

8. Wi-Fi Evaluation: David Keyes and Ken LeBlond

See attached.

Additionally, Keyes noted that the project had exceeded its budget in the first year but that they have continuing ISP support from the UW and other support from some non-profits. They will have to discuss this with elected officials, however, as the project will need some public support.

LeBlond noted that business owners in the survey indicated that they supported the wi-fi because they felt it helped the business district overall and they want the business district to do well. Budlong noted that it will be important to look at the less successful business districts for experience data to see if the wi-fi improves the business climate in the district.

9. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Citizens' Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Board
Chief Technology Officer's Report
12 September 2006

CABLE NEWS

- Transfer of Millenium Digital Media by Wave Broadband has been cancelled by Millenium.
- We've selected 11 of 28 respondents to our fiber to the premise (FTTP) request for information (RFI) for face-to-face interviews.
- Major telecommunications / cable reform legislation is pending in Congress, but prospects are uncertain at this time.

SEATTLE CHANNEL NEWS

- In competition with thousands of entries from all across the country, the Seattle Channel won the following awards from NATOA, the national organization for government, educational and access TV stations. The awards were presented on August 25th:
 - **Overall Excellence in Gov't Programming - 2nd Place**
 - Documentary Profile - Eccentric Seattle - The Inquisition - First Place
 - Performing Arts - Three Tales of China - First Place
 - Children/Young Adults - Peter and the Wolf - 2nd Place
 - Event Coverage - The Making of Princesses - 2nd Place
 - Profile City/County City @ Work - Water Quality - 2nd Place
 - Election Coverage - City Inside Out: Monorail Debate - Third Place
- City Inside/Out is back last week on the Seattle Channel for a new season. The first few topics are election focused: I-88, the transportation package, charter amendments and the Viaduct.
- Seattle Channel plans a soft launch of ArtZone in October and is taping programs this month to get ready. Seattle Channel successfully used its portable multi-camera equipment at Bumbershoot.

WEB WWW.SEATTLE.GOV NEWS

- **The City's website was recognized as the best city portal in the United States for 2006** by the Center for Digital Government's Best of the Web awards. See full list of the awards, attached pages 3-5.
- We launched the Spanish version of the Virtual Tour on the City's web site. You can see it at <http://www.seattle.gov/tour/spanish/default.htm>
- In support of civic engagement and the South Park Action Agenda, we launched an online version of a community survey in August. There were 32 responses in the first three days. We are looking at additional tools to support the community engagement process, perhaps including the use of polling devices, our web capability and Seattle Channel.
- Crime Statistics will be soft-launched on *My Neighborhoods* on 13 September.
- See attached (behind page 6) for statistics on use of the City's website.

COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY NEWS

- We logged 1,465 user sessions at our WiFi sites in August, about a 20% increase over July. Daily log-in averages were 47 in City Hall/parks, 190 in the University District, and 112 in Columbia City. We have had 10,000 unique users at all sites since the beginning of the year.
- On August 19th a dozen DoIT staffers and their families walked in support of Seattle Wi-Fi in the Rainier Valley Heritage Parade. Walkers held signs and laptops with the Seattle Wi-Fi logo prominently displayed. They also gave out around 350 copies of literature with logon instructions and the project's website, www.seattle.gov/wifi.
- Wi-Fi evaluation results are in draft.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS NEWS

- SpamCop, a free spam filtering service used by some firms/agencies, has been blocking @seattle.gov emails from being delivered to some email systems, e.g. City of Tacoma.
- The Community Notification System/Reverse 911 application is in service, allowing the City to make automatic citizen calls in the event of a public safety emergency.

Seattle Wi-Fi Pilot Project

Launched May, 2005

Areas served

- 2 business districts:
Columbia City
University District
- 4 downtown city parks:
Freeway, Occidental,
Steinbrueck, and Westlake
- City Hall lobby

