

CTTAB

September 8, 2009 Minutes

City of Seattle, Seattle Municipal Tower
27th Floor, 700 – Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98124

<p>Present Daniel Carrillo Jr. Fran Clifton John Neuharth Karen Manuel Marcos Martinez Nancy Gohring Oren Sreenby Stuart Maxwell Ted Schmitt Tom Kee Will Pugh</p> <p>Excused Ann Suter Jac de Haan Richard Huff William Little</p> <p>Absent Rob Holland</p>	<p>Visitors</p> <p>Staff Tony Perez</p>
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1. Meeting Called to Order Approval of Agenda and August 2009 Minutes

John Neuharth presided. The agenda was approved. Minutes were unanimously approved after being amended to correct the spelling of the new software for Puget Sound Off: Drupal version 6.

2. Public Comment

No public comment

3. CTO Report: Bill Schrier was unable to attend. Members asked if the mayoral elections would result in any obvious impacts to City technology. There was a discussion about a potential upcoming meeting with Sreenby and Huff with mayoral candidate McGinn relating to Broadband policy.

4. Committee Reports

A brief discussion on status of Committee work ensued:

- Wi-Fi: Lower complaint levels; no problems reported with hot spots
- Tech Matching Fund: Completed
- PSO: Request for catch-up meeting sent. New meeting within 30 days
- Residential survey: no update
- Risk Communications: First draft by next meeting to subcommittee or the Board.
- Digital Inclusion Policy and Planning: no activity

- DTV: upcoming Comcast transition. Tony to invite Comcast to present at next meeting.
- Broadband and FTTP: possible meeting with McGinn and others to bring candidates up to date on what discussions have been occurring at the national level and to look at opportunities for policy input at the municipal level. In response to suggestions for meeting discussions, Neuharth noted that the Board should communicate CTTAB's support for the Broadband Initiative, note the lack of competition and the belief that residents are not getting the level of service that would support the things that could be done with more robust networks.
- My Neighborhood Maps: working with DPD to locate open space on public property
- E-Democracy/Public Engagement: A meeting will be scheduled for later in the month. Members asked whether Huff had submitted E-Democracy report to Council
- Transparency through technology: no activity. Should look to merge with E-Democracy. Members wanted to know if Huff had sent E-Democracy Report to Council
- Manuel discussed forming a committee to support information sharing among Community Technology Organizations.
- Martinez was interested in follow up from Amy Hirotake.

5. Cable Office Report (see attached)

6. Community Technology Report (see attached)

7. Board Business

- Members discussed One Web Day (September 22) and the idea of organizing a service day or other avenues for participation.
- The Board discussed expanding podcasting model to other forms of social networking such as wikis, Facebook, Delicious etc. and how CTTAB can help other boards and commissions do same. It was agreed that we would review minutes from Bruce Blood presentation and set up committee to explore and develop new models. A report would be completed and submitted to Bruce Blood outlining some technology options and "rules of the road".

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

CTTAB
September 7, 2009

Office of Cable Communications, Director's Report

Broadband:

- We are currently waiting to see if the definition of "underserved" in the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for round 2 of the NTIA grant process will be changed so that the City will be eligible for funding.

- The Cable Office drafted on behalf of the City a letter for Governor Gregoire thanking her for her interest in Broadband but also reiterating our concerns about the process and the outcome of the Governor's Broadband Advisory Council. The purpose of the letter is to keep our broadband issues in front of the Governor and to position the City to obtain the Governor's support in the event that the City becomes eligible for BTOP funds in subsequent rounds.
- Jill Novik was asked by the NTIA to be a volunteer reviewer on the first round of stimulus applications.
- I collaborated with a Washington D.C. attorney to file comments to the FCC regarding the definition of "Broadband". (see attached)

Comcast:

- Digital Transition: We met with Comcast to go over some ongoing issues with the converters in the SMT. We want to talk to them about the possibility of engineering a more elegant solution where we convert the signal to digital at the point that the signal enters the building. This will eliminate the need for individual converter boxes.
- As more residents obtain the boxes we are getting complaints about their inability to view free HD programming. There could be a potential claim of false advertising since Comcast has claimed that customers would continue to receive the same level of service for no additional cost. If we believe there is a violation we will take action under the CCBOR and write the Attorney General's Office.
- Rate increases: Comcast will raise many of its rates beginning in October. These increases are always unpopular and we will receive many complaints. Under the 1996 Telecommunications Act we lost our ability to regulate almost all rates on March 31, 1999. The exception is the limited basic rate where we retain some authority. That rate will remain at \$12.55.

Consumer Protection: Brenda Tate in the Cable Office attended the bi-monthly Consumer Protection Roundtable, with other members from the State, Federal government, and other local agencies. She reported on the federal broadcast and impending Comcast digital transitions. She established contact with the UTC which will be promoting the universal service fund and we'll piggy back on their public outreach efforts to promote cable discounts and the CCBOR. NATOA conference in New Orleans

Broadstripe: Former King County Councilmember David Irons is the New VP and General Manager for the Northwest Region.

Community Technology Update: September 2009

Technology Matching Fund – Wing Luke Completes Project

The Wing Luke Asian Museum has completed their "Building Tech Skills Through Oral History" project. This included purchase of digital audio recorders and a workstation for history editing, transcription tracking and dvd production. This contributed to their exhibits and resulted in 24 oral histories being created for these exhibits: *Ho'omau ka Huaka'i*, *The Voyage Continues: Native Hawai'ians in the Pacific Northwest* and *Across the Spectrum: Stories from Queer Asian America*, and *Parallel Lines: 8 Contemporary Seattle Artist*. The museum is continuing to lead regular trainings, including one-on-one trainings, which has been extremely helpful in

developing the Museum's volunteer base. Now many of their volunteers are trained in conducting oral histories and many more are expressing interest.

Technology Matching Fund – East African Arts and Culture Association Completes Project

EAACA has successfully completed their 2008 TMF grant . With \$15,000 in funds the project funded equipment and staffing to train 32 “at risk” youth in multimedia video production, script writing, editing, producing and duplicating. Students gained public speaking and leadership skills, as well as how to be local youth media TV reporters. They covered events, such as College Fairs, Health Fairs and the 3rd African American Heritage Unity Celebration. They interviewed community leaders about important issues and broadcasted it on the Ethio Youth Media TV show on Scan TV.

Library Closures and CTC's

We distributed 600 flyers listing public access hours at the Neighborhood Service Centers and Community Centers to the libraries, Community Centers and Neighborhood Services Centers to promote the availability of computers during (and after) the library closure week.

Seattle Communities Online

Amy Hirota, our Mayor's Fellow intern from the University of Washington Evans School, presented her initial findings and recommendations to the Mayor and the city's Public Engagement committee. We are working with the Department of Neighborhoods to develop a next step workplan. We hope to plan to keep Amy on through the fall to continue to develop specific educational materials and recommendations on web tools for use by community groups. Other recommendations include consolidating and publicizing our lists of neighborhood sites (blogs,wikis, groups, Facebooks, etc), incorporating trainings into planned community outreach and community tech learning centers, and developing a strategy for use of city tools and RSS feeds by community sites.

RecTech Community Center Labs

RecTech sites served 482 youth from March through June. Rainier Beach summer interns have just posted their web design class projects at <http://rainierbeachwebinternship.com>. This was taught by 911 Media Arts. There has been some turnover, with Steve Demas leaving South Park and Liz Miller leaving Garfield. Bana Abera was hired for the Garfield Teen Life Center.

Puget SoundOff

Summer program participants have blogged and posted videos about a variety of issues this month including attitudes towards sex offenders, soul food and health careers. Youth from the summer YMCA program went down to Rainier Community Center to train youth there in how to blog on Puget Sound Off. Chris Tugwell met with Kelly Nakano of the HSD Youth Employment Program to discuss potential school year slots for the program. Kelly and representatives from the Department of Labor and Workforce Development Council visited the Puget SoundOff youth training workshop. SCAN-TV has helped out with video training for the youth. Our evaluation consultant Shelly Farnham conducted a focus group with the summer program participants as part of her impact evaluation. The Puget SoundOff website was upgraded to Drupal 6.0. There have been a few minor bugs, but the transition has gone well. Youth in the summer program have been creating images to use for new banners.

Stimulus

Communities Connect Network delayed their public access computing proposal until the second round to allow for a more complete application. One Economy has included youth digital connectors programs for Seattle and installation of wireless Internet for Seattle Housing Authority properties in their proposal. We provided some data on Internet connectivity for low-income residents from our Indicators Survey for the Seattle Housing Authority letter of support for the One Economy stimulus proposal. Zero Divide has also included a couple Seattle CTC's in their proposal. The Seattle Public Library notified us that they were able to include their request for laptops for libraries in a NOANET proposal for infrastructure.

One Web Day and Reclaim the Media

On Sept 22 (One Web Day), Reclaim the Media is coorganizing with WashPIRG a local release of Media and Democracy Coalition's broadband white paper, "A Public Interest Internet Agenda," which was submitted to the FCC as a comment on the national broadband strategy.

Brainstorm

The September edition of Brainstorm, our Community Technology Ezine, as published with these articles: (See <http://seattle.gov/tech/brainstorm>)

- City Seeks Tech Advisors to serve on Citizens' Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Board; FCC Workshops on National Broadband Plan
- Ethio Youth Media TV Learns Power of Video
- Puget SoundOff Digital Connectors Make Impact
- Virtual World Technology: New Tool for Global Education
- How is Your Tech Ettiquette?
- TechTip: Your Photos Appearing in Ads? Here's the Fix
- Dollars: Grants to support your labs and community enrichment programs
- Linkage to a Free Wireless Broadband Kit; Mouse Ergonomics; Local Imagery; and Browser Use Trends and Statistics
- Calendar: OneWebDay; 2009 SCAN Award Nominations; Mozilla Service Week; and 2009 Seattle Race Conference