



Public Notice
Technical Committee Agenda
Public Notice for the Policy Committee

Regular Meeting
April 9, 2013 – 3:30 PM - City of Champaign Council Chambers

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of the 3/12 Minutes
5. Correspondence – none
6. Policy Committee Updates
7. Action & Discussion Items:
 - a. Construction Update
 - b. FTTP Status Update (Mike Smeltzer/Teri Legner)
 - c. Expansion Update
8. Tasks or Items for the next meeting:
9. Next Meetings:
 - April 23, 2013 City of Champaign Council Chambers, 3:30 PM
 - May 14, 2013 City of Champaign Council Chambers, 3:30 PM
10. Audience Participation – 5 minute limit per person
11. Committee Member Comments and Announcement
12. Adjourn



UC2B Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

3:30-5 p.m.

Council Chambers, 102 N. Neil Street, Champaign, Illinois

Members Present: Bill DeJarnette (Chair), Mark Toalson (Vice Chair), David Young, Ross Veach, Jeff Hamilton, John Brighton, Tracy Smith (phone)

Members Absent: Tony Vandeventer and Bill Gray

Others Present: Teri Legner and Sabrina Gosnell

1. Call to Order – the meeting was called to order by Chair DeJarnette.
2. Roll Call – Quorum verified.
3. Approve Agenda: David Young moved and Ross Veach seconded the motion to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed by voice vote.
4. Approval of Minutes from the January 22, 2013 Meeting. Jeff Hamilton motioned and David Young seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was passed by voice vote.
5. Correspondence – *none*
6. Policy Committee Updates:
 - Teri Legner reported that the Policy Committee canceled both February meetings for lack of action items.
7. Action & Discussion Items:
 - a. Construction Update
 - Teri Legner reported they are busy continuing to build on Phase 1 and Phase 2. We are shut down for construction on Phase 2 at this time; coinciding with the end of the original grant period, so we are working on our customer base and their need for technical support. There is a tier 1



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call center in place that answers the phone and minimal technical support, but when they are unable to resolve a technical issue, there is a tier 2 level which is Sabrina Gosnell and two additional employees that the City has hired on a temporary basis, plus a couple of people from CITES who help train and troubleshoot in the home. Any technical support needed beyond tier 2 is provided by CITES and Tracy's team as well as operating and maintaining the network.

- Teri Legner said tomorrow they should be able to share numbers of our customer base, call volumes, and issues but does not have that information today. One of the biggest things being worked through now is how we move forward throughout the remainder of our grant period. We have until the end of September to construct this network. We will be issuing a new RFP for connecting the 61 additional anchors that were approved when we applied for the extension. We are hopeful that will be on the street by the end of April – first of May so that construction can occur over the summer. We have about a 100 of our anchors from our original list connected. Of the approximately 850 customers that we have, the majority of them are single family residential connections, we have a handful of commercial connections along with those anchors too, but we have about 330 or so, that are 'pending' and that may include customers that actually signed up last summer (that got missed for some reason), or maybe they lived in an apartment building and we didn't have permission to connect it or a way to connect it, some are customers from our mobile home parks, and some are just people that subscribed in the last several weeks. We are hopeful that we will find a way to get them connected outside of that new RFP process if at all possible; there are some legal limitations that we're trying to work through right now. The goal is to get them connected as soon as possible because we need the customer base and the customer revenue.
- Teri reported the new RFP will include the additional wireless services, the scope of work from the extension, pricing for building a wireless canopy in our yellow zones, to create hot spots in our anchor institutions and to provide a more robust wireless service in our senior living centers.
- Bill DeJarnette asked how many were added in that last push.
- Sabrina Gosnell said about 50.
- Teri said that a big chunk of those were in Shadowwood, about 20 or so. We did a more concentrated push there because we just received the signed easement from the property owner in mid-January. So we wanted to give them ample opportunity to sign up.



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- b. FTTP Status Update - *updates included in above.*
- c. Expansion Update
 - Teri Legner reported that the Policy Committee determined some pricing and service tier options for customers that are co-located with anchor institutions. We have a price sheet and service tiers for businesses that are located within the same structure.
 - Teri said that in terms of expansion of the network and a private partner for expansion, we had originally scheduled a meeting on March 8th with Gigabit Squared and they had to cancel and now we're trying to reschedule; maybe around the first week of April. Sabrina and Teri had a phone conversation with one of our other interested private partners and they remain interested but they are very different than Gigabit Squared in what they have indicated they would be interested in doing locally in terms of providing service and being an ISP on the network, it's a different business model. There are a couple others including one local, the Co-op; and there are two others that have asked to be kept confidential at this point. There are four total and the goal is to get that down to one that we would recommend for the member agencies and the Policy Committee to enter into a contract with. We have our guiding principles, our core principles that the member agencies and Policy identified last summer, and they will guide us, and are core to the evaluation matrix that we utilize in our discussions.
 - Teri said she was in a meeting this morning and there was a lot of interest (example – realtors want to know what this is, a timeline, what the options are, pros & cons), people are ready and so are we.
 - Bill DeJarnette said Phase 1 is wrapping up and then at that time we'll be able to reach out to organizations that might be interested in acquiring fiber on the rings specifically. That will also have an impact on how people start to look at the community and where else they can go in the community. There was an individual in town last week looking to potentially build a data center, and one intriguing aspect from his perspective was the fact that we're going to have 'big up' for people; and it drives that data center much deeper into the community. So there is interest in the community. We're in a good spot and right now is a good time to get caught up on the Phase 1 paperwork and get it into the computer system.



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- Bill DeJarnette stated that since we haven't had a couple of meetings, today's meeting was to get everyone up to speed.
8. Tasks or Items for the next meeting: *none*
9. Next Meetings:
- March 26, 2013 City of Champaign Council Chambers, 3:30 PM
 - April 9, 2013 City of Champaign Council Chambers, 3:30 PM
10. Audience Participation – *none*
11. Committee Member Comments and Announcements
- John Brighton said he is a web developer and increasingly he works at home, but reflecting on the bandwidth issue; it's actually a real deal-breaker right now to work at home, I can't do it. It's not because I don't have enough bandwidth to do some work, but my expectation for the experience has reached the point that every transaction delayed, the latency involved in the connection is so frustrating. It's not that the bandwidth has changed, actually its better than it ever was, the problem is the expectation has elevated beyond that even. For people who are looking to move into the community, that is going to increase, that is a critical issue as far as the user experience goes and that's what we need to deliver on UC2B.
 - Bill DeJarnette said that's a good point, in programming terms, we've had to program around those kind of issues and literally create spots where they will naturally have a break so that we're pushing a bunch of data up at that time. We don't want to accept anything less than good up bandwidth. That will make us unique and create a very competitive market for the group that will appreciate what that means to them.
 - Ross Veach agreed, having experience trying to do really relativity low bandwidth aggregate things, interactively waiting for horrendous delays, that low speed that turned brainless work into will it ever get done. The higher up bandwidths are really important to cutting down on that latency.
12. Adjournment – Mark Toalson motioned to adjourn. David Young seconded. All agreed.