

Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC)
Town of Belmont
9 March 2011
Conference Room 4

APPROVED MINUTES

[Minutes are sent to Sandra Curro belmont-ma.gov!scurro when approved]

Voting Members Present

- Phil Lawrence <illinoisalumni.org!pwl> (co chair; dominant) (VM)
- Jim Berets <verizon.net!jberets> (co-chair; less dominant) (VM)
- Dave Goldberg <verizon.net!david.goldberg6> (secretary) (VM/SC)
- Dan Ellard <gmail.com!ellard> (VM)
- Michael Bair <gmail.com!michael.s.bair> (VM)
- Karen Polvino <msn.com!karenpolvino> (VM)
- Jonathan Green <gmail.com!green.jbg> (VM)

Non-Voting Members Present:

- Dan Scharfman (School Committee)

Town Staff Present:

- David Petto (Manager of IT, Town of Belmont) <belmont-ma.gov!dpetto> (TS)
- Steve Mazzola (Director of Technology, Belmont Schools) <belmont.k12.ma.us!SMazzola> (TS)

Key:

- VM = Voting ITAC Member
- VM/SC = Voting ITAC Member/School Committee
- NVM = Non-Voting Member
- FBL = Friend of Belmont Library
- TS = Town Staff

Meeting called to order at 7:35PM

Minutes of the 8 February 2011 ITAC meeting approved as is.

Dave Petto reported on the smart grid project. It is moving forward. Now in design stage. Servers to be purchased next week. TBG security, who presented to ITAC in November, will be contracted to manage the security aspects of the effort. TBG has experience with this, having consulted on a deployment in Philadelphia.

Dave Petto reported that BMLD has also contracted with TBG to review the new SCADA system. The SCADA system has been connected to the network, but new BMLD management wants to isolate it more tightly and restrict access to two people within BMLD plus the SCADA system vendor. The level of effort to do this lock down should not be too high.

The virtualization project in town is on track. Dave Petto reports that he's received the design back from the consultant and expects to consolidate from 25 servers onto 3. One new server will be procured. Of the 23 servers, about half are over six years old and will be removed. A small number

will likely be repurposed. One example would be to replace the current voicemail server.

Dave Petto reported that he has been in conversation with Microsoft about their cloud effort to potentially outsource some functions such as email.

Steve Mazzola reported that he is working on FY12 budget plans. Much is taken up on the new Wellington. This week, bids go out for some of the technology to be put in the school. Some are done, such as the phone system. The cabling for network access is already in place and the design is such that wireless access coverage will be able to be determined later on without having to run new cable. As there is no formal computer lab in the building, the flexibility with wireless will allow for flexible placement of computers.

Steve reported that web based report cards using the edline system will begin deployment with the third quarter. High School only. Chenery next year.

Steve reports that they are getting ready to finish the last leg of the redundant fiber run.

Dan Scharfman reported that the library committee got it's grant proposal in on time but any changes are years out so we don't have to worry about potential IT impact yet.

Steve noted that library is the location for much of the town network gear and reported that the library board is aware of that issue and the impact a new library would have on it. At the same time, plans are in place to bypass the library in future network designs.

Dave Petto reported that there are similar plans to avoid the old light building as well. Also, Dave expects that a correction to the issue of exposed fibre at the old light building should be corrected in a couple weeks now that the snow is gone.

Dan Scharfman reported that a group including Will Brownsberger and people from Belmont, Arlington and Cambridge are exploring the concept of "virtual schools". Not at the point that IT will be affected but some pilots are likely.

Karen Polvino described MIT's Outreach program for K-12 and how Belmont might be able to take advantage of it.

Dan Scharfman announced that on May 4 from 4-8PM, probably in the Field House, the next "Community Dialog" will be held to discuss and provide input to the school systems' strategic plan. That is a place to bring up the issue of technology in the school or any other issue.

Next meeting will be held on 26 April at 7:30.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40PM