

Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC)
Town of Belmont
18 November 2019
Conference Room 2

2020 JAN 17 AM 9:37

APPROVED MINUTES

[Minutes are sent to the Town Clerk, belmont-ma.gov!townclerk when approved]

Voting Members Present

- Paul Roberts <gmail.com!paulroberts> (chair) (VM)
- Glenn Wong <gmail.com!glennpwong> (vice-chair) (VM)
- Dave Goldberg <verizon.net!david.goldberg6> (secretary) (VM)
- Phil Lawrence <live.com!plaw> (VM)
- Charles Smart <verizon.net!cnsmart> (founding chair) (VM)
- Dan Ellard <gmail.com!ellard> (VM)
- Jonathan Green <gmail.com!green.jbg> (VM)
- Jonathan Birge <mit.edu!birge> (VM)

Town Staff Present:

- David Petto (Director of IT, Town of Belmont) <belmont-ma.gov!dpetto> (TS)
(participating remotely via Zoom)

Key:

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

Meeting called to order at 7:40PM

Minutes from the 28 October 2019 meeting were not ready for review so putting that off until next time.

Welcome new member Jonathan Birge.

Phil Lawrence moved to go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

ITAC entered executive session at 7:45PM

ITAC left executive session at 8:25PM

Paul Roberts reviewed the progress on the report ITAC is preparing for the select board on 5G and the proposal from Extenet. Paul discussed the issue with Watertown who has also received a proposal from Extenet. Watertown has put some requirements on the deployment, mostly around aesthetic issues. Jonathan Green noted that a number of towns, including Somerville, have declined a proposal from Extenet and Extenet is suing them. ITAC will recommend to the select board that Town Counsel review those lawsuits and provide some guidance to the select board either as part of our report or separately. Paul noted that we need to get this report done within the next week as the town has to respond to Extenet by 4 December.

Paul Roberts gave an update on the website redesign committee. Paul met with the select board and they asked Paul to draft a charter for a new committee to develop requirements for the website redesign. Phil Lawrence suggested the charter should be fairly narrow - focused on gathering requirements and quickly getting into implementation in the form of an RFP. Paul asked for ideas about who might volunteer for that committee.

Paul Roberts reported that he met with Patrice Garvin (Town Administrator), Ellen

O'Brien Cushman (Town Clerk) and Dave Petto (Town IT Director) about remote access to public meetings. That group concluded it would be easier to start focusing on remote access to the public but others on the committee think it is more important to focus on remote deliberation. Town Clerk prefers to focus on the public because there are no open meeting law implications - it just adds technology; and remote deliberation has more difficult implications. Initial plan is to work with Belmont Media Center using their current streaming technology and see if they can add a capability to take questions/comments. Paul noted that the 21st Century Government subcommittee engaged with BMC on this topic about six months ago. Jonathan Green offered to reach out to BMC to get them on board.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 15 January 2020 at 7:30 PM

Meeting adjourned at 9:30PM