

**RECEIVED
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BELMONT, MA**

DATE: May 19, 2023
TIME: 10:58 AM

Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC)
Town of Belmont
15 March 2023
Conference Room Virtual via Zoom

APPROVED MINUTES

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

Voting Members Present

- Jim Berets <gmail.com!jberets> (VM)
- Dan Ellard <gmail.com!ellard> (VM)
- Dave Goldberg <verizon.net!david.goldberg6> (secretary) (VM)
- Jonathan Green <gmail.com!green.jbg> (VM)
- Phil Lawrence <live.com!plaw> (VM)
- Kristin Nelson-Patel <gmail.com!kristin.nelson.patel> (VM)
- Paul Roberts <gmail.com!paulroberts> (chair) (VM)
- Charles Smart <verizon.net!cnsmart> (founding chair) (VM)

Voting Members Not Present:

- Jonathan Birge <mit.edu!birge> (VM)

Key:

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

Meeting called to order at 7:35PM

Jonathan Green moved to adopt the minutes of the 16 February 2023 ITAC meeting.

Jim Berets: yes
Dan Ellard: yes
Dave Goldberg: abstain
Jonathan Green: yes
Phil Lawrence: abstain
Kristin Nelson-Patel: yes
Paul Roberts: yes
Charles Smart: yes

Minutes approved. David Goldberg will submit them to Town Clerk.

Paul Roberts reported that ITAC has been added to the agenda for the 3 April 2023 Select Board meeting to discuss the town's incident response plan. Paul expects that our part of the meeting will be in executive session so we should try to attend in person.

Charles Smart reported that he reached out to Detective Jim Siracusa regarding the AirDrop incident at the high school. Detective Siracusa could not attend tonight due to a conflict but provided Charles with some further information. There is an official police report on the incident,

which took place on 27 January 2023. Charles has requested a copy of the report on behalf of ITAC but did not receive it in time for this meeting. Paul Roberts reported that he heard back from Steve Mazzola regarding Steve's meeting with Magnet Forensics. Paul heard from Steve that there are a number of policy issues that have to be considered before a deeper investigation can be undertaken.

Paul Roberts reported on the One Love, One Belmont event hosted by Belmont Against Racism, Belmont Democratic Committee and Belmont Republican Committee. Paul hosted a table representing ITAC. The set up was similar to Meet Belmont but the target audience was broader and the intent to generate more discussion than just introduce town committees to new residents.

Paul Roberts noted that the League of Women Voters hosted a discussion about new voting equipment purchased by the town. Jim Berets was not able to attend the meeting but exchanged email with the Town Clerk, receiving the following:

We'll be posting some videos to the Town Clerk's website, and links of our Facebook page and doing a bit of a PR splash to inform voters of the change. At the LWV event I described the process we used in order to ultimately make the purchase of the DS200 electronic vote tabulators by Election Systems & Software, a company with whom the State has an established relationship for accessible voting machines for many years. I know that Bonnie of the LWV recorded the event. We're in the midst of training our Election workers now on the new equipment.

Jim Berets noted that in 2016 California tested these and found a number of issues.

<https://verifiedvoting.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/ESS-red-team-CA-2016.pdf>

Jim Berets also noted that there is a testing session coming up which some of us might try to attend.

https://www.belmont-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf6831/f/agendas/2023-03-22_ballot_and_vote_tabulator_testing.pdf

Paul Roberts raised the issue that the school department bought a lot of Chromebooks over recent years particularly to support remote learning during the pandemic. The concern is that vendor support for security updates tends to stop after a couple years even though the hardware is still good as a means of forcing customers to buy new devices. If we are approaching that end of support date for the ones the school department owns we think we should work with the school department to consider options other than full replacement. We will try to get Steve into an upcoming meeting to discuss this.

We will meet on 3 April 2023 at 6:30PM to prepare for our meeting with the select board later that evening. Our next regular meeting is scheduled for 18 May 2023 at 7:30PM.

Dan Ellard moved to adjourn

Jim Berets: yes

Dan Ellard: yes

Dave Goldberg: yes

Jonathan Green: yes

Phil Lawrence: yes

Kristin Nelson-Patel: yes

Paul Roberts: yes

Charles Smart: yes

Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM