

Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC)
Town of Belmont
14 May 2014
Conference Room 1

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA

2014 JUN 23 AM 9: 06

APPROVED MINUTES

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

Voting Members Present

- Phil Lawrence <illinoisalumni.org!pwl> (co chair; dominant) (VM)
- Dave Goldberg <verizon.net!david.goldberg6> (secretary) (VM)
- Dan Ellard <gmail.com!ellard> (VM)
- Charles Smart <verizon.net!cnsmart> (founding chair) (VM)

Non-Voting Members Present:

Town Staff Present:

- Steve Mazzola (Director of Technology, Belmont Schools) <belmont.k12.ma.us!SMazzola> (TS)
- Robin Tillberg (IT Manager, Belmont Municipal Light Department) <belmontlight.com!rtillberg> (TS)

Key:

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

Meeting called to order at 7:35PM

Minutes of the 26 March 2014 minutes approved as is.

Steve Mazzola gave a presentation on the iPad program. Steve interviewed a number of teachers and showed a video he made of the interviews. The teachers were Marc Lefebvre, Seema Shah, Alyssa Goodrich and Kelly Prevost. The video has been presented to the school committee and will be presented at four parent nights for next year's incoming 9th graders. The video shows that the iPads have had a generally positive impact in the classes for which it can be most taken advantage of. Some classes are not as far along for reasons such as text books not being available electronically; and classes with students from mixed grades since only 9th graders have them. As the program continues through over the next several years those issues will resolve naturally. Training for teachers continues as well. Much of the funding for the program comes from the Foundation for Belmont Education.

Steve noted that he is now putting out a blog to keep the community up to date on the progress of the program. The link is <http://www.belmont.k12.ma.us/bps/Home/Technology/Technology-Blog>

In preparation for the summer, Steve is getting ready to gather the iPads from the 9th graders so they can be upgraded over the summer. In addition, current 8th graders will be presented with their iPads for configuration and account set up prior to the summer though will not get to hold on to their iPads until September.

Robin Tillberg reported that the light department IT systems are running OK. They are looking at replacing the billing system due to issues with the current one. They are also investigating an application, ArcFM, to run on top of the GIS system that is geared towards electric utilities. The new substation project is taking up a lot of time. It does not involve much in the way of IT other than SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition). The current SCADA is old and will be close to end of life by the time the substation is ready to go on line. A number of options are being considered and a request for proposals will eventually be put out for bids. That will not happen this year, though.

Dan Ellard asked about security related announcements such as Heartbleed and how the town deals with them. Steve responded that in most cases the town gets its information from its vendors. To the question about whether a reportedly vulnerable service would be shut down if a patch were not available, Steve reported that it would depend on the nature of the issue and the risk associated. In some cases the service might not be hosted by the town, such as Edline, which complicates the decision process. Steve noted that he and Dave Petto have a protocol in place for managing such incidents and dividing the responsibilities for implementing fixes.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, 16 June 2014 at 7:30PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05PM