

MEETING MINUTES

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMISSION

(ITAC)

February 22, 2017

7:30 pm

Arlington County Courthouse Building

Room 311

2100 Clarendon Boulevard

Arlington, VA

In attendance:

Chair:

Frank Jazzo

ITAC Members Present:

Mary Crannell, Vice Chair

Phil Caughran

Kenneth Cohn

David Husband

William Lang

Dan Laredo

Kevin Robins

Members Not Present:

Joshua Farrar

Martha Moore (Excused: Ill)

Anita Nolen (Excused: Out of Town)

County Board:

Libby Garvey, Member and Past Chair (2016)

County Staff:

Jack Belcher, CIO

Holly Hartell, DTS (Digital Destiny)

George Parr, Cable Administrator

ITAC February 22, 2017 Minutes
Continued – Page 2

Arlington Public Schools: Raj Adusumilli, APS Assistant Superintendent/CIO
Veera Veeraraghavan, Chairperson,
APS Superintendent’s Advisory Committee for
Technology
Heather Hurley, Supervisor,
Personalized Learning and
Personalized Learning Steering Committee
Terrance Proctor, APS Director of Technical Support
Matt Smith, APS Special Projects Coordinator

Prospective Board Members: Dr. Denise Haskins
Zachary Hester
Patrick South
Adam Roosevelt

Cable Company Representatives:
Louise Anderson, Verizon

1. Meeting Called to Order and Adoption of Agenda – Adopted
2. Public Comment – None
3. Approval of Minutes from December 5th Public Hearing on the Comcast Franchise Agreement and minutes from the January 25th meeting. Amended to include names of attendees at January 25th meeting and those Board members not in attendance. Approved as amended.
4. Administrative and Other Issues:
 - Introduction of applicants to fill two ITAC vacancies (see above Prospective Board Members)
 - Introduction of Libby Garvey, Member and past Chair (2016), Arlington County Board and Board Liaison to ITAC
5. Introduction of Arlington Public Schools staff and discussion of APS RFP for broadcast fiber. Representing APS were: Raj Adusumilli, APS Assistant Superintendent/CIO Information Service & Technology; Veera P. Veeraraghavan, Chairperson, APS Superintendent’s Advisory Committee for Technology; Heather

Hurley, Supervisor for Personalized Learning and Personalized Learning Steering Committee; Terrance Proctor, Director, APS Technical Services, Matt Smith, APS Special Projects Coordinator.

Discussion included the following points:

- Raj Adusumilli said that beginning in January a very small window existed for APS to put some of the costs associated with its tech related services back thereby protecting Arlington taxpayers. APS issued an RFP for broadband fiber network to see if there was a need for another, half of which would be paid for with federal funds. The RFP has since been cancelled.
- Mr. Adusumilli said that despite not being visible, there is plenty of collaboration between APS and Arlington County Government as 14 school sites have recently been connected to ConnectArlington. He added that APS and ACG teams are working closely together to meet an aggressive construction schedule over the next year.
- ITAC Chairman Frank Jazzo talked about the need for more collaboration between APS and ACG and the need to explore where synergies exist. He suggested quarterly meetings between APS's advisory commission and ITAC.
- Mr. Adusumilli said that APS is challenged by the growth of its student population and the resulting increase in demand of its resources. He added that APS is looking for ways to enhance personalized instruction.
- Heather Hurley, Supervisor for Personalized Learning and Personalized Learning Steering Committee, said that Arlington is well positioned to provide its students one-to-one personalized learning. Due to personalized devices, students now have more choice about how they learn and how they demonstrate mastery as technology offers immediate feedback. Students will be working with a teacher who is more of a facilitator.

- Ms. Hurley said that APS is in the process of creating its vision of what personalized learning will look like. Research is being conducted by teachers and groups by experimenting in classrooms and providing feedback. Ultimately, it will be a world where different resources can be used to teach a student in different ways. One text book for all will be a thing of the past.
- Ms. Hurley said that personalized learning will mean Arlington students will be better prepared to enter the work place.
- When asked if a digital divide exists in Arlington, Mr. Adusumilli said APS research indicates access to technology is very high among Arlington students. He added Dr. Murphy, APS Superintendent, has made access to technology a high priority. Thus, 100% of all requests have been met.
- APS is also placing a heavy emphasis on professional learning for its staff and teachers
- With regard to learning for adult students, instruction is almost exclusively personalized.
- APS is moving away from computer labs. Personalized devices and instruction allow students to study independent of a fixed facility. This is also an effective way to keep up with ever increasing student enrollment in the County.
- Terrance Proctor, APS Director of Technical Services, said that APS needs to provide infrastructure that allows students creativity. He added technology allows that to happen.

- Mr. Adusumilli said that five years ago he would have ranked APS technology services near the bottom but the past five years have meant a 100% change. He now regards APS technology infrastructure at the top among school systems. Mr. Proctor said that APS has made great strides in a short amount of time. He said that three years ago APS internet was operating at 400 Mbps and now operates at 2.8 Gbps. He added it will soon operate at a speed of 5.0 Gbps.
- County Board member Libby Garvey said there's pressure to build a new 20th century high school to meet Arlington's exploding student enrollment. She said she wants everyone to understand what kind of school is right for the 21st century. Mr. Adusumilli said that the APS web site is asking for input from its residents regarding what the vision should be for such a new facility.

6. Regulatory & Legislative Update: ITAC Chairman Frank Jazzo

- The Virginia House of Delegates voted to accept a Senate amendment to Delegate Kathy Byron's Virginia Broadband Deployment Act (HB2108), which would limit municipalities from deploying broadband networks unless certain conditions were met, and sent the final bill to the Governor for signature.
- The Virginia House Commerce and Labor Committee cleared a Senate bill on small cells wireless siting, which would limit reviews of small-cell applications to 60 days. The full House was expected to vote on the bill shortly.
- The FCC announced the establishment of a Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee. Jack Belcher applied for a position on the Committee and has been named to it.

7. Cable Administrator's Report (George Parr/Jack Belcher/Holly Hartell)

- The Comcast Franchise Agreement has been signed by Comcast but two outstanding documents must be obtained by the County from Comcast before the documents can be presented to the Board for full execution. Until then, the new Agreement is not in effect. The two required documents are a new Letter of Credit and an Insurance Certificate.
- The County Manager (CMO) will present his budget recommendations to the County Board on Thursday, February 23rd at 11:00 am. A news embargo will be in place until 4:00 pm. Therefore, the CMO's budget recommendations for the PEG's will not be known until then.
- There have been some problems associated with Comcast's construction crews digging up private property without permission or permits. Some of these subcontractors do not display identification.
- ConnectArlington update: CIO Jack Belcher said splicing is taking place and that construction is on schedule.
- Digital Destiny – Holly Hartell said that the program held on February 15th was a great success as it was not only well attended, but another twenty-four residents viewed the program online and commented via the internet. She said that four topics associated with learning were discussed in groups. They were: traditional learning (no longer limited to K-12); place (no longer limited to a building); access (digital divide); approach (no longer limited to the classroom or text books). Discussion also focused on the humanistic side of technology by asking the question: Are you using technology in the right way? Upcoming Digital Destiny program topic is "Aging In Place".

8. Good of the Order

9. Adjournment – 8:52 pm (1 hour 22 minutes)

