

Date: Tuesday, April 29, 2014

Time: 7:04 - 8:35 PM

Place: Third floor meeting room at City Hall

Present: Karen Spencer, Ryan Sawyer, Tom Manning, Geoff Bradford (7:10)

Absent: Grant Harris, Robert McGillvray

Also Present: Bob Bowles (Cape Ann TV Board), Alex Sanfilippo (Cape Ann TV video-recorder)

Summary:

Heard Ryan's report on contact with Endicott, still WIP. Worked out an outline/presentation for discussing city/regional broadband with other local organizations and committees. Bottom line: We agree that addressing telecom infrastructure, whether building a middle mile network that is an alternative to Comcast or something else, is absolutely imperative to the economic future of Gloucester. But we need city wide consensus for this to go forward.

Decisions/Votes:

1. Vote to accept minutes from March 26, 2014 meeting.
Approved unanimously
2. Karen to make a list of people to invite to the next meeting so as to get feedback and refine the presentation.
Approved unanimously

Action Items:

1. Ryan: to have followup meetings with representatives of Endicott College.
2. Ryan: contact Applied Material (Varian)
3. Geoff: contact an investor who lives on Eastern Point that he knows from his shared office space. (Crowdly)
4. Geoff: To send Karen the Cable TV FAQ he amassed for inclusion on website.

Details:

1. Ryan went over his action item of reaching out to Endicott College. Ryan exchanged email with Rob and Gary Kelly, CIO. Endicott uses Comcast Business Class Services. Talked to them about being an anchor institution, like in Open Cape. Ryan asked did they have any short term plans for expansion and didn't get much feedback.
2. Ryan has a contact at Varian (Applied Materials) whom he can start a exchange with to find out what Varian's networking needs and problems are.
3. Geoff provided a synopsis of his paper and the paper will be added to the website.
4. Tom discussed his findings on CTC and the Gigabit Cities paper.
5. Discussion on the straw man proposal for the white paper for Gloucester Administration. The white paper has to present the benefits and sustainability of any actions. Also, address barriers to bringing in new opportunities. For example, businesses and

Submitted By: Tom Manning

research firms may not get enough bandwidth and hence not consider Gloucester a viable option.

1. A presentation format may be better way to communicate the issues to the potential stakeholders and build consensus. Geoff stated that job growth is probably the best angle to pursue.
2. A political campaign “bullet point” message is another option.
6. Discussion and role playing regarding what does our audience need to hear. Example: To advance workforce development, Gloucester needs more networking resources to enable existing organizations to scale and to enable new enterprises to come to Gloucester. The objective of the paper's purpose is to convince administration to write a grant, perhaps for June or October deadlines for the Dept of Commerce EDAP2014 grant.
1. Geoff asked 'how does this help us?' Does this enable the fishing industry to continue fishing? Ans: Provides foundation for 21st century businesses, including marine research, i.e. an alternative to fishing that will allow folks to continue to live in Gloucester and make a living locally.
7. Tom brought up talking to Mass Broadband Initiative. Karen had talked to them a few months ago. They were not that interested because Gloucester has Comcast & Verizon. MBI is focused on underserved areas like western Mass.
8. Ryan thought a CTC-like organization (network planning services) would provide us the realistic steps. CTC analysis was an early step for Open Cape.
9. Former DPA properties might provide an opportunity. Need analysis and input from Harbor Planning, CDC and city.
10. Geoff asked if there were possibilities such as IT vocation training. Need Grant's input on anything school related.
11. Karen said that “ownership” is going to be a big question. Open Cape like many other initiatives is run by a non-profit. Others are city owned.
 1. Public-Private-Non-profit alignment is important.
12. 'Needs' List:
 1. consensus that a putting a 'middle mile' network is worthwhile
 2. get grant written by the city's grant writers
 3. anchor organizations
 4. Have the current networking resources "As Is" defined
 5. Open question: what are the public safety connectivity resources
11. Another example was the Beauport Hotel: Meetings and visitors may require high bandwidth communications in a conference center. What are their choices?

Retrospective: We were uniformly happy with our output, but missed our missing members.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 27; 7 PM; Third floor meeting room at City Hall

Submitted By: Tom Manning

Attachments:

