



COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

<http://www.austintexas.gov/cttc>

MINUTES

Special Called Meeting

Friday – April 2, 2021 – 5:30 PM

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING

Please go to http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/10_1.htm for backup material associated with this agenda.

All ATXN (City Channel 6) programming is cablecast on Spectrum, Grande Communications, and Google Fiber on their cable channel 6, on AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 and webcast online. Over 20 meetings per month, including this commission meeting, are available on demand online, typically within a few hours of the cablecast. Schedules and video can be found at:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/atxn-video-archive>.

CURRENT COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Sophie Gairo - Mayor Steve Adler

Nehemiah Pitts III - Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison, District 1

Steven Apodaca – Council Member Vanessa Fuentes, District 2

Malcolm Yeatts - Council Member Sabino “Pio” Renteria, District 3

David Alexander - Council Member Gregorio Casar, District 4

Dave Floyd - Council Member Ann Kitchen, District 5

Iliya Svirsky - Council Member Mackenzie Kelly, District 6

Maxine Eiland - Council Member Leslie Pool, District 7

Vacant - Council Member Paige Ellis, District 8

Nicole Thompson – Council Member Kathie Tovo, District 9

Sumit DasGupta - Council Member Alison Alter, District 10

Commission Members Present

Sophie Gairo

Nehemiah Pitts III

Steven Apodaca

Malcolm Yeatts

David Alexander

Iliya Svirsky

Maxine Eiland

Nicole Thompson

Sumit DasGupta

Unexcused Absence

Dave Floyd

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:36 PM

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The first ten speakers who register to speak no later than noon the day before the meeting will be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –February 10, 2021 and March 10, 2021

Motion to approve the February 10, 2021 minutes made by Commissioner Gairo and seconded by Chair Pitts passed on a vote of 8-0-1 with Commissioner Apodaca abstaining.

Motion to approve the March 10, 2021 minutes made by Commissioner Eiland and seconded by Commissioner DasGupta passed on a vote of 8-0-1 with Commissioner Apodaca abstaining.

2. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

FY22 Budget Recommendations with the following City of Austin Strategic Plan Priority Outcomes: Safety, Health & Environment, and Government that Works for All:

a. Remote Participation at Commission Meetings (Discussion and Possible Action)

The backup to this item can be viewed here.

The CTTC recommends \$10,000 in support for equipment purchases for ATXN in order to continue the current level of support for remote participation at City commission meetings. This recommendation would allow ATXN to handle a hybrid in-person and remote meeting style (current capabilities can only handle fully remote or fully in-person).

Additionally, the CTTC supports the request of the Clerk's Office for three FTE positions in as much as these positions allow the continuation of remote participation capabilities for all City commissions.

Moreover, the CTTC supports the request of CTM for proportional funding to 1) upgrade technology at meeting rooms in City Hall, 2) upgrade software (and support) relating to web streaming and A/V support, and 3) convert contract staff to FTEs -- all in support of continuing remote participation for all City Commissions and rolling out this piloted hybrid model for the currently broadcasted Boards & Commissions in FY2022.

Motion to approve the recommendation to provide 1) \$10,000 in support for equipment purchases for ATXN, 2) 3 additional FTE's for the Clerk's Office, 3) proportional funding to upgrade meeting room, software, and AV / Maintenance / Support for remote participation and piloted hybrid model, and 4) the conversion of contracted CTM AV staff to FTEs made by Commissioner Gairo and seconded by Chair Pitts passed on a vote of 8-0-1.

b. Council Vote Tablature (Discussion and Possible Action)

The Commission discussed supporting the ability for the Clerk's Office to collect and post Council votes in a data-analyzable format. After discussion, the Commission decided to not propose a budget recommendation on this item, and instead to post this on the next regularly scheduled agenda for Commission discussion and possible action.

c. Web Conference Availability at Public Facilities (Discussion and Possible Action)

The commission discussed supporting whisper spaces and technology loaded vehicles, but decided to focus on the availability of leveraging City Zoom licenses for public use.

Motion to continue the exploration of leveraging City Zoom licenses for public benefit made by Commissioner Yeatts and seconded by Commissioner Svirsky passed on a vote of 7-0-2 with Commissioner Gairo and Chair Pitts abstaining.

3. COMMISSION UPDATES (Discussion and Possible Action)

a. Digital Inclusion, Civic Engagement, and Strategic Technology and Telecom Policy Working Group

Chair Pitts noted that the Grant for Technology Opportunity Program 2021 review process is ongoing.

b. Knowledge, Information, and Data Stewardship Working Group

Vice Chair Alexander noted that the monthly meetings for this group are now scheduled for the week after each regularly scheduled meeting.

c. Technology, Infrastructure, and Innovation Working Group

There were no updates on this working group.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Presentations from internet providers on the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program
GTOPs 2021 Award Recommendations
Discussion and action on the City Council vote tabulation
Election of Officers

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner DasGupta and seconded by Commissioner Yeatts passed on a vote of 9-0.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. Please contact Jesse Rodriguez at the Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs at (512) 974-7676, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Community Technology & Telecommunications Commission, please visit their website at <http://www.austintexas.gov/cttc> or contact Jesse Rodriguez at jesse.rodriguez@austintexas.gov.

Posting Submitted by: Jesse Rodriguez, Business Process Specialist, Wednesday, April 8, 2021