

## **City of Bloomington: Bloomington Digital Underground Advisory Committee**

Date of Record: January 6, 2005

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### **Summary**

Bloomington Underground Advisory Committee (hereafter "Committee") meeting held Thursday January 6, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. in the McCloskey Room of City Hall at Showers, 401 N. Morton St., Bloomington, IN.

### **Roll Call**

#### Committee Members Present

Brian Klebur, Small Business Development

Mark McMath, Bloomington, Hospital

Bruce Myers, Kiva

Linda Williamson, Bloomington Economic Development Corporation

#### Committee Members Absent

Charlie Webb, CallNet

Brian Voss, Indiana University

#### City of Bloomington Staff Present

Rick Routon, User Support & Network Operations Manager, ITS

Greg Volan, Chief Information Officer, ITS

Ron Walker, ECD

#### Guests Present

John Conley, Smithville Telephone

Eric Ost, TCC

Suzann Owen, TCC

Brett Skilbred, Network Engineer, InfoComm Systems

### **Handouts**

1. January 6, 2005 Meeting Agenda
2. InfoComm Presentation Outline, including:
  - a. Project Plan
  - b. Interview Contact List
  - c. Public Meeting Agenda

## Minutes

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m.

- I. Update from Brett Skilbred on Strategic Plan Progress
  - A. Brett Skilbred reviewed the BDU Advisory Board (BDUAB) strategic plan, stating that:
    - i. BDUAB should facilitate other city initiatives/goals such as economic development and information technology infrastructures.
    - ii. After talking with Brian Voss, BDUAB should position itself within the Public Works department and should review progress towards city initiatives on an annual basis.
      1. Rick Dietz added that BDUAB serves only on behalf of the City of Bloomington in facilitating the project and that BDUAB would not have final authority over issues such as physical assets.
    - iii. He wanted to finalize these goals (*see Strategic Plan handout for full list*) to correctly pull information from interviews in line with BDUAB objectives.
      1. Mark McMath stated that BDUAB should also account for users that cannot find full commercial benefits from the project but would want to collaborate either with the City of Bloomington or with the private sector to gain a peripheral advantage.
      2. Brett Skilbred added that, having talked with some potential customers, BDUAB should consider collaborative projects to accommodate those users not interested in buying full telecommunications infrastructure.
  - B. Eric Ost suggested incorporating GOAL 6 ("Define area of business and potential product offerings") into GOAL 4 ("Determine the impact the BDU Advisory Board has had thus far and develop ways in which to guarantee future impact").
  - C. Mark McMath stated that BDUAB should retain in its strategic plan several "guiding principles" to direct future operations and to allow new participants in the process.
  - D. Eric Ost asked if the second guiding principle of the Strategic Plan ("Don't want to directly compete with local telecom or do anything that will") prevents municipal projects such as broadband services.
    - i. Brett Skilbred stated that, in his interpretation, the principle does prevent those actions.
    - ii. Eric Ost stated that, given other examples of cities attempting to implement telecom services, that the BDUAB Strategic Plan should retain a broad scope for potential expansion.
    - iii. Brett Skilbred stated that it was necessary to accurately define "direct competition" for the BDUAB Strategic Plan so that BDU actions would benefit the community to the greatest extent. A possible solution would be to create a checklist of circumstances whereby BDUAB could determine what actions to take.
    - iv. Linda Williamson stated that BDUAB should, in its guiding principles, be cognizant of existing services and that BDUAB should work with those services to accomplish its goals.
    - v. Rick Dietz added that these processes should incorporate the need and ability to change directions and guidelines as they become apparent.
  - E. Brett Skilbred stated that, because the City of Bloomington funds the BDUAB project, the geographic scope of the Strategic Plan concentrates on city centers, but that peripheral connections should also be considered.
  - F. Brett Skilbred reviewed the Tasks section of the Strategic Plan handout, stating that he has scheduled about half of the contacts for interviews. Brett Skilbred also stated that he wanted BDUAB to review the contact list and add any missing names.
  - G. Brett Skilbred stated that, given the limited scope of the contact list, that BDUAB should hold a public meeting to gain further input.

