



# CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Information & Technology Services

## Bloomington Digital Underground BDUAC Meeting Memorandum

Per Executive Orders issued by the Governor, this meeting was conducted electronically.

### **Thursday, October 7th, 2021 4PM**

Location: Zoom  
Facilitator: Rick Dietz  
Board Attendance: Marianne Chitwood Mike Sullivan, Mike Trotzke, Michelle Cole  
Staff Attendance: Desiree King, Rick Dietz

### **ITS Department Updates**

Rick: Garage activities are coming to a close. We're currently working on project to expand wifi in certain Parks: Crestmont, Butler, Buskirk Hill, People's Park. Project will use 2021 and 2022 ARPA funds. As part of this project, we'll be able to expand City network to Mills pool, Bloomington Housing Authority, and Tri-North Middle School area.

### **City-wide Fiber Broadband Initiative**

Rick: We have had continued conversations with potential fiber provider that have now looped in IU and Marianne. Provider has made fourth on-site visit since conversations began. Partial focus on Digital Equity effort, trying to get access to low-income individuals in community, similar to low-cost/free programs offered by major internet providers right now. Recurring caveat is that this potential partnership could still dissolve, although conversations have progressed farther than with other past potential partners.

Trotzke asked about Provider's cost of internet for low-income residents. Dietz said the cost overall is low, but requires some amount of revenue which could include federal programs like Lifeline. But it's important to bring more people on board to make it worthwhile. As things move forward, this project will become more visible

### **Digital Equity**

Desiree summarized 3rd quarter Digital Equity Grants reports from 2020 recipients. These are on track.

Digital Equity Grants Review Committee recommendations were shared with BDUAC. Recommended were nine area nonprofits a total of \$50,000 in funds this year, an increase from

\$35,000 awarded to six nonprofits in 2020.

- Area 10 Agency on Aging, Creating Digital Literacy Opportunities and Tackling Social Isolation in the World of COVID, \$4,700
- Artisan Alley, Wi-Fi Mill, \$4,000
- Courage to Change Sober Living, Technology Access/Instruction for Courage to Change Sober Living Residents, \$6,800
- Farmer House Museum/TechHeroes, Bloomington Stories and Farmer House Museum Stories, \$5,400
- Hotels for Homeless, Long Term Access to Technology and Skill Building for Those Experiencing Homelessness, \$7,600
- Monroe County Public Library, Cameras for Remote/Hybrid Public Meeting Rooms, \$1,000
- Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM), Closing the Service and Referral Gap for MCUM Clients, \$7,000
- New Leaf New Life, Digital Efficiency, \$4,200
- South Central Community Action Program, Digital Action Plan for Thriving Connections Families, \$9,300

Chitwood moved to accept the recommendation for 2021 Digital Equity Grants recipients. Trotzke seconded to unanimous support.

**Member Reports (Items not on the agenda)**

- Chitwood: Held iLight meeting last week virtually, good participation and attendance.
- Trotzke: Mill Innovation Week is next week. Lots of hybrid and virtual events happening. Trotzke retired from executive committee at Mill after four years. So did Cole. Both still on the board and still involved. Committee has three new members.

Meeting Adjourned

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