

City of Alexandria, Virginia
Commission on Information Technology

April 18, 2024 IT Commission Meeting Minutes
7:00 – 8:30 PM

In attendance: Ricardo Alfaro, Brandon Mosoriak, Timothy Casey, Steve Davidson, Jay Chauhan, Catherine Page, Heather Barrows (remote), Stephen Morris (remote)

City Staff: Steve Chozick, Stacey Campbell, Bryan Smith, Corinna Nowak, Dana Wedeles, John Crites (remote), Patrick Eze (remote)

Others: Tom VanAntwerp, Kit Sze VanAntwerp, Donna James (Computer Core)

1. Call to Order

2. Minutes

- We do not have quorum, approval of minutes is postponed until the May meeting.

3. Announcements, Meeting Schedule and Projects

(a) Meeting Schedule

- Thursday, May 16, 2024
 - Thursday, June 20, 2024
 - Thursday, July 18, 2024
 - Thursday, August 15, 2024
- A Doodle poll will be sent out re: meeting dates.

(b) Announcement

- In collaboration with City IT, GW, the Chamber of Commerce and the commission, Ricardo and Vanetta have been in conversations for a Cybersecurity event. If any commission members are interested in participating in a panel discussion, please let Ricardo know. The event will be on June 26 at the GW Alexandria Learning Center.
- SD: Do we know what the format of the discussion will be? It is still being fleshed out.

4. Digital Equity

City of Alexandria Digital Equity & City Services Map (Dana Wedeles and Corinna Nowak)

- One of the short-term recommendations from the Digital Equity Plan is to create a city services map.
- An interdepartmental team was put together to identify which city services to include based on resident questions.

- Corinna Nowak gave a demo on the map application.
- This application aims to be a 'one-stop shop' for city services.
- RA: could the radius of Wi-Fi be placed on the map? Yes possibly.
- SM: adding WMATA, DASH, Capital Bikeshare info would be helpful.
- The app can be converted into multiple languages using the browser's native technology.
- The application was shared with the city communicators group, Computer Core and the commission for feedback. There will also be a 'Feedback' tab on the application.
- Front-desk personnel around the city will be trained on how to use the application to assist residents.
- RA: How will data be kept up to date? CN: Currently the departments who own the data will need to forward updated data to the GIS department.
- RA: Any strategy around external data, outside of City agencies? We try to keep external data out due to unreliable updating.
- RA: Any thoughts of touch displays around the city that will display this app? DW: This is something we will look into.
- HB: Have you considered object recognition capabilities? City IT will investigate this.
- SD: Has anyone gone back to compare the heat map from ACPS to the Wi-Fi map to see where there are possibilities to improve public Wi-Fi? DW: Would love to get an updated version of the heat map, we can layer them to check.
- SC: The city is looking at getting Wi-Fi in parks and some non-profits as part of the agreement with Ting.

5. Open Data Presentation (Tom VanAntwerp)

- Shared story of home assessment data, building a web scraper to obtain City's real estate assessment data.
- Shared another citizen's story of using demographic dashboards, comparing data zoning for housing disparate impacts of zoning code on different demographics.
- The DRCA reached out to Tom to help them answer the question if their members are representative of Del Ray as a whole.
- There was a conversation around anonymous access to the City's data.

6. Public Outreach Update; Cybersecurity Awareness Event

- Will be discussed at the May meeting.

7. Adjournment at 9:05 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2024.