City of Alexandria, Virginia
Commission on Information Technology

MINUTES
January 22, 2018
Room 2204

Attending: Sean Rough, Brandon Mosoriak, Darrlynn Franklin, Marjorie Conner, Catharine Rice, Christopher Lewis

Public: Peter Anthony Pappas

Absent: Ed Ward, Forest Wilhoit, John Szcsech, David Baker, John Scott

1. Welcome & introductions were made: City staff included Vanetta Pledger, Joe Crockett and Warren Benson.

2. Vanetta Pledger, City CIO, Director ITS provided an update on the City’s fiber build.

3. November 27 minutes – Motion made by Marjorie Conner, seconded by Darrlynn Franklin to accept the minutes as written. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

4. Discussion of Commission’s 2018 agenda
   a. Catharine Rice recommended Committees be formed on issues of relevance to the group. Commission will meet every two months and committees can meet in the off-months, at a place of their convenience. (Public notice must be given). Committees can report back at the Commission meetings; Topics could revolved around topics of interested that have arisen in other community’s that have built their own fiber backbone, such as collecting data on who has and does not have internet or future workforce training. Commission can also have guest speakers (including from around the country).

   b. Chris Lewis offered to be Chair of the Homework Gap Committee. Brandon Mozoriak and Marjorie Conner agreed to be on the committee. The committee can “collect the data” on who has access to modern broadband in the city and who does not. Chris will arrange a meeting with Dr. Hoover, Director of Technology. Teachers know which students go home to no internet. Committee will identify need and solutions for need. Data will help with city’s fiber build. Vanetta Pledger will provide Chris Lewis a copy of the buildings that will be hooked to the fiber backbone.
c. Catharine Rice suggested we form a Workforce Training Committee and offered to be its Chair. Peter Anthony-Pappas agreed to be on this committee with her. Focus will be on identifying programs locally and around the country that address how internet is being used to develop skilled workforce and jobs that pay a good wage without particularly going to college. Possible T.C. Williams has an in-house program.

d. An Agenda Committee will be composed of the Commission’s officers who will identify topics. March meeting can focus on Digital Inclusion; May meeting can focus on Automation and workforce development. Committee will offer ideas.

e. Sean Rough reviewed the IT Commission’s Charter (Chapter N) and group discussed the broad range of the Commission objectives. Commission will focus on actionable items.

f. Commission members discussed providing Vanetta Pledger with various resources on cybersecurity. One topic is basics of what the community needs to understand about cybersecurity. Topic could be taken up at a fall Commission meeting when Vanetta’s group is up to speed.

g. Commission discussed meeting on an alternative night, but the best night appears to be Monday night. The Commission will meet every two months, and pencil in the possibility of meeting in July if there is interest. The Chair offered to contact Commission members who were absent and ask them if they would like to participate in any of the Committees.

5. Commission adjourned at 8:15 p.m.