

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY NETWORK

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 2006 MEETING

Attendance: Chantal Iorio, Craig McLachlan, Michael Felczak, Richard S. Rosenberg, Scott Nelson, Pedro Moro, and Jim Sayre, plus Steven Chan, Thom Hansen, and Kalia Turdueva from the staff.

1. Changes to the agenda.

No.

2. Minutes of the previous Board meeting. (attached)

No changes.

3. Financial Statements. (posted by Kalia on April 10th) Thom will be present to discuss this with us.

Thom and Chantal reviewed the statements, which were accepted as presented.

4. Staff Reports: Technical Issues, and Hotspot reports posted by Steven on April 7th

Steven reviewed the staff reports, leading to further discussion. The 411 Society now owns the building at 411 Dunsmuir (formerly owned by BC Building Corporation, which no longer exists). This may have adverse implications for VCN, as the 411 will have to recover the cost of operation and maintenance for its own budget and other tenants, including VCN.

5. Update on prospective new board members. (Craig)

Craig and Scott provided information on several prospective new board members, who will be invited to attend the May meeting.

6. Update on CAP

The Board discussed the latest information.

7. New, old or other business, including:

a) urban wireless initiatives

Members discussed this issue. There were doubts as to whether VCN would be regarded as having sufficient resources to be a primary partner for the City of Vancouver or other lower mainland municipalities. VCN will continue to work on developing wireless access spots for our existing users in concert with CAP sites and other partners.

b) anti-privacy legislation

Richard Rosenberg gave a summary of the multiple threats to privacy and freedom of information facing VCN and other organizations. These include excessive and uncontrolled charges for responding to FOI requests, a decision to allow Hydro to tell the police which properties are using "excessive" power (i.e., which ones may be grow-ops), and others. There has been no news yet about the reintroduction of the lawful access legislation, called the MITA in the last Parliament, which would impose onerous new requirements on VCN and other internet service providers. Richard also suggested that someone from VCN participate in a new privacy committee to be established by the BC Civil Liberties Association, and Jim agreed to attend the first meeting.

c) strategic planning initiatives

8. Two personnel matters were dealt with at an incamera session.
9. The next meeting will held on Wednesday, May 10, at 6:00.