

**VCN Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 23, 2009**  
**411 Dunsmuir St., Vancouver, BC**

Board and staff in attendance: Jim Sayre, Travis Keyworth, Brendan Houle, Chantal Iorio, Richard Smith, Michael Felczak, Chris Chanhsamone, Tom Hansen.

Meeting started at 6:20 PM.

MOTION to approve minutes from June 18th, 2009 board meeting – m/s/c.

Chris presented the technical and staff report:

- Still testing the PHP server. Having some intermittent problems and trying to isolate these.
- Setting up an install server with images to use for installation for other servers.
- Continuing work on upgrading our request tracking system.
- Main dial-up server went down this past month, affecting users' ability to login.
- Chris and Sid looked in more detail at the hardware and service options if VCN were to provide DSL service directly. However, Chris and Sid have not yet contacted the Ottawa freenet to inquire in detail about their model for providing high-speed Internet service.
- Volunteers are working on an authentication server for testing with the test mesh wireless network.

Tom presented the financial report:

- Will need to discuss the budget for the upcoming year at the next retreat.

The board discussed the possibility of VCN sponsoring and supporting WIFI more actively at both existing CAP sites as well as new areas in the city that may benefit from free WIFI. Something like this would be in addition to promoting and supporting wireless sharing of DSL at homes as discussed in previous meetings.

- Could involve both the CAPYI as well as the WebTeam for support, communication, etc.
- The WIFI splash screen could be VCN-based, enable registration of new VCN members.
- Depending on the model, VCN could partially sponsor these spots, provide support, etc.
- Would likely require some additional staff. Perhaps a mature co-op student to manage or overlook these projects. The student would need to be integrated well with the current staff and CAP YI.

Richard put forward the following MOTION: That we authorize staff to initiate a strategic plan to deploy wireless hotspots in Vancouver. We recommend hiring a project manager (perhaps a co-op student from a university) who will identify priorities, establish relationships with partners, liaise with board and staff, and be responsible for the research, development and execution of the plan. Some components of this plan would likely include: promoting hotspots at CAP sites, subsidizing hot spots located in private homes and businesses, and developing a branding and communication program that presents the sites to end users, potential funders, and partners. We expect that the project manager will develop an evaluation scheme and business plan and that this would be completed in early 2010. We authorize up to \$15,000 from the strategic initiatives fund for this project. – m/s/c

Richard had to leave the meeting at 8:40 PM.

The board briefly discussed the most recent Lawful Access and Copyright Legislation proposal in Ottawa as well as the upcoming Vancouver Ubuntu meetup and the next VCN newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.