

VCN Board Meeting
Thursday, Mar. 19, 2009
411 Dunsmuir St., Vancouver, BC

In attendance: Jim Sayre, Richard Smith, Chantal Iorio, Anthony Swain, Travis Keyworth, Craig McLachlan, Michael Felczak, Steven Chan, Kalia Turdova, Chris Chanhsamone, Sid Roberts.

Meeting started at 6:20 PM.

MOTION to approve minutes from Dec. 4th, 2008 board meeting – m/s/c.

Chris presented the technical report:

- Public lab computers have been updated.
- Plans to upgrade the request tracking server used by technical support and staff. Free Geek has kindly donated a new server.
- The backup server has also been upgraded.
- WebGUI migration to new version of WebGUI is almost complete.

Kalia presented an update on CAP and CAPYI:

- Almost all CAP sites have submitted claims.
- CAPYI has ended and all interns and coordinators have completed their work for this year.

Chantal presented the financial report:

- Finances are sound and as expected with respect to budget.

Tony pointed out that we need to update VCN's entry in the phone book and in the yellow pages. Current information is out of date. Kalia will ensure that this is updated.

Tony suggested that it would be useful if board members had a generic board member business card that could be used when talking to people or connecting with community members.

Discussion around the possibility of VCN providing high-speed Internet access:

- VCN would need to purchase bandwidth from Telus or Shaw and then could make it available to VCN members.
- This would require cost-recovery to cover the cost of purchasing these lines and bandwidth. That is, members would need to pay the cost of the high-speed line, which would be similar in cost to purchasing it directly from Telus or Shaw.
- One potential benefit could be that it would be an added service to our members.
- VCN could also make available a mesh router for sharing the high speed connection with neighbours.
- Additional costs for VCN would include administration as well as billing tracking, collecting, and management. This would require additional staff given the current workload of staff.

Discussion of VCN newsletter:

- Tony has been experimenting with different formats and file types.
- The idea is to try to include a good amount of text content, with the inclusion of some images, but to still ensure that the resulting newsletter is small so that's easy to download for members who use

dial-up modems.

- In terms of process, board members, staff, and members could submit content to Tony, who will do the editing, then circulate the draft to the board for approval, then forward on to Kalia to distribute to members via email.
- Both staff and board members can contribute content. We can also invite members and community groups for content that may be of benefit to other VCN members and groups.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.