

VCN Board Meeting
Thursday, Mar. 11, 2010
411 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, B.C.

Directors in attendance: Jim Sayre, Craig McLachlan, Brendan Houle, Travis Keyworth, Anthony Swain, Chantal Iorio, Michael Felczak.

Staff in attendance: Izabela Krekora, Chris Chanhsamone.

Guest in attendance: Hamida Hajee.

Meeting started at 6:20 PM.

MOTION to approve minutes from Dec. 3rd, 2010 board meeting – m/s/c.

Izabela presented the staff report:

- CAPYI will be finishing on March 31, 2010.
- Have some additional hours unused by some interns. Allocated to other interns.
- CAP expenses are coming in and we're preparing our final report for Industry Canada.
- WebTeam has had new volunteer join the team; promoting Spread the Web 2-for-1 program.

Chris presented the technical report:

- Large mail inbox warnings have been configured to be sent out earlier to prevent email from being blocked when the inbox is full. This should give users more time to deal with a full inbox.
- All server data has been moved to our new backup storage.
- Installed diagnostic/monitoring software on our internal office network to enable early diagnosis of server and/or network problems.
- Testing a new server to eventually replace VCN's main server.
- Continuing work on upgrading the request tracking server.

The board reviewed the Open Mesh progress report prepared by Kenny Lam:

- Many libraries and schools either already have their own WIFI or use a secure Internet connection and can't use Open Mesh.
- We will continue to work with the sites that are able to use and are interested in Open Mesh. We will help them with the setup, training, and maintenance of the nodes.
- We will also contact sites that wanted to review the technology and its costs and benefits to see if they have made a decision and are interested in an installation.

Chantal presented the financial report:

- More than budgeted for donations in most recent month (good news).
- Other than that, we're on budget.

Izabela provided an update on the CAP program:

- Industry Canada informed VCN that the program will no longer be funded in its current form.
- Only CAP sites that are further than 25km from a public library will be funded.
- This will effectively cease funds to most CAP sites in the Lower Mainland.
- Izabela will begin looking at new grants and programs that could enable VCN to provide new

programs or extend existing programs within the definition of VCN's mission and mandate.

The board discussed the new space at Woodward's and the estimated operating budget. Estimated operating budget is very similar to our existing costs for additional space at 411 Dunsmuir.

MOTION to approve Woodward's office space budget and to continue with our move of existing 411 Dunsmuir 3rd floor staff and volunteers to the new space at Woodward's – m/s/c.

The board discussed the recent Society Act Review:

- Jim will be reviewing this in detail and can report back to the board his findings.
- The board can return to this issue once Jim has had a chance to complete his review.

The board discussed Peter Royce's nomination for the John Webb award:

- Jim will contact Penny and Tom, and perhaps Brian about accepting a plaque on Peter's behalf and speaking about Peter's community contributions at the event.

The board discussed the possibility of VCN providing low-cost high-speed Internet access:

- Sid contacted the Ottawa Freenet via email and phone to learn more about their high-speed setup but we did not receive a reply. Chris will ask Sid to try a second contact attempt.

The board discussed the next version of the newsletter:

- We need to ensure that images are low-res and low bandwidth to ensure that dial-up members are able to access it easily and quickly.

Next meeting:

- Let's return to the 3rd Thursday of each month for our board meeting.

MOTION to nominate Hamida Hajee to the board – m/s/c.

The board discussed potential new board members:

- Jim will contact two VCN members who expressed interest in attending a board meeting as guests.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.