

ONE BALDWIN STREET
MONTPELIER, VT 05633-5701

ROB CHAPMAN, VT ACCESS NETWORK
PAUL COSTELLO, VCRD
JUSTIN JOHNSON, SECRETARY, AOA
REP. KATHLEEN KEENAN
PATRICIA MOULTON, SECRETARY, ACCD



TEL: (802) 828-2295
FAX: (802) 828-2483
www.leg.state.vt.us

CHAD WAWRZYNIAK, VDOL
JIM PORTER, PSD
MARTY REID, STATE LIBRARIAN
JOHN SAYLES, VIT REP.
YASMINE ZIESLER, VSC REP.

STATE OF VERMONT
VERMONT INTERACTIVE WORKING GROUP
SEC. E.602.1 OF ACT 58 OF 2015

Monday, July, 20, 2015

Minutes

Members present:

Jim Porter, designee for Commissioner of Public Service
Chad Wawrzyniak, designee for Commissioner of Labor
Yasmine Ziesler, representative of Vermont State Colleges
Martha Reid, State Librarian
Rob Chapman, representative of Vermont Access Network
Representative Kathleen Keenan
Barbara Grimes, standing in for John Sayles, representative of Vermont Interactive Technologies

Other Attendees: Sigrid Olson of Agency of Education, Jeff Renard of Virtual Learning Cooperative, Joint Fiscal Office and Legislative Council staff, and various interested members of the public

In the absence of the Secretary of Administration, Maria Royle, Legislative Council, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Barbara Grimes nominated Paul Costello as Chair of the Working Group and Rep. Keenan seconded the motion. Martha Reid nominated Peter Drescher from the Agency of Education but the nomination was void because Mr. Drescher was not an official member of the working group. A third nomination was presented by Jim Porter for Martha Reid that was seconded by Yasmine Ziesler. The committee delayed the vote until the next meeting because of Mr. Costello's absence and his unknown response to the nomination.

Mr. Porter asked if the minutes from the June 19 meeting could be adopted, and Representative Keenan asked that they reflect her request from the previous meeting for the Vermont State Colleges to explore a needs assessment on video conferencing for the State. Ms. Royle agreed to amend the minutes and provide them by the next committee meeting for approval.

John Sheets, Director of Technical Operations, Vermont Interactive Technologies (VIT), gave a PowerPoint presentation on the history of VIT.

The Committee discussed VSC's plans to include its Vermont Technical College students into its current web based educational system, and whether it had the capacity to serve people other than its students.

Other ideas the working group considered:

1. Sampling from categories within VIT's list of clients to better understand their needs.

2. Who was missing from the list of people that use video conferencing technology [example: Vermont League of Cities and Towns]
3. Whether there was room for the PEG access networks to expand and capture some of VIT's clients, and if there would be an additional cost for staffing.
4. Were there challenges with closed captioning, security for the Department of Corrections, or logistical issues with non-traditional students not under the umbrella of the state colleges.
5. Could there be collaboration between existing video conferencing entities.

Sigrid Olsen gave a quick overview of the Learning Network of Vermont, explained that the LNV allowed for interaction between schools and professionals. She suggested the current conversation on educational video conferencing opportunities include k-12 students. Ms. Grimes asked for additional information on how the LNV network works, who were its clients and what were the staffing hours and usage.

The Committee agreed to meet for a longer period of time at its next meeting on August 18, starting at 9:00 a.m. Possible items to be included in the next agenda were:

1. A presentation on the LNV network
2. A list of former VIT clients, what they are using now for technology to meet their needs, and whether they thought the market had changed.

There was a discussion for members to send any ideas on agenda topics, within the committee's charge, to Legislative Council or Joint Fiscal Office by July 31.

A motion by Mr. Porter was made and accepted to adjourn at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

The Legislative Joint Fiscal Office