

Computer Team Meeting
12/21/17

Attendees: Aaron Smothers, Diane Anastos, Julia Hupperts, William Hughe, Gerard Forys, David Owens, Melissa Pappas, Keri Levin

Computer protocol:

Bill Hughes made a motion to accept the computer protocol with changes made. David Owens seconded. Motion carried. The proposed changes were discussed at last month's meeting. Bill amended the motion to include changing several dates.

The protocol will go to the Presidents Council and Citywide Council meetings now. It should have final approval by February.

Ross Grant:

Comcast: Most hi-rises think going ahead with the deal for \$69.95 a month for 3 to 5 year's would be good. Aaron would like to go to Comcast and ask for a contract for a group of hi-rises.

Iowa, Central, Seal, Mt. Airy are interested in this.

Comcast does have some lower rates for residential Internet but we can't use that for hi-rise wi-fi. There still is the possibility the rates could be raised after the contract term is up. (Regardless, getting under a contract would be a good thing. Especially with the recent changes in net neutrality rules.

Timers:

We are still looking into getting Fortress Grand timer software. This will work better than what we are using now. The cost would be about \$10 per computer. (\$641 for 64 computers) Getting licenses for 64 computers would cover the purchase of new computers. (Unless a hi-rise bought a bunch of new computers or something.) This program is made to work with Windows 10.

This program is more robust than Amp Winoff. It is customizable and works really well.

Amp Winoff is 6 or 7 year's old and doesn't always work correctly.

The timer software is just for the hi-rises. The family computer labs are always monitored and don't need this kind of thing.

David Owens made a motion to recommend the purchase of Fortres Grand software for \$641 for 64 licenses. Bill Hughe seconded. Motion carried.

Solid State Drives:

Getting solid state drives for all computers was suggested. This would make the computers and software installed on them run faster. Solid state drives don't have as much storage as standard drives (at least without paying a large amount for one.) but that wouldn't be an issue for us because we only need a small amount of the space on the drives we have now. The size we need wouldn't be that expensive. (120GB) The cost for these is \$50 or \$60 a piece.

This would also increase the longevity of our current computers.

Several hi-rises have solid state drives already.

Concerns were raised about whether our computers were worth putting new drives in. (Because of the age of the computers and such.)

Bill Hughe made a motion to recommend the purchase of solid state drives if funding is available. David Owens seconded. Motion carried.

Doing a cost/benefit analysis for the purchase of new computers vs upgrading was suggested.

Looking into grants for new computers was suggested as well. Newer computers would be good but there is no budget for that at this time.