

**Louisa Electronic Village  
Technology Leadership Team Meeting  
Minutes  
April 22, 2003**

The Technology Leadership Team for the Technology Opportunities Program in Louisa County met at 10:00 AM in the Cooperative Extension Meeting Room of the Louisa County Office Building.

**Present:** Rick Crosby, Matthias Smith, Paula Groome-Turney, Sarah Cooper, Connie Laws, Jim Riddell and Jon Johnson

**Update on LEV site**

Jim Riddell welcomed the committee members and briefly reviewed the content of our last meeting and stated today's agenda. Sarah Cooper revealed the tentative schedule sent by Jaime Shetrone the previous week. The LEV site is expected to go live after May 15<sup>th</sup>; Community Connections after June 15<sup>th</sup>; Community Calendar after July 15<sup>th</sup>; Discussion Boards after August 15<sup>th</sup>. (Note: New proposed dates are May 23<sup>rd</sup>, June 27<sup>th</sup>, July 25<sup>th</sup>, and August 22<sup>nd</sup>).

In the computer lab of the meeting room, the LEV test site was shown to the group and members were asked their overall impressions. It was determined that the youth section needed more information. The school section was also reviewed and provided more detailed content. The members agreed that they would like to see more detailed descriptions in the other content areas, using the education section as a model. It was suggested that members could continually give their feedback and suggestions for improvement via e-mail.

**Technology Assessment**

Jim led the group in an informal assessment of the current infrastructure within the county. Rick Crosby provided information about the residential, commercial, school system and government infrastructure, number of ISP's county-wide, current activities of the county technology assessment team and the Industrial Development Authority IDA plan to provide high speed internet access to prospective industries. Rick also gave some detail about the involvement of the county technology assessment team in developing a county-wide survey that would include a technology use section.

Jon Johnson facilitated the discussion on the technology assessment process as part of the TOP grant requirements. He also explained how Community Readiness Workshops (CRWs) can be devised and used to address information and communication barriers and gaps within the community. Jim and Sarah initiated discussion on the kinds of CRWs that might be useful to citizens in Louisa including, classes on introduction to computers and basic website design, a computer club and sponsoring a computer Open House.

## **Community Outreach**

Sarah Cooper and Connie Laws posed the question to the group, "What will make this project, home page and overall site different?" Sarah suggested having a feature photo of the month on the home page, highlighting community members and businesses. She recommended naming the feature, "Faces of Louisa". In addition, there was a suggestion to include a "Business Spotlight" and "Community Focus" on the home page

Connie presented a PowerPoint presentation on the TOP project and LEV to the TLT members for feedback and suggestions. Group members suggested the following: add Louisa County as an additional sponsor of the project; add telecommuting and distance learning as outcome possibilities; add fill out a survey under how to get involved. Jim proposed inserting PowerPoint slides of the LEV site into the PowerPoint presentation being presented to community groups in hopes of making the project seem more real and a true community initiative in progress.

Sarah presented a draft of a survey of internet/computer use that is to be distributed to community groups and citizens. TLT members offered some additions and amendments. The group discussed how to reach various segments of the population to spark interest. These surveys will be used to identify the needs of the community concerning technology and help determine what CRWs we will plan and offer.

## **Assignments**

After some discussion about the goals and visions of the TLT and LEV project, the group devised a list of tasks to be completed by the next meeting:

- Develop forms for organization/civic group and local businesses listings with cover letter
- Develop informal LEV survey of computer and internet usage
- Encourage TLT members to choose 5 groups to present a PowerPoint or paper presentation
- Develop and send out information packets to the TLT
- Brainstorm: Who else should be invited to be a TLT member?
- Consider including the LEV survey with Parks and Recreation and county surveys

## **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, May 14, 2003; 6:00 PM in the Cooperative Extension Meeting Room of the Louisa County Office Building

Prepared by: Connie Laws