

MINUTES OF TTF CG MEETING

To: Distribution

From: Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications

A meeting of the Telecommunications Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TTF CG) was held on October 12, 2005. The following people were in attendance:

MEMBERS

Jane Lawton DTS (240) 777-3724

Pat Hanehan MCPS (301) 279-3609

Carlton Gilbert M-NCPPC (301) 495-4576

Martin Rookard WSSC (301) 206-8979

Jennifer Bryant (via conference call) OMB (240) 777-2761

STAFF

Marjorie Williams DTS (240) 777-3762

Robert Hunnicutt CTC (410) 964-5700

Matthew Wolff CTC (410) 964-5700

OTHER ATTENDEES

Jill Goyette Cingular Wireless

Jack Andrews Nextel

Scott Friedrich T-Mobile

Mike Budde T-Mobile

Steven Weber T-Mobile

Kip Thomas Student

Action Item - Meeting Minutes: Carlton Gilbert moved that the minutes be approved as written. Jennifer Bryant seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda Items:

1. Cingular Wireless application to replace three existing 48" panel antennas at the 205' level with three 55" dual band antennas on the existing mounts at White Oak Tower Apartments at 11700 Old Columbia Pike in Silver Spring (Application #200509-01).
2. Cingular Wireless application to replace three existing 48" panel antennas at the 148' level with three 55" dual band panel antennas on the existing mounts at Sarem Farm located at 15901 Old Columbia Pike in Burtonsville (Application #200509-02).
3. Cingular Wireless application to replace three existing 48" panel antennas at the 77' level with three 55" dual band panel antennas on the existing mounts at Saint Patrick's Church located at 4101 Norbeck Road in Olney (Application #200509-03).
4. Cingular Wireless application to replace three existing 48" panel antennas at the 81' level with three 55" dual band panel antennas on the existing mounts at the Choice International Building located at 10750 Columbia Pike in Silver Spring (Application #200509-04).
5. Cingular Wireless application to attach nine 55" dual band panel antennas at the 118' level on a 126' PEPCO transmission line tower #103-S located at 8700 Snouffer School Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200509-06).
6. Nextel application to attach 12 - 48" dual band panel antennas to the penthouse walls at the 123' level atop a 110' Wheaton North building located at 2730 University Boulevard in Wheaton (Application #200509-07).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the consent agenda applications noting that Cingular Wireless submitted applications to modify antennas at 16 locations in Montgomery County. Upon reviewing the applications, he found that only four of the 16 locations were placed on the agenda, as the other 12 sites had already been reviewed and approved by the TFCG in March 2005.

Bob Hunnicutt also explained that there was an error on the agenda that was sent to the members prior to the meeting and he distributed revised agendas. He said the error was that items 6 and 7 were inadvertently reversed on the first agenda. Consequently, 200509-07 is on the consent agenda and 200509-08 is a new build by right application for discussion.

Motion: Martin Rookard moved that consent agenda items 1 through 6 be recommended. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion. Item 6 was unanimously approved and Items 1-5 were approved with Pat Hanehan abstaining.

Action Item: T-Mobile application to replace a 55' PEPCO wood pole with a 70' PEPCO wood pole and attach three 54" panel antennas at the 67' level. This PEPCO pole #789460-8890 is located at Norbeck and Layhill Road in Silver Spring (Application #200509-08).

Action Item: T-Mobile application to replace a 42' PEPCO wood pole with a 70' PEPCO wood pole and attach three 54" panel antennas at the 67' level. This PEPCO pole #806453-0428 is located at 1210 Fairland Road in Silver Spring (Application #200509-05).

Matt Wolff summarized both applications at the same time because they were very similar in nature. Both applications were submitted by T-Mobile to attach antennas to a replacement PEPCO utility pole to be installed in place of the existing shorter pole. He said in both cases these micro cells are needed to fill gaps in coverage. Each attachment includes three flush-mounted antennas at the top of the new pole with six small equipment cabinets installed on the pole at its base.

Pat Hanehan asked if other carriers could co-locate on these new taller poles. Bob Hunnicutt replied that would probably not be possible because the antennas were being placed above the primary electric lines atop the pole and there is no space for a second set of antennas and still leave enough room to clear the electric lines. He noted that antennas placed lower on the pole would probably be ineffective. Mike Budde added that there are other poles along these pole lines that could also just as easily be replaced by another carrier in the future.

Motion: Pat Hanehan moved applications these two T-Mobile applications be recommended. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Discussion Item - Zoning Text Amendment: Jane Lawton summarized a request from Councilmember Floreen regarding public notification and awareness of the existence of the TFCG. Marjorie Williams distributed an e-mail Bob Hunnicutt had sent that commented on changes that may enhance public notice of the TFCG's meetings. Ms. Lawton asked the group for any additional comments. She noted that the TFCG meetings are open to the public and that people who want to speak regarding a particular application are permitted to do so, although the TFCG meetings are not intended to replace the Board of Appeals or Park and Planning Commission public meetings.

Carlton Gilbert suggested that since the questions raised by Councilmember Floreen imply some notice of action by the Board of Appeals as well as the TFCG, it would be appropriate for the TFCG members to meet informally with the Board of Appeals to review Councilmember Floreen's concerns and to develop ways to address them. Ms. Lawton agreed and said she would schedule such a meeting in the near future.

Bob Hunnicutt stated that in their comments on the proposed zoning text amendment, Park and Planning Commission staff had asked the TFCG to discuss potential changes to the Special Exception requirements for telecommunications facilities. Mr. Hunnicutt stated that the current code requirements seem to be working and he did not believe any revisions were necessary. He said he had not received any complaints from residents or carriers on that aspect of the code. Ms. Lawton asked the other TFCG members if they had received any complaints regarding the Special Exception process. Hearing no comments from any of the TFCG members, Ms. Lawton asked Mr. Hunnicutt to prepare a written summary of the code requirements and submit it for her review prior to the PHED Committee sessions.

Discussion Item - Next Meeting: The next meeting of the TTF CG is scheduled for Wednesday, November 9, 2005 at 2 p.m. in the second floor conference room #225 of the COB.