

State of Vermont Artificial Intelligence Task Force

Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2018

Calvin Coolidge Conference Room, 6th Floor

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Members present: Michael Schirling; Milo Cress; Joe Segale; Jill Charbonneau; Brian Cina; Brian Breslend; Eugene Santos; John Cohn; Honorable John A. Dooley; James Lyall; Joan Goldstein

Members missing: Trey Dobson, MD; Mark Combs; Christopher Herrick; Donna Rizzo

Staff present: Kayla Dewey

12:08 – Introductions

12:10 – Agenda item 1

Motion to accept minutes from 9/4 meeting

Motion Passes

12:15 – Agenda item 2a: ideas for public engagement tools

Review of Case Studies subcommittee report section on public engagement “Proposed Scenario Process”

Tech Jam is a possible place to promote the task force meetings

Listed options on white board of ways to engage public:

- Regional meetings
- Comment period at end of task force meetings
- Large meetings at the state house
- Survey tool
- Email/mail comments
- Invite comments on report draft
- Press release
- Partner engagement
- Social media

There have been public requests for seminars and education to increase understanding of AI

The task force could design an AI to engage the public

Suggestion for local news to cover the task force

Engaging the public is important, and also, engaging the public is not a specified goal requested by the legislature. The legislature does request: What is the current use of A.I. in Vermont?

Motion to create Public Outreach and Engagement subcommittee which will:

- engage with Digital Services to improve website.

- engage with media companies to cover TF

motion passed

Members assigned: Jill (chair), Mike, John C., Brian C., Milo

2b Agenda item - Selection of witnesses

Witnesses could be organized based on the Case Study Subcommittee report

Start with AI TF members knowledge and bring in experts when there is a gap in knowledge.

Book suggestion: Artificial Intelligence 101 by Lasse Rouhiainen

Suggestion: invite government secretaries to get an idea of how AI comes up in their departments. Ex: Commissioner of public safety, judiciary...

Other possible witnesses: UVM professors, Bristol project, Dartmouth professors, etc.

May offer insight into what they know and who they know

Take written input from public

It may become too time consuming if half of meeting time is taken up with presentations and there is concern with getting redundant info with too many witnesses

1:35 break

1:40 Agenda item 3 - Presentation by Case Studies Subcommittee

Overview of subcommittee goal and outline of report

Presentation of report

Discussion of report -

Where should the state regulate or not regulate

Should other issues/benefits be explored beyond report

Q: How close are these issues.

A: Some issues are gradual ex: the move toward automating cars and the partial steps including semi-automation

Q: Is regulation of self-driving cars a federal issue and not for the State to legislate?

A: Some cities are willing to be guinea pigs for economic opportunities before there is regulation. States have a part in regulating parts of a phenomenon even if the Fed. is also creating legislation. Ex: emissions standards and local speed limits

Are these the right scenarios or should the TF go industry by industry? What other industries are missing?

There are three distinct ways to break down problem: by scenarios, by industry, or by issue.

The TF also needs to determine what is happening with AI in VT now and the scenarios may start a conversation to determine what is currently going on in Vermont.

Consider workforce development. Workers are experiencing job loss in some industries and other industries have a shortage of workers. Industries and workers need education and workforce training. Ex: a worker could be retrained from running a machine to programing and maintaining a machine. The latter position can often earn more money.

50% high school graduates disappear from data if they do not immediately begin training or join the workforce after graduation

Coastal problems with climate change may drive people to VT and increase members of the workforce.

Human and tech are becoming integrated. Will we become more integrated with technology? Could it effect life spans?

Research and public input should be complete by meeting 6 in order to start organizing a report.

Whiteboard group brainstorm of opportunities/issues to consider:

Entrepreneurial opportunities

Privacy

Public safety

Life quality

responsibility/liability

Jobs

Productivity

human/AI/social

Civil rights

Public awareness

Transparency

Ethics

Environment

Capital expenses

(Note: keywords are within one another and overlap)

Industries brainstorm - Applications

Medical (professional services)

Transportation

Tech

manufacturing /construction

Agriculture

Service industry

Education

Criminal justice

Health care/social assistance

Insurance

Financial services

Agriculture should be considered before February so that it is included in the update to the Legislature because issues relating to Lake Champlain could gain attention from the Legislature.

Applications Brainstorm List Combined

1. Ag and Natural resources
2. Transportations, technology, manufacturing/construction
3. Social, education, criminal justice
4. Medical, health insurance
5. Services, retail, food

All topics include entrepreneurial component and job impact

Criminal justice may be large enough to be its own topic

Topic Assignments to TF members

1. Ag Natural Resources

Donna, John C. (chair), Brian C.

Brainstorm of experts to call on - Secretary of Ag, Rubenstien School faculty, Cabot Cooperative, Sandy Laveign

2. Technology, etc.

Joe(chair) - John C., Brian, Jill

3. Medical Health care insurance

Trey, Gene (chair), Brian C.

Next three meetings planned for 11/29, 12/14, and 1/11 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Q's to provide witnesses in advance:

- What is the current status of the AI in your field in VT and in general?
- How is AI expected to be applied in your field in the future?
- What are the pros and cons?
- Is there anything else you would like to tell the Task Force about AI?

Next meeting structure - :30 discussion, 2:00 witness discussion

Discussion of platform to create report that all can edit.

- Maybe google drive to share files
- Consideration of the meeting laws and Q of it the TF can use a digital platform to edit a doc as a group

Meeting times occur during regular lunch time and members should consider having a potluck for future meetings.

Committee Adjourns