

Town of Brookline
Surveillance Technology and Military-Type Equipment Study Committee

Bernard Greene, Chair

Date: May 14, 2020

Committee members present:

Bernard Greene, Chair
C. Scott Ananian
Sal D'Agostino
Susan Howards
Igor Muravyov
Feng Yang (Acting CIO for Brookline, designee for Kevin Stokes)

Non-committee members present:

Emiliano Falcon, ACLU

Committee members absent:

Lt. Paul Campbell
Sgt. Casey Hatchett
Amy Hummel

Committee member Ananian agreed to take minutes.

Discussion:

1. Minutes from 2020-04-30 were approved unanimously.
2. Deferred approving minutes from 2020-03-05 to incorporate additional information from committee member D'Agostino.
3. In response to a question from Howards, D'Agostino discussed how facial recognition technology is adapting to widespread mask use, in particular in China which is an eager adopter. Other facial features are used (around the eyes in particular) and facial recognition technology appears to be largely unaffected.
4. A one-year review of committee's work was discussed:
 - a. Lt. Campbell was assigned the draft of the status regarding military-type equipment.
 - b. Hummel was assigned the draft regarding facial recognition
 - c. D'Agostino was assigned the draft regarding remote education platforms. The committee discussed current status and next steps.
 - i. The Brookline schools have executed an agreement with Zoom regarding its use in Town.
 - ii. Next step would be to communicate the terms of that agreement with parents in a form understandable to the layperson.
 - iii. Ananian will follow up regarding the set of apps being used by the PSB. (Dreambox, Epic reading, and likely others by the High School.) "Who is doing the reviews, and is there a public synopsis of the reviews. Can we assist?" Also implications of parents signing up other kids for these services

- iv. Suggested circulating EFF (Electronic Frontier Foundation) recommendation document.
- d. Ananian and Muratov and D'Agostino will draft some briefs relating to software applications and guidelines, following up on the Public Safety app, the COVID-19 contact tracing apps. Muratov discussed his recent experience working on the National Emergency Telecritical Network.
- 5. Ananian brought up concerns about possible medical information requested/needed for
- 6. Chair Greene: does the Town have a business continuity plan, or do we have a plan for how we should set up remote work situations, protect our data. Formal continuity plan to be implemented when something like COVID occurs. Committee member Yang responds that we do have a business continuity plan w/ multiple redundant data centers. Ananian suggests this be treated like a snow day, a predictable emergency plan that can be enacted on very short notice. D'Agostino suggests having a plan is step 1, tabletop exercises to practice the response is step 2. Chair Greene suggests privacy and security are on a continuum where folks don't feel secure unless we can guarantee their privacy.

Follow up items (in addition to drafts assigned above):

- 1. Next meeting will be Thursday June 11 at 10:30am.
- 2. Chair Greene asks for drafts to be sent to him so he can coordinate the agenda.