Koochiching Technology Initiative

Regular Meeting Minutes

5/6/2026

Attendance: Members- Tim Gerlach, Paul Nevanen, Jaci Nagle, Jason Sjoblom, Holly Hoy (V), Justin Obert (V). Others present- Cori Horton and Kyle McCallum

Strategic Planning Meating, Facilitated by Jody Horntvedt, Minnesota Extension

Short discussion on how KTI started by being the only group to come out of the Voyage Forward plan. KTI had small beginnings chasing down ISPs but succeeded in seeing those ISPs investing in the county. KTI continues to grow and is looking for more ways to positively impact Koochiching County.

The strategic planning started with an overview of the items KTI has achieved from the last strategic plan:

- Created a formal decision making process
- Created a budget
- Applied to and awarded grants
- Provided computer literacy classes
- Determined a fiscal home through the county

Items that are ongoing from the last strategic plan:

- Community outreach
- Finding revenue sources
- Ewaste collection
- ACC Fellowship
- Community partnerships

Items that can be expanded or specified

- Discuss more community outreach > Develop a plan for outreach.
- Discuss grant possibilities > Have a “concretized” grant process and secure a large grant
- Community partnerships > Create a plan to contact and bring in people and organizations

New projects/items identified

- Speaker series
    - A speaker series would help with community outreach and partnerships. Topics such as data centers and cyber security could be scheduled.

Items chosen for more discussion

- Grants
- Speaker series
- Expand committee and explore memberships

Discussion led to two topics being chosen for the focus of the first 90 days of the new strategic plan: Speaker Series and Expanding the committee. Worksheets to develop plans and determine next steps for the first 30 days.

Next Meeting: June 3, 2026 @ 9:00am

A 30 day update and planning for the next 30 days

Next guest speaker: TBD