

Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Board Meeting

November 16, 2005

9:30 am

Northeast Community College

Lifelong Learning Center

Norfolk, Ne

Officers Present:

President	Jim Langtry	Yes
President-Elect	Paul Yamamoto	Yes
Past President	Marcus Tooze	Yes
Secretary	Kim Menke	Yes - Later
Treasurer	John Beran	Yes - Later

Board Members Present:

Board Member	Bonnie Schulz	Yes
Board Member	Scott Richert	No
Board Member	Susan Meyers	No
Board Member	Sonja Sebree	Yes
Board Member	Steve Cacioppo	Yes
Board Member	Eric Herbert	Yes

Others Present:

Larry Zink
Ed Kelley

Agenda

1. Review and approval of previous meeting minutes
2. Financial Report
3. Web Site and listserv Updates and redesign
4. 2007 Symposium Planning
5. Annual Meeting
6. Elections
7. Newsletter
8. Other Business
9. Next Meeting
10. Adjourn

Meeting called to order by Jim at 9:45 am

Call to order

- Copy of agenda handed out.
- No additions or corrections

Minutes

- Minutes moved to approve by Paul and seconded by Marcus. Motion Passed.

Financial report

- Income this month \$87.64
- Expense this month \$548.88
- Current Total Assets \$31,725.56

Web Site Redesign and Listserv

- Steve handed out different design looks
- Some didn't like the grey background
- The web page needs to work well in Internet Explorer
- Like the banner, but would like it to fade into the page more.
- Maybe create a water mark for the back ground.
- The Lincoln Public School Information Technology Program will complete the framework of the revised web pages and the association will put the content on the pages.
- Paul asked when the new web site will go live. Jim stated he would like to see it for the announcement and notes of the 2007 GIS/LIS Symposium. The Lincoln Public School Information Technology Program will need to complete the framework by the end of the semester.
- Send emails to Steve of any changes of web. Reminders welcome.

2007 Symposium

- Jim nothing new from the Quest center or Hilton in Omaha. Jim will check again with both of these options.
- Eric nothing new from UNO
- Jim heard from double tree and said they would get back to him shortly.
- Jim contacted Scott M to ask Mike S. to chair the 2007 symposium. Scott has been out of the office.
- Jim contacted Kearney and booked the Holiday Inn for the 2009 Symposium.

Annual Meeting

- Ed will contact Mahoney and reserve it for meeting. Ed will inquire to Mahoney about the park permit cost and options of payment.
- Ed mentioned other meetings went well that have been hosted at Mahoney.
- Layout of meeting
 - Bonnie inquired about the layout of the meeting. Ed stated in past at UNO and UNK there was a breakfast buffet served with lunch on own, followed by afternoon sessions.
 - UNK had a steering committee meeting in the morning
 - Jim stated we need to line up a couple of presentations.

- Paul thought the presentations have the potential to draw in more participation at the meeting.
 - Going to draw more people from Omaha and Lincoln due to location.
 - Larry inquired on what type of topic will draw a crowd.
 - Larry brought up the Iowa model of one day meeting.
 - Bonnie mentioned that we would think about the one day format for the 2007 annual meeting not 2006. At the last meeting it was also mentioned that this format would be good at different times of year and throughout the state.
 - There are three groups in Iowa that do different seminars.
 - Paul suggested bring up the idea of a one day seminar at the annual meeting to get members comments and feedback on the idea.
 - Jim mentioned reading an article about GIS being used in Eastern Colorado for farming. This subject may draw some people from Western Nebraska. Could use this subject in a one day seminar in Western Nebraska.
 - It was concluded that the annual meeting format for this year will be a business meeting in morning and breakouts in afternoon.
- Goals and Priorities of association
 - Larry would like to engage the broader membership of what they want this organization to do.
 - Bonnie stated we need to discuss, set and promote the issues, priorities and goals for the organization.
 - Eric suggested sending out an email with a listing of a few priorities and goals to start the discussion.
 - Ed mentioned with the new web site unveiling maybe we could attach a survey to the web page. When someone enters the web page they could see the initial listing of priorities and goals and give their comments.
 - John stated most people do not take the time to fill out the surveys.
 - Bonnie mentioned the participation of our members will depend on how we present the topic.
 - Larry thought we could start some initial ideas and present these to the website for comments
 - Bonnie stated we already discussed promoting topics for the organization at the last meeting, some of them were training and education.
 - Paul stated there is talk in the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee of having a member of the GIS/LIS Association become a voting member of the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee.
 - Date of Annual meeting
 - Ed will look into dates. Try Late April early May.
 - Paul stated everything triggers off this date elections etc.
 - Not Apr 24- 27 due to Magic conference

Elections and Board Concerns

- Board Structure Changes
 - The idea of having the treasurer and secretary appointed by the board and those two positions moved to board members was brought up again.
 - Larry thinks it brings flexibility to the positions and the board, if secretary and treasurer are appointed by the board.
 - Jim stated the board will be responsible for the duties to be completed on time and correctly. Could hire out the duties if the board felt it was best.
 - Larry mentioned the association is relying on the nominating committee to find someone suitable for these positions.
 - Jim thought the terms between board members would be more consistent this way. Right now the treasurer and secretary are one year terms and the board members are two year terms and the president elect, is a three year term.
 - John stated there will be more board spots available.
 - Paul thought with more board members the association could move responsibility around.
 - Larry stated the board is responsible for positions not an individual.
 - Marcus inquired, if the positions are appointed, how much easier would this be for the symposium? The symposium brings on the biggest strain for the treasurer.
 - Marcus mentioned obtaining UNL students to help out in these positions.
 - The idea was brought up to have everyone on a three year term.
 - If we move secretary and treasurer to be appointed by board, could add one more board member so we would have nine board members and three officers.
 - Bonnie stated if the term is extended to three years, some people may want their responsibilities more specific before they volunteer time for a three year term.
 - Could go to eight board members and term of two years.
 - Larry thinks recruiting for two year terms would be easier than three year terms.
 - Eric didn't think it would matter to him in volunteering his time, if it was a two year or three year term.
 - Ed didn't know if the term difference would make a difference in recruitment
 - Larry mentioned the association could send out an email ballot and change the bylaws before the election for the changes in the board structure.
 - Bonnie and Paul suggested no changes to board structure for 2006. Changes for the board structure will be for 2007.
 - Paul mentioned the association could present a revised plan on the structure of the board to members at the 2007 Symposium.
 - Larry stated that the revised structure plan could be presented at the annual meeting.
 - Nothing was decided on when to present the revised structure plan.
- Subcommittee ideas
 - Bonnie brought to the boards' attention, through another board she serves on there are several subcommittees in charge of specific duties. These subcommittees research different ideas and bring back their ideas to the board.

The subcommittee is overseeing these tasks but not necessarily doing them. For example in the treasurer committee the committee could write a quick check for food supplied at a meeting but could hire out the billing for membership and so forth.

- Paul thought we could bring this topic up at the annual meeting. Others thought that no one is really interested in the structure of the committee. Members are more interested in achieving the goals set up.
- Ideas for other subcommittees are annual meetings, correspondents, education, certification, and regional meetings committees.
- Any potential board nominee would need to agree to serve on a committee.
- Jim stated when we restructure the by-laws for the board the association can discuss and add the different committees.
- Jim suggested one of the first committees to be initiated could be the Structure of the Board Committee.
- Right now no subcommittees meet and everything is hashed out at board meetings.
- Paul commented on having a comprehensive review of constitution annually. Could have a committee for this as well.
- Larry suggested initiating two committees and getting them working successfully before the association takes on more. This will take time and effort.
- Larry stated the subcommittee model will need work a lot of work on the board members part.
- Recruiting member participation
 - Ed thought it may be a good idea to recruit participation.
 - In order to get participation from members not residing on the board, takes a lot of work, time and commitment.
 - Ed agrees that the association needs to get more people involved.
 - Marcus – add food to meetings and people come
- Goals and priorities of Association
 - John mentioned the GIS/LIS board is starting to become the symposium planning board.
 - Marcus inquired, what is the clear direction of the association? This association needs to accomplish more.
 - John stated if we want to educate the public on GIS the association needs to buy 10 laptops and go out and educate
 - Larry mentioned that the symposium is something the association has gotten a lot of complements on and we want to keep this going.
 - The association has discussed education and certification topics. There has not been any action on either subject.
 - Larry would like the association to focus more on what the organization wants to accomplish and restructure constitution to do this. He would like this board to be more assertive of policy issues. Maybe this board could push GIS in Nebraska up through the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee.
 - Jim suggested that we might not want to get tangled up in the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee.

- Jim stated the association needs to feed information to the steering committee but they do not need to stop there.
- Larry stated the Nebraska Steering Committee the official body to bring GIS issues through.
- Eric suggested one goal of the association could be to mentor new comers into GIS with their projects
- Larry noted there is merit in networking and knowing what each other is doing.
- Larry mentioned the IT team meetings is trying to do such networking, but isn't as effective as Larry would like. Need to do this more regionally versus state wide.
- Paul commented that the associations' greatest strength is also our greatest weakness. GIS relates to several specialized areas. Hard to get a theme to interest everyone.
- Larry thought networking should be a major goal for the association
- This association is better suited to fill networking role than others. Another idea for a subcommittee. Gathering committee to help establish dialogue and push the ideas up to the association.
- One day Regional GIS Meetings
 - Jim thought the idea of a canned program put together for various regions would go well.
 - Eric stated that 20% of the people who attend the Omaha GIS forums do not attend the Nebraska GIS Symposium due to the 3 day schedule. They do not have the leisure to be away from their jobs that long. A one day event may go over well.
 - Eric will inquire at the next Omaha GIS forum and discuss if a one day event would suit peoples needs.
- Election
 - Board members up for reelection are Sonja, Steve and Eric.
 - All three will be willing to run again for board.
 - Ed would be willing to run as election chair again or as board member.
 - If Ed runs for board, he will not be able to be Election chair. Others that may be interested are Gayle, Scott and Marcus.
 - Jim will find an election chair if Ed decides to run for office.
 - Ballot needs to be approximately 45 days before election

News Letter – Scott R.

- Nothing new

Other Business

- Ed received an invitation to attend a GIS curriculum workshop at UNO Dec 9. Any one interested in attending contact Ed Kelley. If you have any thoughts on the subject wanting to pass on but cannot attend, contact Ed Kelley. Jim L asked Ed to mention the workshop to Scott R. Ed will do this. The workshop is from 8 to noon on Friday. John Beran is interested. Larry would like those who attend to bring ideas back to the group for feed back. The association could put ideas to

listserv or web site for comments. Bonnie and Paul interested in going as well. Eric received an invitation and is planning on attending. One question to ask is if they are open to looking at a program short of a semester.

- Larry and Jim M. did go to Tech colleges and they are willing to host the outreach if someone organized and brought the program in. Does this differ that much from standard GIS ESRI training now? Probably not that much. Marcus rewrites training manual to be user specific.
- Eric stated that Sarpy, Douglas and Omaha is trying to arrange a PYTHON class hosted by ESRI toward end of Jan. Email Eric if interested.
- Jim stated ESRI and IBM hosting CIO roundtable breakfast on Dec 6 with Governor Geringer. ESRI asked if association interested in paying for lunch.
- Larry arranged meeting with Henderson, Geringer, Decker in the afternoon of Dec 6

Next Meeting

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Adjourned at 11:40 pm

Kim Menke

Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Secretary