

Date: Thursday, May 21, 2020

Subject: Board of Directors Meeting

Board Members Present: Jonathan Garner, Rick Reichert, Chris Badurek, Wai Chan, Mary Susan Knauss, Karyn Tareen

Committee Chairs and Officers Present: Lis DeGironimo, Michelle Debyah

Not Present: Emily A. Fogarty, Christa Hay

Minutes: The meeting began at 12:02 PM.

Secretary's Report: Michelle Debyah, Secretary

A motion was made by Rick to approve the minutes from the April Board of Directors meeting. Motion was seconded by Karyn. Motion carried unanimously.

The items on the task list for May are to appoint and confirm Nominating Committee (President and Board), customarily chairs Nominating Committee (President-Elect), approve NYGeoCon prelim budget (Board), file tax returns (Treasurer), purchase event liability and cancellation insurance for NYGeoCon if necessary (Treasurer), purchase Ennect Event credits (Treasurer), renew Survey Monkey (auto) (Treasurer), pay website maintenance contract second installment (Treasurer), renew nysgis.net SSL Certificate with InMotion (Treasurer), and submit preliminary budget (NYGeoCon). The items on the task list for June are to accept NYGeoCon contract(s) (Board), send out Annual Meeting announcement 60 days prior to event date (Board), renew ClickMeeting (auto) (Treasurer), backup all websites to an external drive (Communications), send out membership renewal reminders (Membership), and submit contract(s) (NYGeoCon).

Treasurer's Report: Christa Hay, Treasurer

Christa reported the current balance is \$54,205.77. Expenses since the last report include website maintenance contract second installment, Survey Monkey renewal, SSL Certificate renewal, and domain renewals. The audit information was provided, she renewed the New York Council of Nonprofits, and she will be sending the payment of \$756.00 for Directors and Officers Liability Insurance.

Christa would like to confirm that GISMO is still having a 30th anniversary event to send the \$500.00 support. Regarding waving membership fees for the next membership year, Christa points out we still have operating costs, and it is unlikely we will be having the Summit, which is our primary income generator (usually more than NYGeoCon).

GeoSpatial Summit 2020

A decision will be made at the June Board Meeting on whether to continue planning the Summit. Lis will talk with Kate and the Committee to see if they would help find speakers and to gauge interest in helping to plan a virtual event. Charging for a virtual meeting could be challenging, Lis suggested a virtual Summit could be members only to encourage joining the Association.

NYGeoCon 2021

The NYGeoCon Committee has similar concerns as the Summit. They are not comfortable pursuing contracts that could lead to costly cancelations, and are concerned about future restricted travel budgets.

President Reports

Jonathan appointed Chris as chair of the Nominating Committee. A motion was made by Mary Susan to confirm Chris as chair of the Nominating Committee as appointed by Jonathan. Motion was seconded by Wai. Motion carried unanimously.

The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) has released a joint statement on the value of GIS in the pandemic: <https://nsgic.memberclicks.net/joint-statement-on-the-value-of-gis-in-the-pandemic>. The Association would like to support the statement, joining several other organizations, including GISMO and the WNY GIS Users Group.

A motion was made by Chris for the Association to support the NSGIC joint statement on the value of GIS in the pandemic. Motion was seconded by Mary Susan. Motion carried unanimously.

Jonathan will send Frank Winters an email letting him know. Mary Susan suggested the link listed with our show of support point to the COVID-19 resources page being developed by Ross, Carol, and Ann. Everyone should review the page (<https://www.nysgis.net/covid-19/>) and send any comments to Ross so the page can be finalized.

Chris said the NEARC Spring Conference was held virtually and appeared successful.

The Audit Committee comprised of Chris Badurek and Michelle Debyah performed a financial review of bank transactions, Treasurer's Reports, the NYGeoCon budget, and the joint membership dues tracking spreadsheet, and found the 2019 financial records of the NYS GIS Association to be in order.

A motion was made by Chris to accept the Audit Committee 2019 Financial Audit. Motion was seconded by Rick. Motion carried unanimously.

Chris said Christa questioned whether we still need the increased level we set up in 2018 for ClickMeeting, as it is very expensive. It costs about \$1,000.00 more a year to have 500 attendees instead of 100. If we are not getting the large number of attendees that we had been, perhaps we can reduce the level. This needs to be decided with input from the Professional Development Committee.

Board Member Reports

Wai said GISMO would be holding a virtual 30th anniversary celebration on June 10, 2020. They will likely have another in-person event when circumstances allow.

Wai shared a GISMO proposal to suspend Association dues for the next membership year. Wai believes it would help increase membership. The Association still has fixed costs (website, insurance, Survey Monkey, ClickMeeting, etc). In addition, Carol shared logistic concerns with Wai. Many members have set up automatic renewals in their PayPal account, and the Association cannot stop these payments. While the Board supports the idea, it is not logistically feasible.

A motion was made by Rick that the Association continue its fee structure as it exists. Motion was seconded by Mary Susan. Motion carried unanimously.

Mary Susan mentioned concerns about the FCC approval of 5G and the potential impact on GPS. She invited Lis to provide an update, but Lis had to leave the call early due to a prior commitment. Lis will summarize the information and send via email.

Karyn said a Florida Department of Health data scientist claims she was removed from her position because she refused to manipulate data. The Governor's office disputes the claim, and others have suggested there is more to the story. There is not enough information yet for discussion, but Karyn wants everyone to be aware of the situation.

A motion was made by Chris to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Mary Susan. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:27 PM.

Action Item List

1. Rick will send resolutions related to actions or policies to Communications for the website.
2. Christa will file tax returns (2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019).
3. The Professional Development Committee will decide whether to continue using ClickMeeting.
4. Emily will sign and Michelle will collect signed Annual Statement.
5. Communications will credit Board and Committee participation in member database.
6. Board Members will review and add contacts or additional groups to the Potential Collaboration list.
7. Christa will renew D&O liability insurance.
8. Christa will send GISMO \$500.00 to support their 30th anniversary event.

9. The Board will send out the Annual Meeting announcement 60 days prior to event date.
10. Christa will renew ClickMeeting (auto).
11. Communications will backup all websites to an external drive.
12. Membership will send out membership renewal reminders.
13. Jonathan will send Frank Winters a notification email that the NYS GIS Association supports the NSGIC joint statement on the value of GIS in the pandemic.
14. Everyone should review the COVID-19 resource page (<https://www.nysgis.net/covid-19/>) and send comments to Ross so the page can be finalized and used as the link on the NSGIC site.

Held Action Item List (Event Related)

15. The GeoSpatial Summit Committee will submit and the Board will accept the Summit contract(s).
16. The Board will consider GIS/SIG Conference sponsorship (previously \$400.00 - reciprocated).
17. The Board will consider Westchester User Group Meeting sponsorship (previously \$200.00).
18. The Board will consider Long Island GIS User Group Meeting sponsorship (previously \$200.00).
19. Mary Susan will contact the Governor's Office of Employee Relations to see if NYGeoCon and the GeoSpatial Summit can be added to the New York State approved training list.
20. The NYGeoCon Committee will recommend and the Board will approve the NYGeoCon venue.
21. The NYGeoCon Committee will submit and the Board will approve the NYGeoCon prelim budget.
22. Christa will purchase event liability and cancellation insurance for NYGeoCon if necessary.
23. Christa will purchase Ennect Event credits.

24. The NYGeoCon Committee will submit and the Board will accept NYGeoCon contract(s).