

NYS GIS Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
Virtual Annual Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2020
Minutes by Michelle Debyah

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

Officers Present: Michelle Debyah

Not Present: Christa Hay

Members Present: 52 members in attendance of 414 members in good standing, quorum established.

Guests Present: 26 guests present, for a total attendance of 78.

Minutes: The meeting began at 4:03 PM.

Welcome

President Jonathan Garner welcomed the membership and thanked them for attending the virtual NYS GIS Association Annual Meeting. President Garner expressed the importance of meeting, even if virtually, to provide updates on the Association, hear from speakers on the response to COVID-19, and recognize award winners in the fight against COVID-19.

President Garner recognized the current Board of Directors and thanked everyone on the Board for their efforts. The ballot for this year's election will be distributed to the membership in the near future, and the results will be shared in about a month.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report dated October 20, 2020 was reviewed. The current balance is \$54,242.83. The balance generally averages around \$50,000.00, with about \$8,000.00 in yearly operating expenses. This year saw less in operating expenses due to many events being canceled that the Association traditionally sponsors. Those expenses do not include the annual event which can range from \$15,000.00 for the GeoSpatial Summit, to \$95,000.00 for NYGeoCon. Major expenses for the year include website hosting and domains, D&O insurance, marketing and awards, and webinar and meeting expenses. To date there has been \$4,650.14 in income from membership dues, and \$5,912.98 in expenses. Estimated upcoming yearly operating expenses are approximately \$7,693.00, not including expenses for NYGeoCon or the GeoSpatial Summit.

A motion was made by Rick Reichert to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion was seconded by Chris Badurek. Motion carried unanimously.

President Report

President Garner presented Association accomplishments for the past year:

- Professional development webinars
- Promoted and launched new Association website
- Increased professional development opportunities
- Continued support and outreach during COVID-19 pandemic
- COVID-19 coordination sessions held regularly

Committee Reports

- Communications Committee (Carol Zollweg, Ann Deakin, Co-Chairs)
 - Website rebranded and streamlined
 - Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and website posts very active
 - Database administration web pages developed so that work with database can be shared among more people
 - Newsletter goes out monthly
 - Committee members respond to Board requests for postings and member help with passwords in a timely fashion
 - COVID-19 GIS resources page developed with the Board
- GeoSpatial Summit 2020 Committee (Kate Kiyanitsa, Lis DeGironimo, Co-Chairs)
 - Mission to host the best and most informative GeoSpatial Summit for GIS Professionals in New York State
 - Invite engaging keynote speakers
 - Provide a forum for communication, cooperation and collaboration among the GIS community
 - 2020 Summit cancelled due to COVID-19 health risks, will re-evaluate for 2022
- Professional Development Committee (Melissa Hegeman, Leticia Vasquez, Co-Chairs)
 - Provide opportunities at all levels of expertise to further their knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the many geospatial technologies and solutions and use
 - Monthly webinars
- Legislative Committee (Rick Reichert, Chair)
 - Identify and monitor local, state, and federal legislation relevant to professional GIS services in NYS
 - Gather and evaluate information relevant to proposed GIS legislation
 - Educate membership and leadership on proposed GIS legislation
 - Recommend actions or resolutions on proposed GIS legislation as needed
 - Educate NYS officials and decision makers on benefits and capability of GIS services in NYS
 - Mary Susan Knauss will take over as Chair of the Legislative Committee next year
- Education Committee (Chris Badurek, Chair)
 - Committee members have been very active at presenting at conferences
 - Ongoing teacher professional development state-wide
 - Working with other committees to develop Continuing Education Credits
 - Developing repository for sharing educational trainings and workshops
 - Strengthening relationships with national educational organizations

- Membership Committee (Wai Ming Chan, Chair)
 - To ensure member's user experience is of the highest quality and benefit
 - Strive in all efforts to continue membership growth
 - Membership renewal and outreach
 - Engagement of membership through events and activities

- Regional Coordination Committee (Ross Baldwin, Chair)
 - Mission to work to improve collaboration, cooperation and mutual support between the NYS GIS Association and regional GIS groups
 - The Association recognizes that its regional partners are critical to the success of GIS in the State and understands that by helping to strengthen them, it will also be strengthened

- NYGeoCon 2021 Committee (Chris Badurek, Chair)
 - Currently exploring options for NYGeoCon next fall

Departing Board Members and Committee Chairs

President Garner thanked departing Board Members and Committee Chairs:

- Rick Reichert, Past-President
- Wai Chan, Board of Directors
- Emily Fogarty, former Board of Directors
- Chris Badurek, Education Committee Chair
- Rick Reichert, Legislative Committee Chair
- Wai Chan, Membership Committee Chair

New Website Update: Carol Zollweg, Communications Committee Co-Chair

- Website redesigned in July based on feedback from membership and Committee members
- Kelly Montague designed graphics to give site a fresh, new look incorporating an apple with a map pin, points, lines, polygons, and eye catching colors
- Corresponding graphics have been pushed out to all Association social media platforms
- Cattyann Campbell analyzed usage and pages with the most hits were put at the top of the site
- Drop down menus and side bars were removed so site is more responsive on small devices

Professional Service Announcements: Karyn Tareen, Board of Directors

- NYGeoCon 2021 tentative dates: Tuesday and Wednesday, September 21 and 22, 2021
- NYS GIS Association COVID Coordination Meetings
 - Hosted by Regional Coordination Committee (Ross Baldwin, Chair)
 - Bi-weekly Wednesdays from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM (next meeting is November 4, 2020)
 - To join the meetings, contact Ross Baldwin through the Association website
- Professional Development webinars – upcoming webinars listed under News section on new site
- Ongoing News: <https://www.nysgis.net/blog/>
- GIS DAY is November 18, 2020

Fight Against COVID-19 Award Presentation: Ross Baldwin, Awards Committee Chair

- GIS Champions
 - Doug Schuetz
 - Alan Leidner
 - Frank Winters

- Richard Reichert
- Gretchen Culp, PhD
- GIS Applications/Dashboards Award
 - Erie County Office of GIS
 - New York University (Debra F. Laefer and Frank Jiang)
 - Livingston County Planning Department
 - Rockland County Planning Department (Scott Lounsbury)
 - Suffolk County GIS

GIS, COVID-19, and Government Speaker Series

- Mike Ross, City of Rochester
 - Grab and Go Meal Finder
 - City of Rochester and Rochester City School District served children pre-packaged meals during COVID-19
 - Application helped City residents find the closest distribution site
 - City staff to analyzed concentrations of children and walk shed analysis to open additional, better distributed meal sites
 - Application uses ArcGIS Online Nearby template and works well on mobile
 - Shop the ROC Business Finder
 - Directs people to businesses that are open for business
 - Can filter by category
 - Mobile version shows businesses closest to users location
 - Monroe County's dashboard gets information directly from Monroe County Department of Health Department
- Rick Reichert, Oneida County
 - Oneida County had an Enterprise structure set up and some familiarity building web maps, but minimal experience developing dashboards at the beginning of the pandemic
 - Through tutorial studying and assistance from others in the industry, they worked with the Health Department and utilized State data to develop a publically available dashboard
 - The process was refined over time to include comparative analysis based on population numbers and impacts on County ARC community to identify areas in need of extra assistance
 - Implemented proactive risk analysis based on census and block group information to identify areas of increased risk for infections using an in-house designed risk matrix that included elderly populations, poverty, health risks such as hypertension, population density, average travel mileage, etc. to preform weighted risk analysis
 - Also created a dashboard for the six-county Mohawk Valley Region using State data
 - Dashboards have led to enhanced awareness of capabilities in the County so they are getting a lot more requests for similar work
- Frank Winters, GIO, New York State
 - The Association has been a wonderful asset for collaboration
 - GIS is front page news – people are doing fantastic work, but limited by availability of data and impact
 - Working with regional groups Frank found people wanted to have more impact
 - COVID is best understood in the context of space and time
 - A cholera outbreak in London in 1854 was solved when Dr. John Snow's map of cholera cases led to the removal of a handle from a pump

- Data accuracy, precision, and resolution can change the view
- Temporal resolution is the ability to get smaller and smaller slice in time
 - Daily testing in sewage treatment plants
 - Move upstream to understand smaller sewer sheds by opening manholes
- If data is too granular anomalies get smoothed out
 - For example, an area with high infection rates also has low census return rates
 - Hypothesis could be perhaps a lower level of engagement with government
- National Pandemic GIS Task Force – URISA, NSGIC, and NAPSG Foundation collaborating on a national GIS playbook
- Health Spatial Data Infrastructure OGC – worldwide spatial data infrastructure (SDI) focused on a health spatial data infrastructure
- Frank is gratified to see the Governor talking about mapping

Questions

President Garner asked the membership for questions:

- Can someone share the link for the clip Frank used?
 - <https://www.youtube.com/embed/k-cxgfudHUo?start=311&end=425&rel=0>
- Has Rick received feedback on the dashboards?
 - Feedback has been very positive.
- Will there be a GIS strategy for vaccine distribution?
 - Esri has tools that are optimized for vaccine distribution. Conversations are starting with the Department of Health to distribute a vaccine.
- Was there press for the City of Rochester Grab and Go site?
 - Yes, Communications Department put it front and center on the City website and it was picked up by local news. It hasn't received as much publicity lately because most residents now know where to go.
- Is there a platform or ideas for a chance to network or connect with fellow people in the field?
 - Not at the moment, perhaps something we can work on in future to help people collaborate virtually.

President Garner thanked the presenters and attendees, with a special thank you to Melissa Hegeman for running the meeting. He also thanked the Board of Directors, especially Karyn, Mary Susan, and Michelle for assembling the virtual event agenda. He also thanked the members for allowing him to serve as NYS GIS Association President for the past year.

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 PM.

NYS GIS Association, Inc.
 October 20, 2020
 Annual Treasurer Report
 Christa Hay

As of October 19, 2020, there is **\$54,242.83** in the bank account. We are averaging about a \$50,000.00 balance and about \$8,000.00 in yearly operating expenses. This year saw less in operating expenses due to many events being canceled that the Association would sponsor. Those expenses do not include the annual event which can range from \$15,000.00 for the GeoSpatial Summit to \$95,000.00 for NYGeoCon.

Income: (yearly)

Membership	\$4,650.14	this number includes multiple year memberships
GeoCon 2019	\$3,991.78	
Total	\$8,641.92	

Yearly Expenses: (not including event)

NY Profit Membership	(\$60.00)
Go Daddy	(\$160.36)
InMotion Hosting	(\$482.72)
Survey Monkey	(\$414.72)
PO Box	(\$106.00)
Exchange Fee	(\$52.20)
D&O Insurance	(\$759.00)
Website payment	(\$1,400.00)
Clickmeeting renewal	(\$1,740.00)
HostMonster	(\$37.98)
Awards	(\$700.00)

Estimated Upcoming Yearly Operating Expenses (to be finalized at December board meeting.)

Office Expenses	\$400.00
Meeting Costs	\$150.00
Travel Expenses	\$200.00
Sponsorships	\$600.00
Webinars	\$1,800.00
D&O Insurance	\$800.00
Promotional Items	\$500.00
Awards Committee	\$1,000.00
Communications	\$2,243.00
Total	\$7,693.00