AGENDA
GIS/LIS Consortium Board
Friday June 29, 2007
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Board Meeting
Location – GeoComm
601 W. Saint Germain St.
St. Cloud, MN 56301

To: 2007 GIS/LIS Consortium Board Members:

Board Directors
Steve Benson – State Government
Kari Geurts – Conference Chair Elect
Mark Packard – Private Sector
Tim Loesch – Treasurer
Sally Wakefield – Chair Elect
Jane Mueller – Local Government
Rebecca Foster – Conference Chair
Steve Kloiber – At Large
Sarah Schrader – Secretary
Chad Martini – Chair
Fei Yuan – Higher Education

Ex-Officio Members
Annette Theroux – Past Chair
Will Craig – Governor’s Council
Nancy Rader – LMIC

Committee Chairs
Banette Kritzky – Scholarship/Database
Jane Mueller – Professional Development
Don Yaeger – Newsletter

From: Chad Martini , Chair
If you are unable to attend or will be late to this meeting, please call Chad @ 320-240-0040, or cell phone 763-242-8392 or send an e-mail to: cmartini@geo-comm.com

AGENDA

Approval of Agenda / Additions to Agenda Martini
Secretary’s Report Approval of Minutes Schrader
Treasurer’s Report Approval of Report Loesch

Action Items\New Business

- Check Signing Martini
- Remote Sensing Workshop Update Martini
- Membership Database Update Packard
- Conference Budget Foster
- Ewald Contract Martini
- Committees on the web Rader
Committee Reports

- Professional Development  
  Mueller
- Conference Committee  
  Foster
- Education and Outreach  
  Kloiber
- Scholarship Committee  
  Kritzky
- Membership Database  
  Packard / Kritzky
- Newsletter Committee  
  Rader
- Web Committee  
  Martini
- Governor’s Council  
  Craig
- LMIC Update  
  Rader
- Awards  
  Craig
- Policy  
  Sjerven
- Web  
  Craig

*** REMINDER TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS ***

Committee reports are 5 minutes in length, and are intended as a summary only. If you have more than a summary (i.e. this is going to take more than 5 minutes), please let me know and I will add it under Action Items/New Business. If you are planning to call for an action item, or just a long discussion, it should be done prior to the summary reports.

Dial in instructions:

1-866-899-5399
Pass code: *8332656*

GeoComm doesn’t have dedicated teleconference equipment so expect a speaker phone if you are dialing in.
Awards

Three nominations have been promised for Polaris, all for good people. None are expected for Lifetime at this time.

Governor's Council

Final meeting of year was on June 20, where each committee presented its accomplishments for the year and plans for next year. This will become the basis of the annual report.

Strategic Plan Retreat: The Council and LMIC hosted a full-day facilitated retreat June 25 to help develop a second generation strategic plan for the State's geospatial technology. Approximately 65 invited decision-makers participated. A summary of the retreat is being prepared. When the strategic plan is completed, it will be posted on the Council’s website and presented at the fall Consortium conference. For more info about the purpose of the retreat, see http://www.mngislis.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=166

Three Council members are not renewing for next year: Berrisford, Kost, and Olsen. Good nominations have been received to replace them.

The Council agreed to send letters of endorsement for two candidates for the new National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC): David Claypool (Ramsey County) and Randy Johnson (MetroGIS).

Conference Committee Report

- The conference committee met on Thursday, June 14th.
- We are in the first review period of the Preliminary Program. I’m pleased to say that we are three weeks ahead of schedule with this.
- The Entertainment Committee has scheduled a night of comedy for us at Goonie’s for our Wednesday night Welcome reception
- Most of the Committee Chair’s will be going to Rochester in July for an onsite visit to finalize plans.
- Conference Budget will be brought to the Board for approval at this meeting.
Professional Development Committee:

The three individuals who were registered for the Northern Python Programming spring workshop prior to cancelling it will be guaranteed a place in the same workshop offered at the conference in Rochester. Heidi Gaedy, Conference Workshop Chair, will contact each of them to see if they are interested in attending the fall workshop.

Database Committee

On June 19th, Mark Packard, Banette Kritzky and Gerald Sjerven met with Dave Schulenberg of Ewald at Ewald’s offices to review progress on allowing members to access the members database through a secure portion of the MN GIS/LIS site. The group reviewed the current draft web pages which have been works in progress and not released to the public through the site at this point. The group made some refinements and modifications to the content of the pages and how they are accessed by an end user of the site.

The members’ information on the site was logically broken into an external informational shell and an internal functional interface to access database information. Thought was given to how “membership” is presented to a visitor of the site keeping in mind that existing members would want a quick way to log in and non-members might want to learn what membership is about and how to join. Once logged in, members can modify their personal profile (which also allows them to select which information is accessible from other members via the search utility) or search the member’s database. The group reviewed the possible search criteria and added as many search options as made sense to increase the utility of the search tool.

Gerry thought that he would have a working and activated version of the site ready by the time of the 6/29 board meeting. Once the member’s portion is approved, the plan would be to make a big push to get folks into their profiles to update them and to unselect information which they do not want to share with others before the actual members search utility is activated.

Once the search utility is activated and folks can reliably register for events, the focus will change to the actual data including past event attendances. Dave is researching Affiniscape’s ability to list a member’s previous attendances; a required precursor to allowing members to print these records for GISP submittals. Dave thought that all data prior to 2004 are likely suspect due to past database integration issues. Dave is also researching a bug that displays company names as search results vs. a person’s name. There does not seem to be any progress in a database “synching” mechanism from Ewald. The group again discussed a “protocol” solution vs. a technological solution whereby data is only downloaded from Affiniscape but never uploaded; for example. These will continue to be topics of discussion for forthcoming database committee meetings.

LMIC Report

FSA NAIP photos - 2008: Funds are currently being collected from state agencies to augment federal money earmarked for this program. As the fiscal year winds to an end (June 30) we anticipate that about 75% of Minnesota’s contribution will be encumbered. LMIC will arrange a status meeting in late July to report on the funding situation, hear about positional control efforts to improve accuracy testing, learn about potential “buy up” options and discuss the possibility of private sector funding contributing to the program. A contract with FSA needs to be finalized in December.
Newsletter

Next deadline is August 1. As board members, the newsletter committee expects submissions from each of you sometime throughout the year.

Don writes, “Remind folks to get something from the area they represent. Also summary reports of various spring events, what we have on the conference, committees, etc. Thanks”

Education and Outreach Committee

The MN GIS/LIS Consortium (and Governor's Council on GIS) presented a Natural Resources Data Seminar to LCCMR on June 6. The session was moderated by Will Craig. Tim Loesch provided a good background on the nature of GIS and followed with examples of the use of GIS in natural resources management and analysis. Steve Kloiber provided an overview of GIS data and how it is collected. The seminar was very well received. The full slide show is available on the LCCMR website. We hope to make this presentation available on the Consortium's webpage along with a set of speaker's notes and handouts as a resource for the speaker's bureau.

Scholarship

All student winners have been announced; we have 13 (U of Mn did not select an undergraduate winner). Student bios and abstracts are beginning to trickle in. They have until July 15th to submit in order to be included in the Conference Program. Until all abstracts are received, I won't know just how many will participate in the competition. Recall that as a scholarship winner you are not obligated to participate in the competition. Prize monies have changed to the following, 1st and 2nd prizes, respectively:

- Graduates: $1,000 and $500
- Undergrads: $800 and $400
- Poster: $500

The Committee has not yet begun to explore options for the Endowment Fund, but will proceed with this over the next months.

Policy

Updated a number of pages in the manual and will be sending out a revised Manual over the next month or 2. Primary changes had to do with adding the responsibility of updating the History Document to the Past Chair, with a deadline of late spring; adding Steve Benson's insurance information; changes in scholarship due dates and dollar amounts; to name a few. Changes will be highlighted in the document for your ease when reviewing.

History

Catherine Hansen, Rebecca Foster and Banette Kritzky met on June 6th to update Catherine’s original document. The team is continuing to research and fill in the blanks and Catherine has volunteered to dig into the old boxes we have stored at Ewald to find some older information. We will provide the Board the updated document once we can get it on the agenda (probably within the next month or so).