AGENDA
MN GIS/LIS Consortium Board
Friday Feb. 20th, 2009
9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Board Meeting
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Strategic Retreat
Location – Edina City Hall (Community Room)
4801 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

To: 2009 GIS/LIS Consortium Board Members:

**Board Directors**
Steve Benson – Board Chair Elect
Carla Coates – Treasurer
Rebecca Foster – Board Chair
Heidi Gaedy – Private Sector
Kari Geurts – State Government
Leanne Knott – At-Large
Ben Richason – Higher Education
Sarah Schrader – Secretary
Stacey Stark – Conference Chair Elect
Jeff Storlie – Conference Chair
Jennifer Wittkopf, Local Government

**Ex-Officio Members**
Josh Gumm – Governor’s Council
Nancy Rader – LMIC
Sally Wakefield – Past Chair

**Committee Chairs**
Dan Ross – Awards
? – Newsletter
? – Professional Development
Chad Martini – Scholarship/Database
Gerry Sjerven – Web Administrator

From: Rebecca Foster, Chair
If you are unable to attend or will be late to this meeting, please call Rebecca @ 952-826-0447, or cell phone 612-203-0825 or send an e-mail to: RFoster@ci.edina.mn.us

**AGENDA**

Approval of Agenda / Additions to Agenda  Foster
Secretary’s Report Approval of Minutes  Schrader
Treasurer’s Report Approval of Report  Loescht/Coates

**Action Items/New Business** (9:00-11:00am)

- 2009 Consortium Budget  Loescht/Coates
- Spring Workshop Survey Results  Foster
- Propose to Eliminate Silent Auction  Storlie
- Propose a Minimal Final Program for Mailing  Storlie
- 2009 Salary Survey  Wittkopf
- 8th Annual GIS Career & Networking Fair(April 7th)  Foster

**Affiniscape 360 Webinar** (11:00-12:30pm)  All

**Strategic Retreat** (1:00-3:00pm, lunch provided)  All

Sign up for Committees  Foster/All
Committee Reports – February 2009

Awards
• No Report this month

Conference Committee Report
• Had our first meeting with the conference committee.
• Met with Scott at the DECC (Duluth).
• Confirmed Keynote Peter Batty http://geothought.blogspot.com/
• Confirmed Friday speaker, Sam Cook, local outdoor writer.
• Confirmed Thursday night beer tasting room at Holiday Inn.

Database Committee
• A Postcard has been designed, printed and mailed soon to Members to verify their Profile and to verify to us we have a correct mailing address in the database.

Governor’s Council

Next Full Council meeting: Wednesday, March 25, 2009, 1:00-3:30 P.M.
Next Executive Committee meeting: Wednesday, February 18, 2008, 10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

GCGI Outreach Committee has been given approval to share committee reports in GIS/LIS E-announcements:

Outreach Committee asked to more actively mine the committee reports submitted before each full council meeting for information to submit to other communication channels, especially the GIS/LIS Consortium E-announcements and newsletter. E-announcements are useful for short items that need to get out relatively quickly; announcements are not, however, archived online. The newsletter is more suitable for longer articles and serves as a more permanent record since back issues are available online. The Outreach Committee has standing permission to work with committee chairs to use information found in the reports to develop these announcements and articles.

“Enterprise GIS” Drive to Excellence Initiative Update (GCGI Strategic Planning Committee): 1. Organizational Transformation – Drive to Excellence Project

• The Committee has refined the governance structure approved by the Council in September.

As part of the Drive to Excellence “Enterprise GIS” Project, two boards are being proposed to help advise the proposed Minnesota Geographic Information Office: one board would focus on state agencies and the other would have broader statewide membership. The statewide board would replace the Governor’s Council on Geographic Information, and ideally would continue what is working well for the current council and also provide an opportunity to improve its operation. One significant difference between the new body and the current council would be the mechanism to recommend and appoint most members. The current council is appointed entirely through the Open Appointments process through the Secretary of State’s Office. This would still apply to the private
sector, nonprofit, and “other organizations and/or citizens” members; however, the remaining members would be recommended by an appropriate related policy body.

• The Drive to Excellence project has a new sponsor, Department of Agriculture Commissioner Gene Hugoson. The Drive to Excellence Sub-Cabinet endorsed the creation of a Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MGIO) at its October 29, 2008 meeting.

2. Functional Transformation

• Applied Geographics (http://www.appgeo.com) is finalizing a Program Design document outlining the options for transforming the use of GIS in Minnesota under the leadership of the proposed MGIO. The document will be posted pending acceptance by the project Steering Committee.

• Discussions on an Enterprise License Agreement (“ELA”) with ESRI for state agencies have continued through the winter. If successful, this should be an example of a functional change that demonstrates the benefits of coordinated GIS.

3. Legislative Process and Funding Proposals: With the support of the DTE Sub-Cabinet, the formal proposal to create a Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MGIO) and to increase its budget above the Land Management Information Center’s (LMIC’s) current appropriation was submitted to the Governor’s Office for consideration. The Governor’s Office approved asking the Office of the Revisor of Statutes to draft legislation to create the MGIO; however, the request to increase the MGIO’s operating budget was not included in the Governor’s budget, released recently.

   1. **MGIO organizational changes:** The main legislative changes being drafted are: Establishing an MGIO, which would be directed by a Chief Geospatial Information Officer. Its mandate would be to promote coordination, coordinate geospatial technology, work with the GIS community to make investments, and provide geoservices. LMIC would be renamed and all its resources would be moved to the MGIO. New language and authority would be modeled after what was used to create the Office of Enterprise Technology, and the MGIO would be directed to work closely with OET’s CIO. The Revisor’s Office is reviewing all statutory language relating to LMIC and will propose deleting old responsibilities that are no longer relevant. The MGIO would be in the Department of Administration, not OET.

   2. **Funding:** The good news is that the Governor’s proposed cuts to LMIC’s current budget for the next biennium were relatively minimal and were the least in the Department of Administration. Arbeit reminded members that the Governor’s budget is only the first step in the process – the next steps will occur in the Legislature where several key lawmakers have shown enthusiastic support for the MGIO.

LMIC Report

• Two proposed geospatial standards are open for public review until March 13, 2009:


Newsletter

• No Report this month
Professional Development Committee
• Discuss Spring Workshop Survey Results
• Thursday, May 21, 2009 at Arden Hills

Scholarship
Spoke with Wells Fargo about setting up an endowment fund. The suggestion from Wells is to set up a separate entity for the purpose of scholarships. The reasons listed for this action are:
  o The only way to separate scholarship dollars from the GIS/LIS general fund. This is important for tracking dollars and protecting scholarship dollars if GIS/LIS ceases to exist. It is also important that people know their donations are 100% dedicated to scholarships.
  o The IRS will view all GIS/LIS monies as one chunk unless separated. This is important for tax purposes. It was explained to me that if it was a concern that donated money might get involved in GIS/LIS taxes, a separate account would be necessary.

Creating a separate entity will require articles of incorporation and registration with the Secretary of State to get a new Tax ID.

The board will need to discuss risk opportunities at some point. Now is not that time, but it is in the future to determine how aggressive the board wants to be with scholarship dollars. The stock market, which is truly the only vehicle to grow the account, will always offer the possibility of poor or negative returns.

Wells Fargo also recommends that the board adopt an Investment Policy Statement as a protection against liability. As I understand it, if we take donations, the statement shows publicly how GIS/LIS intends to invest the money. The idea is that nobody can take action against GIS/LIS for losing money if our intention was clearly stated.

The Scholarship Committee requests that the GIS/LIS Board of Directors discuss the concept of incorporating the scholarship dollars. The committee cannot move forward on the endowment without a decision.
The 2009 Scholarship participation invitation has been sent to all schools. Anoka Ramsey is currently not on the list as their program has been suspended. Will Craig contacted the school about their future direction and we are waiting a response.

The next tasks for the committee are to review GIS/LIS policy and secure $5000 in budget for 2009 scholarships.

**Web Committee**

- The Web Committee met after regular Board meeting, Friday 1/16/09. We reviewed the questions asked for the "2002 GIS Profession and Salary Survey." We also reviewed the Board responses from the "trial" Affiniscape survey on-line, to see what information the Board feels is important to include in the current survey. From these, we prepared the "2009 Salary Survey" questions. These questions will be presented and discussed at the next Board meeting, 2/20/09.