



**SUBJECT:** Board of Directors Meeting Summary

**DATE:** May 17, 2010

**LOCATION:** Teleconference Call

---

*The teleconference meeting began at 3:02 PM*

***Meeting Purpose***

Review April meeting minutes, Treasurer's report, TWIST funding request, Geospatial Summit, Committee updates.

***Attendance***

Jeff Volpe, Ann Deakin, Christa Hay, Bruce Oswald, Verne LaClair, Lis DeGironimo, Joe Jones, and Sheri Norton.

***Minutes***

The Board approved the April 2010 BOD minutes with no corrections.

***Treasurer's Report***

Christa Hay announced that taxes were completed. Three GISP awards are still outstanding, with the 6-month deadline for certification past in mid-March. Sheri Norton will contact the remaining three awardees for status of their respective applications.

***TWIST Workshop***

Ann Deakin and the Education Committee requested Association sponsorship of the TWIST workshop. Discussion ensued, with general support but ideas for what could be provided to the NYSGISA in exchange such as:

- Feedback summarizing the workshop experience
- Listing of the Association on the workshop website
- Submission of an article for the Association Newsletter and quotes for PR materials

Ann will draft a letter to the TWIST organizers for review by the BOD.

***Geospatial Summit***

Ann Deakin will provide a brief announcement about the revived Galileo Award and the Geomentor Program during the Summit. Bob Jones will bring a display for the latter as well as handout materials.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the future of the Summit. Ideas included:

- Holding the event every other year rather than annually. A question on frequency will be included in the Association Survey.
- How to maintain quality of the event
- Address the request by GIS/SIG for a joint conference held the day before at the next Summit if held in the Finger Lakes region
- Number of attendees and cost
- The need for tax-exempt status (paperwork still needs to be processed)



## **Committee Updates Conference**

Jeff Volpe spoke with Tom Sears about chairing the Committee, but no commitment has been made yet. Both Verne LaClair and Bruce Oswald volunteered to fill-in as Co-Chairs temporarily.

Jeff Volpe, Ann Deakin and Alex Chaucer will attend the June meeting. Verne LaClair attended the last meeting and distributed minutes. Key action items for the Association include:

- Providing a list of members of the NYSGISA and sending notices out announcing the conference.
- Identify potential sponsors to ensure all booths are used.
- Define incentives to get members to attend.

Ideas discussed were possibly offering a "bundle" package for the Summit and NYS GIS Conference as a potential sponsorship model, hitting up companies once rather than twice. However, for many firms it is easier to fund two small request rather than one large one. Perhaps sponsors would automatically get a booth at the NYS GIS Conference, but there may need to be a distinction between a booth versus sponsor.

Possible incentives could be a discount at workshops and/or the banquet. A motion was unanimously passed to provide \$10 discounts for Association member to attend a workshop. This perk will be submitted to ESF for approval. The only potential cost to the Association is an internet access fee for the workshop room.

## **Legislative**

Joe Jones provided an update on the new survey legislation bill, noting that the bill does not have a sponsor yet. He has been speaking weekly with Darren Morgan of NYSAPLS, who has been open to discussion. Ben Houston wrote a two-page critique of the proposed legislation. All three will be meeting shortly if there is going to be a bill sponsored. He also noted that if there is no cooperation from Darren Morgan addressing the concerns stated in previous years as well as Ben Houston's critique, the Association will rally against the bill.

Regarding the USGS funding cost, Joe Jones is working through Homeland Security to encourage reinstatement of programs. He cautioned active lobbying, however, indicating high fines for inappropriate interaction at the federal level.

## **Education**

Ann Deakin announced that the Committee met last week. The Committee would like to announce the Galileo Award shortly, and requested ideas for award prizes. Also discussed was the upcoming TWIST workshop.

## **Regional Coordination**

Lis DeGironimo circulated a draft map to the BOD via email earlier today including two new user groups. The Tug Hill/Western Adirondacks group and new meeting dates still need to be added to the website. The BOD was asked for feedback on adding software-specific user group links (e.g., for ESRI, MapInfo, etc.). Still to be contacted are GISMO and LIGIS.

## **Marketing**



Bruce Oswald announced that the consultant is still working out problems with the membership database functionality in the website. Some buttons on the website have been re-organized and updates are still in progress.

Other news includes 130 followers now on the Association's new Twitter Account. The 2010 survey has received 148 responses (better than last year), with the survey closing on Friday.

### **Business Development**

Verne LaClair indicated that the Committee is seeking information from the BOD and does not want to be pro-active identifying action items. Suggestions by the BOD included continuing efforts with the Education Committee to define best workforce development goals (e.g., curriculum design), and determining whether GIT is industry and/or government driven. This will be discussed further at the June BOD meeting.

### **GISP**

Jeff Volpe will be sending an email summary to the BOD.

### **Outreach**

Jeff Volpe will prepare a paper for the NYS IT Directors Association which will be submitted to the BOD for review before final submission. He met recently for an hour with the President of this Association, who was very receptive to NYSGISA involvement.

*The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM*