



Minutes
Nevada Geographic Information Society (NGIS)
May 2009 Board Meeting
May 19, 2009
APPROVED

NGIS Board Members Present:

Pat Guiberson, Tommie Weckesser, Matt Krok, Moni Fox, Karin Hagan, Gary Johnson, Mark O'Brien, Art Ehrenberg

NGIS Board Members Absent:

Eric Ingbar,

Guests Present:

N/A

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by NGIS President Pat Guiberson. It was determined that a quorum was present.

Old Business:

- Credit card

Determined not to pursue obtaining a credit card. There is no reason to have one, as NGIS has a debit card with a \$500 limit, which is only used for RegOnline. We did not need a credit card for this conference, and a debit card is easier for the accountant to work with.

- 2009 Conference

\$24,000 budget

\$25,000 income so far

\$12-1500 income expected

There are 160 registrants, and 120 was the "break even" point. 12 vendor booths was the goal, and we have about 15.

- Foundation (Pat)

The activities for the last year have mostly been paperwork. The NGIF should be fully functional within the next 60 days, and will be announced at the Business Meeting tomorrow.

- Slate of Officers for next year (Pat)

Past President – Pat Secretary - Karin
President – Richard Treasurer – Gary
Vice President – Eric 08-10 Board Members – Art, Sonya, Moni
09-10 Board Members – Mark, Matt, Adam Johnson (web master)

The slate will be presented at the Business Meeting for a vote by the membership.

New Business:

- Next year's Conference (#20)

What should we do? Tahoe, Las Vegas, Elko? As this will be #20, should we go back to Carson City? Those are all northern cities, and it should shift to the south next year. If we keep in the north two years in a row, we'll likely have low attendance from the south. Matt suggested changing Reno/Tahoe to "West" rather than "North". Tommie asked if we should cancel the 2010 conference? 2009 was held because the Board decided that low numbers were better than no numbers.

It was suggested that we plan the big celebration at 25 years, since 20 years will be with a difficult market. So, keep the normal schedule and hold 2010 Conference in Las Vegas.

- GISCI

Should we obtain GISCI certification? It would offer increased workshop opportunities. We'd have to address differing language between GISCI and GISP. GISCI has endorsement by public agencies & NGS. Pat stated that the American Association of Geographers, the Society of Remote Sensing, URISA, Oregon, California and North Carolina have all endorsed the idea of GIS certifications. The movement is on its way, and we will be seeing something from the State regarding ongoing certification and training. Private industry and the universities are not interested yet.

Are we ready to do something about it at NGIS? Maybe have a roundtable for 2010, maybe with the head of GISCI?

We should educate the membership before addressing and/or endorsing certification. Sonya noted that the conference had a session on it last year, and members are getting certified. Should we try to see how much of the membership is certified? Should we add "GISP" to the nametags at the 2010 conference?

Art noted that we'll have to provide documentation to those who participate for credit with the GISP. Matt asked if we should endorse it and be ahead of the curve, and Sonya noted that we could put it in the newsletter that NGIS endorses it.

Decision: Entertain as a resolution for membership vote. Entertain as a resolution for Board to vote and present to membership.

Do we need to provide training workshops and opportunities for the membership to move toward the GISP? Can GISCI provide assistance with training and workshops? Pat noted that GISCI does not provide a structured list of workshops, etc. However, URISA does have a number of available workshops. He also noted that we can develop our own and maybe NGIF can provide assistance for travel, etc.

The Board should place before the Business Meeting as a discussion item, as the Board would like to have more feedback from the membership. The Board will discuss training opportunities. At this time, the Board will not officially endorse certification, but will recommend, support, and encourage the membership in their pursuit of it.

Open Discussion

Eric reported from yesterday's forum for posting ideas that people are interested in opportunities to work in the community.

Tommie suggested that Gary could add the newsletter to the webpage, and noted that the newsletter writer is looking for input.

The meeting was adjourned at 13:46PM.