

Northern Rockies URISA

Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 26 January, 2012

Call to order:

Made by Dennis Hill 10:31 AM MST

Roll Call:

President: Dennis Hill	(via telephone)
Vice-President: Kindra Serr	(via telephone)
Secretary: Dan Narsavage	(in person)
Treasurer: Shawn Stubbers	(via telephone)
Member at Large: Laurie Ames	(absent)
Member at Large: Kathy von Kienast	(absent)
Member at Large: Ed DeYoung	(via telephone)
Donna Phillips	(absent)
Danielle Favreau	(via telephone)

Approval of Previous Minutes:

- Shawn Stubbers **moved to approve the minutes of the October meeting**, seconded by Kindra Serr, **approved by acclamation**

Selection of tax preparer/accountant:

- Leslie has completed our taxes and has returned them to us
- Shawn asked if board approval was necessary for sending payment to Leslie
 - Dennis asserted that this is a routine expense that can be paid without explicit board approval
- Shawn asked if the Treasurer can sign the tax returns or if they must be forwarded to Dennis for a Presidential signature
 - No one was sure, so Shawn will ask Leslie
 - Dennis also asked that Shawn find out if an electronic signature will suffice in the event that Dennis must sign it

Conference Planning Update:

- Danielle reported that the first planning meeting for the 2013 conference will be held on January 31 at 1:00 PST (2PM MST)
- Danielle reminded the board that planning meetings take place via the standard NR URISA conference call number, so Shawn should expect an additional use of that number
- Dennis reiterated that expenses related to conference planning can be passed directly to Shawn rather than being proposed for Board approval unless it is unexpected
- Danielle will eventually assemble a budget for the conference, but at this point we have no expenses

- 1 year, 1 month, and 14 days until the 2013 conference
- Anyone who wants to volunteer is welcome

Re-missioning survey:

- Dennis made the following observations:
 - Many more committees, working groups, and professional organizations of various flavors have been added over the last decade
 - There are relatively few new people involved in the increased number of GIS-related organizations in the state
- From those observations, Dennis made the following conclusion:
 - The mission of NRURISA is rather broad, and it may lead to confusion regarding where our organization fits in the multitude of groups
- Dennis wants the group to get renewed focus by using an online survey, and started by asking meeting attendees for input.
 - Danielle:
 - One of the main reason NR URISA was formed was to hold regular conferences
 - Conferences have fallen out of favor due to tighter budgets and changes in technology
 - What are IGC, TWGs, RRCs doing, and are there other things that need to be done?
 - As an affiliated 501(c) organization, NR URISA is in a unique position to be more flexible than those other organizations
 - Kindra:
 - NR URISA's niche is in professional development
 - Conferences are not necessarily out of favor, but we should work on making them more valuable
 - In the intervening years between conferences, we should possibly find alternative services to provide, such as training
 - Dan:
 - NR URISA's is very relevant, and is not meant for policy setting stuff like IGC, TWGs, etc
 - We need to make sure that our members value professional development
 - Perhaps the goal of this discussion should be less about us re-evaluating the mission and more about us ensuring that our members understand what our role is
 - Shawn:
 - An evaluation of our mission statement is worthwhile, and we should look at changes in technology and changes in what other organizations are doing
 - The state took a survey regarding needs of the GIS community a couple years ago, and it might be good to see the results of that
 - Ed:
 - Remissioning is a good idea, and professional development should remain a focus of NRURISA
- Dennis asked everyone to consider comments on our current mission statement and ideas for questions on a survey and send those questions to Dan and to Kindra for a discussion at the February meeting.

Contracting a professional webmaster:

- Eric Smith's quote was forwarded to the group, and our website needs to be updated. Meanwhile Danielle's plate is full with conference planning.
- Dan Narsavage **moved to approve the expenditure of \$300 for the redevelopment of the NR URISA website**, this was **seconded by Kindra Serr**, and **passed** by roll call vote:
 - Dennis Hill Yes
 - Kindra Serr Yes
 - Dan Narsavage Yes
 - Shawn Stubbers Yes
 - Laurie Ames Absent
 - Kathy von Kienast Absent
 - Ed DeYoung Yes
 - Donna Phillips Absent

Reports:

Kindra Serr, Vice President:

- Reminder for everyone to keep in mind articles for the next newsletter

Dan Narsavage, Secretary:

- Received zero comments regarding the mission statement

Shawn Stubbers, Treasurer:

- Expenditures report:
 - Previous balance: \$28,675.25
 - Expenditures:
 - Web.com: \$19.95
 - Telspan: \$19.54
 - Revenue:
 - None
 - Current balance: \$28,635.76 (within ~\$100 of balance last year this time)

Next Meeting:

- 23 February 2012, 9:30 AM PST (10:30 AM MST)

Motion to Adjourn:

Dan Narsavage **moved to adjourn** at 11:08 AM MST, seconded by Shawn Stubbers, and **passed** unanimously by acclamation