

## CGIA Board of Directors Meeting

January 12, 2021 @10:00 – 11:30 AM

### MINUTES

#### I. BOARD ROLL CALL

*Officers:*

**Chair:**  Bond Harper  
**Vice Chair:**  Chris Robinson  
**Secretary:**  Norman Wong  
**Treasurer:**  Mary Hurley  
**Past Chair:**  An-Min Wu

*Directors Representing:*

**Federal Government**

Jayme Laber

**City Government**

Steven Kincaid  
 Zachary Robinson

**County Government**

Christine Lam

**Regional Council of Governments and Regional Association of Governments**

Dave Powers

**State Government**

Ralph Jaggi  
 Mihai Giurgiulescu

**Education**

Danielle Bram

**Private Sector Companies**

Denise Tober  
 Solomon Pulapkura

**Professional Societies and Not-for-Profits**

Jochen Albrecht  
 Steven Steinberg

## II. MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

- Steve S. made a motion to approve the minutes of the last Board meeting in November. Dave seconded. Board approved

## III. INTERNAL BUSINESS

### 1. Treasurer's Report

- Current balance: \$37,000. New members joined; Paid to sponsor Los Angeles Geospatial Summit at USC. In total 6 checks were written in 2020.

### 2. Standing Committee Reports:

#### A. Membership (Denise)

- 9 renewals, 1 non-renewal, 2 new.
- A new sponsorship profile will be posted - Spatial Science Institute at USC. A draft of the posting was reviewed. Suggestions were made to include a footer detailing how to become a sustaining member, what it is, and a link to it.
- Denise had asked USA North and Nick Burckhardt of UCLA, but neither responded. We will need another candidate for the next membership spotlight.
- Norman will work with Denise to contact Nick B. We also need a logo from them since they are current sponsors.

#### B. Website (Norman, Steve S., Bond, Zachary)

- The website committee met the previous week to discuss website improvements by swapping the current theme with a more modern, mobile-friendly theme
- Zach pulled a lot of the weight to look at new themes. The proposal is to update the theme. Zach recommended one called Astra out of the 3 – Astra, Kadence, Neve due to its widespread usage and support. Refer to CGIA Google Drive for links.
- The ask is to authorize up to \$200 to get the Professional version, additional support, and access to templates.
- Dave Powers made a motion to allocate up to \$200 towards the purchase of a new theme. Steve S./Denise T. seconded. Board approved.
- Denise mentioned that it would be a good time to promote MembershipWorks during the transition.
- Norman to check on PayPal to see how that works with WP plugin.
- Norman will look into whether we need more space due to email.
- Bond reached out to CA URISA to see if students from there can help us update the resources map. CGIA could sponsor a student to migrate old platform to AGOL (using CA URISA's acct). If we hear a 'no' we can develop a plan to migrate it some other way.

#### C. Advocacy (Chris, Solomon, Mihai, Mary)

- Mary: The first advocacy and policy committee met at the end of November. Not much to report other than the committee reviewed documents and being supportive of the writing of the strategic plan for the Council. Another one scheduled for end of January.
- Mary will schedule a webinar with Isaac for our general members, potentially in March/April. He will talk about Isaac's goals and objectives as GIO for the State.

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Isaac would like more student engagement. Mary mentioned that maybe we can have an initiative to do more student outreach. Students just don't know what to do with their degree. Isaac would talk for 20-30 and Q&A for 15-20. Examples include mentorships, email interaction with students for guidance.

- Steve S. cautioned that URISA currently has a mentorship program and may be duplicative. An idea would be to coordinate with CA URISA to make student events are posted. Point users to relevant websites.
- Over a 12-month period we could do a coordinated student-gear webinar.
- Bond: We can think about the one with Isaac as a kickoff and then have 2-3 others that are more student-oriented.
- Steve S.: Doing something in Spring will be advantageous since we'd reach students who are graduating.
- Danielle B. suggested that before May would be better to get students a little earlier.
- Steve S.: Some CGIA members joined the Legislative committee on the CA GIS Council. The idea is to track state legislation that would have some impact on GIS professionals. Jacob Mark is a lead on the committee and created a first draft summarizing current GIS legislation and that is coming out in a week or so.
- Danielle B.: In an education workgroup formed between different universities. In the process of finalizing charter. Please reach out to Danielle even if you don't work in the educational field if you wish to be on the committee.
- Chris R.: Expand webinars to data professionals dealing with spatial data, not specifically ESRI or GIS. Data science use Python, SQL, and R, for example, which are also evident in GIS
- Danielle B.: Maybe have a webinar called GIS for non-GIS professionals and vice versa (data science/big data with some GIS). Isaac brought up something similar with data science. Intersection of data science and GIS. One starting from the data science perspective and the other from the GIS perspective, and third one discussing the two.
- Steve S. suggested having a panelist discussion of GIS and data science. Discussions about how data scientists are not GIS professionals and may not be approaching spatial data correctly. Conversely, we as GIS professionals need to know about data science tools and techniques.
- Bond suggested standing up a subcommittee to talk about this fall webinar on data science

#### D. Awards (Chris, Christine)

- No updates. Waiting to see what will happen with CalGIS.
- Steve S.: There is a marketing problem with the awards. Awards for professionals with physical trophy is great. For students, we can offer a scholarship - a check for some amount instead of conference travel since we no longer have paid-conferences. Students are more attracted to money. We should split the graduate and undergraduate categories to be fair to undergraduate submissions.
- If we offer more money, we can ask for more in the submission. Ideally, we can post something online like a 5-minute video.
- We should note that awards count towards GISP points so this could entice more submissions.
- For students, the cash award and the mention of a scholarship on their CV/resume is a plus. For now students include community college and higher

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- Steve S. made a motion to allocate \$3,000 for student awards. Danielle B. seconded. Board approved.
    - 4 awards: (2) \$500 and (2) \$1,000
  - An-min still has \$100 Amazon gift card from last year. This could be used as a runner-up prize.
- E. Elections (Dave, Steve K.)
- Steve K.: Nothing new now.
- F. Communications (Jayme, Rachel)
- Jayme posted job announcements.
  - There is a discounted rate for CGIA members for USC conf: \$35
    - Jayme should this on our social media channels
3. By-laws update (Bond)
- Now posted on website

#### **IV. EXTERNAL BUSINESS**

1. CA GIS Council  
(see above)
2. CalGIS Conference update  
There will likely be some fee to attend the virtual conference. There was some discussion that it could be free for CA URISA members.
3. USC Geospatial Summit: <https://spatial.usc.edu/events/2021-los-angeles-geospatial-summit/>
  - 2/26 whole-day event. Steve and Isaac will pre-record the keynote. As a sponsor CGIA get 1 free registration.
  - There is virtual knowledge network 1:30 – 3PM: vendor fair/networking
  - Typically young professionals and students at this event.
  - Get in touch with An-min if you want to participate and use the free registration. Bond will be there and pay \$35 to attend.

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **VI. CLOSING**