MAGIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Dec 13, 2022, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Topic: MAGIP BOD Meeting
Time: December 13, 2022 02:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)
Every month on the Third Tue, until Dec 20, 2022, 21 occurrence(s)

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Meeting Recording:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKqM7rYlEvk&t

Time start: 2:01 P.M.

Board Members Present:

Mike Powell (Chair)       Erich Schreier       Mike Eidum
Jeff Hedstrom                Jeffry Sprock        Rob Ahl
Jason Danielson          Nate Wold        Aaron Vaughn

Guests:

Michelle Quinn
Meghan Burns

Jason Danielson makes motion to pass November board minutes. 2nd by Eric Spangenberg after double checking vote on updating requests for assistance. Passed unanimously.

New Business:

LiDAR SIG Items

- Jeff Sprock is still fleshing out LiDAR SIG outline and is working with Troy Blandford and Rob Ahl along with others who have discussion points to bring to the table. Subjects involving municipal, forestry, or local government applications are proposed topics of discussion.
- He will identify possible presenters for the SIG.
- Troy offered to talk about the State Library’s aim and details on obtaining LiDAR data.
- They are shooting for late January for first discussion, but Jeff S. wants the board’s acknowledgement.
- Mike P. said he is definitely in support of the new SIG and understands it looks like it will be quarterly.
- Jeff S. concurred and said he wants to avoid overlapping other MAGIP Board or SIG meetings.
Aaron Vaughn made a motion to approve the new LiDAR Special Interest Group. Jason D. 2nd. Passed unanimously.

- Meghan confirmed with Jeff S. to put up a web page listing for the newly created SIG.
- Jeffry S. will send an email to the listserv to announce creation and to set the first meeting date.
- Meghan said she can set up a new LiDAR SIG email/Google Group.
- Jeff H. said the Local Gov’t SIG was started by generating interest from Listserv first and advised this SIG could start in a similar manner.

Membership Fee Increase

- Mike P. would like to establish a start date and to write a letter to the membership about the fee increase approval among the working group.
- Meghan suggested not having a hard start date for all new membership fees but rather when the individual’s membership renews does the new price lock in.
- Meghan said in the past when the switch to Wild Apricot site it established an annual pattern to avoid some people paying twice within the year.
- Michelle said membership change coordination could be better analyzed by exporting everyone’s account date details out of Wild Apricot and to look at adjusting the renewal costs after analyzing the data. She added she is not sure about the pro-rating aspect if this is being considered.
- Michelle gave examples of timelines of payment and membership conferences where a proposed incentive to get members to pay renewal costs early (months before conference) and remaining time leading up to the conference are at no cost to the member.
- Jason D asked Michelle if other organizations had a membership renewal method. She responded that most others use only one date for renewal for all their members and MAGIP is somewhat unique with renewals based on each member’s join date.
- Nate added there has been a significant membership increase since July: 2 Associate B memberships and around 35 individual memberships – equating to about $1,700.
- Rob Ahl said he renewed in July and that he is willing to accept being pro-rated or pay the extra costs, either way, even if he didn’t get the full year for his original $30 membership fee.
- Meghan said she’d like to see who recently applied for membership to see how many people would need to be given a pro-rated free membership time if they wanted to go forward with the new payment scheme.
- Meghan asked about the budget cycle. Jeff H. said it is from July 1 to June 30. Mike P. said that renewals for the cost increase could happen after the conference instead of the beginning of the fiscal year.
- Michelle said the conference could be a platform to announce the fee increase. Rob Ahl emphasized not to make too long of a delay on implementing the new fee schedule.
- Mike P. said that the membership fee increase was not budgeted for 2023.
- Michelle proposed that the fee increase could be postponed until next year.
- Mike P. will set up a survey and propose some dates for renewal and will get some data to back said decisions.
- Rob Ahl said there should be a ‘concrete mechanism’ put in place for membership fee changes in the future.
● Mike E. suggested coming up with an excel or chart to help delineate pro-rating if that is what the board wants to do.
● Michelle will gather more info from other organizations to see if there is a process they abide by.
● Mike P. tabled the topic until more data and details are brought forward at the next meeting.

Request for Assistance Policy

● Jeff H. said right now the process of compensating meetups is well established for fees $300 or under, but other requests and rules guiding such topics need updating.
● Jeff H. said the minor rules and guidelines need to be shored up/edited, which he still needs to do and will have more to discuss in this regard come future meetings.

Work Plan

● Mike P. asked about the work plan deletions and date adjustment to make sure none of the board members had any further questions.
● Aaron asked whether these were the same highlighted line items determined to be removed during conversations at the planning session in Red Lodge – Mike P. confirmed they were.
● No other inquiry was made, and Mike P. said the final draft will be voted on in January.

Reports

Treasurer – Nate Wold

● Nate sent November's invoice to Full Scope Management.
● Hosting payment for Wild Apricot (MAGIP Website) was paid last month.
● Board insurance was paid.
● Mike P. asked about the budget. Nate said he was waiting on one check from a GIS Meetup to go through and that $600 is about left for future meetups.
● GIS Day map contest winners were paid as well.

Scholarships – Rob Ahl

● Rob attended a meet-up in Missoula and found it to be pleasant with all people reconnecting.
● Scholarships and grants: he is going to get new announcements ready by January.
● He will use the same budget as last year and there will be website details available for online submissions.
● He has his focus on education grants with a specific project in mind whose leadership may be willing to apply soon with an application.
● Rob reminded the board if they have any ideas or know of any entity willing to apply, don’t be afraid to reach out.

Member Development - Mike Eidum

● Mike E. said they put together the GIS Day web map competition, along with Meghan and Jeff H., and it was successful with 11 or 12 applications of web maps.
● Three winners were awarded with cash prizes.
● Mike E. attended the Helena Meet-Up and found it a success.
• Mike P. asked about the communication specialist. Mike E. said Alicia has been busy posting social media and will join the Listserve.
• Today a post went out to advocate for listserv.
• Mike P. said he might want Alicia to talk at next January’s meeting via Zoom.
• Mike E. asked if she should attend a conference planning meeting to talk about MAGIP marketing and social media promotion. Mike P. said every month she can jump into a conference planning meeting. Mike P. said it could be useful for her to learn more about the conference.
• Michelle said Alicia is coming to Missoula in January and can possibly join the in-person quarterly board meeting.

Conference Committee – Erich Schreier
• Erich said they have a theme finalized: “Common Ground: Building Connections with GIS.”
• Erich reached out to Dr. Shane Doyle who agreed to present as keynote speaker.
• He said Doyle is behind a lot of great projects as a teacher of native studies at Montana State.

Technical Committee – Jason Danielson
• Jason D. said they held their second workshop meeting last month on the 30th.
• He reached out to Esri’s David Howse, who confirmed his attendance as a workshop instructor. Jason D. said there was miscommunication in the past regarding expectations, but they are now on the same page.
• Jason D. said there will be an intro to Python class and an advanced class, two full days.
• He said Kenny Ketner reached out to John Hogland (a past instructor with Python and machine learning), while Jason D. reached out to University of Montana in regards to LiDAR – similar to last year.
• Rob Ahl asked about the lightning talks and whether they involved in a workshop or general conference talk. Jason D. said it could be a general conference and could also be part of a break-out meet-up arrangement. They’ve been well attended with 5–10-minute talks.
• Rob Ahl said he loved the idea of speakers refining their ideas with the short form.

Web – Meghan
• Meghan is working on creating a new members map for the MAGIP website.
• She will update the grants and scholarships page.
• She will start putting in info for the conference page as well as the LiDAR SIG page.
• Meghan asked Jason D. if he wants to talk about any changes to the web page with a tech committee meeting. Jason D. said they can go over topics on the website – specifically talking about review topics where the board could vote on later. Jason D. will let Meghan know when that meeting will be.
• Meghan asked Mike E. if she should receive graphic requests for Alicia where she can send new media for her to put posts with graphics together for the web, especially for the Big Sky Geocon theme page.
Administration – Michelle

- Nothing more to add outside of what was already discussed.

MLIAC – Eric Spangenberg

- Last meeting was Nov. 17
- Eric S. said there was a review of the MLIA, and the description therein. He said the Governor’s effort to reduce waste with the Red Tape Relief affected created numerous language/text changes to clarify certain phrases. But nothing too outstanding.
- The council meeting date is being requested at the Big Sky Geocon and they will discuss a MAGIP planning time slot.
- Also, he said the council is looking at creating a new staggered election appointee timeline so no term ends or starts at the same time.

Motion to adjourn Aaron V., 2nd by Erich S.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

MAGIP BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023 10:00 AM (in-person, Helena – DNRC Bldg)
LOCAL GOV. SIG – Thursday, Dec 15, 2022 2:00-3:15 PM (Virtual)
BIG SKY GEOCON PLANNING MEETING – Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022 3:00 P.M. (Virtual)
BIG SKY GEOCON – Monday, April 3-6, 2023 in Bozeman, MT @ Grantree Inn