

MINUTES
Maine Library of Geographic Information Board Meeting
 Wednesday, 19 February 2014, 10:11 AM to 12:15 PM
 51 Commerce Drive, Room 414, Augusta

Attending	Present	On the Phone
<i>Mtg. commenced at 10:11 am</i>		
Bill Hanson		X
Vinton Valentine	X	
Dan Walters		
Ken Murchison		X
Michael Smith	X	
Christopher Kroot	X	
Brian Norris	X	
Jon Giles	X	
Alina Taus		
Betsy Fitzgerald		X
Aaron Weston	X	
Joseph Young	X	
Guests:		
Patrick Cunningham	X	
Taking notes		

1. Introductions: Vinton Valentine took roll call and welcomed Aaron Weston as a new member and Patrick Cunningham Blue Marble Geographics is visiting as a guest.
2. Approval of January meeting minutes – Jon Giles offered the following amendment under the Strategic Plan and Implementation Groups “We discussed and there was general agreement to attempt to have MEGIS staff add the UT parcels to the GeoParcel Viewer as a simple background layer of the UT parcels mostly for a visual reference purpose. There was concern about taking this too far and attempting to integrate the two datasets together in the GeoParcel Viewer as they differ enough in data schemas to

make this a more complicated and expensive prospect. The group agreed to support the addition of the UT parcels as a graphical presentation only because of this discussion.”

Motion to approve minutes as amended by Ken Murchison, Seconded by Betsy Fitzgerald.

 **Voted 9-0**

3. Executive Director Report - Joe Young

- Membership Update -
 - i. Public Seat – Senate President appointed Aaron Weston CAI Technologies
 - ii. Municipal Seat –Woodstock Town Manager, Vern Maxfield, Jon Giles
 - iii. Municipal Seat – Patrick Cunningham of Blue Marble Geographics appointment needs to be moved to the Senate Presidents office
 - iv. Environmental Interests Seat - Jake Metzler Forest Society of Maine we are still waiting for approval
 - v. State GIS Functions Seat – Bruce Hunter is still deliberating on whether to commit time to this or not. Nate Kane from MeDOT has also expressed some interest.
 - vi. USGS Board Participation – A draft letter to USGS in support of allowing USGS staff to participate on State GIS coordinating board was discussed. Joe is to redraft and note specific significant funding successes we have had because of Dan’s involvement. Change last sentence to make it a positive affirmation of how the Board supports federal efforts and need Dan’s expertise to assist in coordinating federal programs. Comments are to be sent to Joe and he will send out a second draft with a goal of having a final draft for approval at March meeting.
- Annual Report to Legislature – Electronic copies have been sent to the board. Fifty paper copies are being printed for distribution to the Committees.
- Board Finance Report – The \$18,000 was reduced to \$9,265 because votes to expend \$10,000 each on imagery and LiDAR acquisition projects were approved in 2012. Subsequently it was discovered that the amount of bond funding available was less than we had been told and so the amount committed to imagery was supposed to have been reduced. Because of miscommunication with accounting staff this change this did not happen resulting in the new total. The Woolpert contract work orders totaling \$302,125.10 have been issued for 2014 and a projected project management fee for MeGIS is \$35,177. These expenses will leave a balance in the Floodplain management fund of \$62,437.99

4. 2015 Legislative Agenda

- Michael reviewed the policy created by the Board and rescinded after meeting with the CIO. Senior management had misunderstood the policy to mean that the Board was asserting management control over the Executive director position which would not be acceptable. In regards to lobbying type activities, they need to be cleared by the CIO’s office prior to being implemented. Legislative purpose and goals need to be updated. The overall mission is fine but specific issues need to be addressed. We need a federal seat. We should look at finding dedicated funding for Board activities such as geospatial data acquisition. Vinton is redrafting a letter to ask the CIO to allow The Executive Director to participate in legislative activities.

5. LUPC Parcel Viewer

- The Board reviewed the parcel viewer to see if UT parcel lines were showing and they were not. Consequently, Megis will make some changes.
 - i. MeGIS to insert line data from LUPC into the viewer we will not be able to query

- ii. Add symbology to show UT parcels and parcel ID
- iii. The two viewers have different attributes and it would take a significant amount of change to integrate the two. Ken offered that it would be helpful for regional planning councils to have just one viewer and Betsy agreed.

6. Board Retreat Discussion

- Vinton suggests that everyone send suggestions for goals to address the goals below were suggested by Dan Walters.
 - i. developing a strategy to update the strategic plan
 - ii. identifying a list of possible funding sources for the GeoLibrary and a mechanism to get the list in front of the right people
 - iii. role of the board
- Dates
 - i. Ken Murchison suggested coordinating with the MMA Tech conference on May second in Portland area.
- Locations
 - i. Vinton will try to find space for us at USM with internet connectivity.
- Time allocation
 - i. Projecting 6 hours starting about 9 AM through about 4 PM around lunch
- Need to look into rules for spending funds for food or meeting space
 - i. Joe and Vinton to check with Secretary of States Boards and corporations guidelines

7. Strategic Plan Implementation Groups

- Coordination & Communication – Mike Smith and Joe Young
 - State Stakeholders meeting review. Participants included Robert Marvinney, Ed Meadows from DACF, George McDonald from DEP, Joann Mooney from MEMA and Don Katnik from IF&W. Nate Kane followed up from MeDOT apologizing for missing the meeting but indicated that the engineering side was much more interested in LiDAR than they have been in the past since we are now obtaining 1' contour equivalent data. Don Katnik also followed up with a question on how much money was needed to ensure imagery acquisition in the UT's.
- GeoParcels – Michael Smith
 - MeGIS is waiting on data from Charlie Colgan's project. Other than that, the other projects are complete and integrated into the parcel layer.
- Education & Training – Vinton Valentine
 - The ITEST Grant Application was submitted last Wednesday. This is for teachers of grades 7 through 12 to use GIS and take advantage of a statewide ARCGIS license, donated by ESRI, for three years. There will be a review of the project to see how well the software works.
 - MeGUG has scholarship program for undergraduate students interested in geography or GIS \$1,000 and educators or scout leaders who want to do a GIS or Geographic related project there are two \$500 grants available.
 - Vinton reported that he may have a candidate for chairmanship of the committee.
 - UMM is offering an online GIS class with Bob Birtrias as an adjunct faculty and it seems to be going well.
 - Mark your calendars for the MMA/MeGUG Tech Conference on May 1st in Portland at the Holiday Inn by the Bay.
- Geospatial Data – Summary of Ortho and LiDAR – Joe Young
 - Joe reviewed the power point presentation given at the state stakeholders meeting. This included a review of the difference between MeGIS and Board responsibilities. The review showed up the importance of the Board in initiating projects that leveraged substantial funding

from sources outside of state government in both imagery and LiDAR acquisitions. LiDAR funding from federal agencies leverage has been very large. However, we cannot expect to see this continue. We have seen a steady decline in the limited funding from federal agencies for imagery and we are now running behind in funding to finish the statewide effort. We will have a program in 2015 – 2016 with counties that are willing to participate. The extent of these acquisitions will depend upon how much state funding is available.

- Jon Giles mentioned that some communities in Cumberland and York are considering another ortho-flight in 2015. We need to set up a meeting in Cumberland and York to discuss the program and options available to the communities.
- The Board needs to identify a source of funding that is recurring and available for data acquisition.
- Some potential sources of funding were discussed such as;
 - A Lottery ticket similar to the Maine Heritage fund like a Geo Ca\$\$\$h ticket.
 - Discuss with county registry's to get their buy in for geospatial data to use real estate property tax. There is a need to overcome John Simpson's MaImage of Maine LLC. private enterprise approach. Jon Giles offered to meet with the Registry's at one of the monthly meetings sometime in the next six months once we have a handle on what is useful for them or other county departments.

8. Committee Reports

- Policy & Marketing Committee – Vinton Valentine
 - Legislative Policy
- Technical Committee – Christopher Kroot
 - No report

9. Guest Comments - none

10. Recommendations for Next Meeting Agenda

- Legislative letter
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Adjourned at 12:10

 **Voted 9-0**

Next Scheduled Meeting: March 19th