

Tuesday February 8, 2011 at 3:00 PM Eastern time
Call information: 1-800-944-8766 Code 28685

Attendees: Shoreh, Mark, Wendy, Heather, Allen, Tom
Regrets: Cindy, Dianne, Ray

Minutes

1) Approval of Minutes

Moved to approve: Heather
Second: Mark

2) Monthly Financial Report

End of December 2010 Financial Report:

- Total expenses in December '10: \$334.29 YTD: \$11,697.84 since 2003: \$54,869.45.
- Total contributions in December '10: \$100, YTD: \$2,432.36; since 2003: \$70,617.12.
- Total balance as of end of December '10: \$15,747.67. (minus ESRI's \$25k)

3) Committee Updates

- **Website** – As a result of financial discussion (see below), the committee decided to table more expenditure (for website enhancements) until November 2011 which is when we hope to know more about the outcome of our fund raising activities.
- **Finance** – Shoreh had sent a 3-year budget along with the detailed donation list to the CC prior to the call. It indicated that GC will face a deficit by 2013 if the status quo continues. Therefore, it was the consensus of the committee that we should take an aggressive step towards raising funds and focus on annual contributions as well as foundation grants. Mark agreed to take the lead once again and revisit the work done by Ray and the other volunteers and provide more details shortly after he receives the information. In general, the work of the committee will include: reviewing the documents obtained from the organization that Ray was a member of for 6 months, revisiting the letter of inquiry, and contact several volunteers who have recently indicated an interest in assisting. Also, Tom and Mark will work on a letter that Tom had drafted to inquire funding from Partner Agencies at the end of a mission. Charging a membership fee was also discussed as an option as was placing a link for donation on the newsletter. It was also suggested to prepare an annual report that includes current and forecasted budget and have it posted on the website as well as sent to potential donors. The annual report will also include a summary of missions accomplished since 2004 and the number of hours donated by volunteers and CC members (attaching a value to the work). Shoreh will work on the draft of that document. As soon as the document and the content of the webpage is finalized, a "link to donate" will be placed in the newsletter which will provide our list serve with the new information (annual report, various charts, how donations are used, etc.). As a result of the discussion and at the end, the committee decided to table more expenditure (for website enhancements) until November which is when we hope to have the new material prepared and posted on the website and also in the newsletter.
- **Disaster response (DR)** – Heather sent an email to the Oklahoma team and the OK Red Cross and they are collectively interested in 1-2 missions. One to conduct data mining for

data poor areas of the state and the other for conducting training. Heather will work with them on developing a JD so that they can send an official request for volunteers.

- **Publication** – February newsletter is reviewed by everyone and is ready to be sent out.

Deployment news (projects in progress and new projects)

- **Identity Inc - Montgomery County, MD:** we received a request for a GIS analyst/demographer from Identity Inc., a non profit organization in Montgomery County, MD. The JD is established and Mark is in the process of recruiting for that project.
- **2010/2011 GSDI proposals:** Mark announced that 14 projects have been awarded with the monetary grant. A letter will be sent out to them and will also indicate that GC's assistance could be provided to them if desired. Mark said that other than GRDC who we are already providing technical assistance, 2-3 more agencies may be eligible for our services. He will contact them and will let them know how they should go about applying for volunteers.
- **Nigeria: GRDC's second recruitment:** the notice for this mission will be blasted to qualified volunteers. Mark will work with the first volunteer, Alison Fischer on selecting the second volunteer.
- **UNO-PLUS mission - second phase:** an email blast was sent to a group of volunteers but no one qualified. A second blast to a larger group of volunteers will be sent out today.
- **MapAction MOU & Mission:** an email blast went to a group of qualified volunteers and a deadline of 2/13 is setup for this mission.
- **Haiti mission with Fonkoze:** the latest update in February newsletter.
- **Mission in Malawi:** the latest update in February newsletter.
- **New mission in Mozambique (with Niassa National Reserve):** the latest update in February newsletter.
- **Brisbane mission with the Red Cross:** the latest update in February newsletter.
- **Chiapas project with Maternova:** the latest update in February newsletter.
- **Mozambique Tourism Ministry:** the latest update in February newsletter.
- **N. Korea: Project with iMMAP/WFP:** the latest update in February newsletter.
- **Nigeria: Geographical Resources for Development Centre (GRDC) Metadata project:** the project is completed and the story was used as the feature story for February newsletter.
- **Mission in Panama in January-February (Azuro):** no news yet.

Other business

- **Esri 's offer to non profit organizations:** Shoreh informed the CC of a phone conversation with an Esri representative. The discussion revolved around two topics: 1) Esri's initiative to provide low cost software to non profit organizations and 2) possibly providing their software to GC itself; to be used either for GC applications or for some of its missions. CC members didn't see any problems in including links to Esri's initiatives and/or stories relevant to GC in the newsletter and Wendy suggested adding a section in the newsletter as "Industry News" to accommodate all such requests. The discussion regarding providing software to GC was received positively as well. This option however will involve additional work since someone must take the role of an administrator for the server and the software which will be both in the cloud. CC will continue discussing this matter at the next call.
- **ILGISA conference:** Illinois GIS User Group has invited us to present at their conference. They said that they won't be able to waive the registration fee or pay for the travel. Wendy said that she can ask them to have our brochures at their registration desk and she'll take care of sending it to them.

- **GEOIDE presentation:** A Canadian group called GEOMatics for Informed DEcisions (GEOIDE) has asked that we give an online presentation to their users on February 25th. Shoreh and Allen will co-present via a "Gotomeeting" session.

Next meeting: March 8, 2011