Minutes of GISCorps Monthly Conference Call –Tuesday May 8th 3:30 PM EST

Present: Shoreh Elhami, Dianne Haley, Mark Salling, Wendy Nelson, Juna Papajorgji, Paresh Patel, Allen Ibaugh, Marcelle Caturia.

Note: *The main focus of this meeting was on issues related to GISCorps website migration and also to required enhancements. Paresh Patel is the Website Subcommittee (WS) lead person with Marcelle Caturia as one of the members and also two staff members from Allen Ibaugh's company DTS (Derek and Rusty). Paresh started the discussion by going over the list of issues related to migration and then switched to the list of necessary enhancements.*

Financial Report: The budget came in after the monthly call and it was not discussed at the meeting. It is included here for information. The monthly financial report reflected the following:

- Total expenses in April '07: $44.52, and since 2003: $16,261.84.
- Total contributions in April '07: $0 and since 2003: $55,714.76
- Total balance as of end of April '07: $39,452.92.

Post migration issues in order of priority:

1. Committee member's names have been deleted, need to find why and add CC member's names to that list. This was deemed as the most important migration related problem.
2. The IMS is broken (http://www.giscorps.org/mapper/). Marcelle said that she'll look into the problem.
3. Emails for new volunteers and friends do not go to all the recipients (we may need a data collector). Juna verified that she is getting the emails and Shoreh has always received them. It was decided that the WS would first look into why those who are supposed to receive these emails are not getting them and then look into the need for a data collector for volunteers and FOG emails (the latter was moved to the enhancement list). This may not be an important issue any longer.
4. Some spam email is getting thru In FOG's form even though the form includes required fields. (After the call Shoreh looked at the list once again and didn't see any more spam which means this issue seems to have been taken care of).
5. Test and verify if the statistics application has also been transitioned and properly implemented. Juna clarified that the Web Stat needed to be checked, so this item was moved to the enhancement list.

List of enhancements in order of priority:

1. Add a Multi Variable Query (MVQ) to the database. This issue is most important to GC operation and Allen said that his staff have experience in this area and should be able to assist. Paresh asked about the level of their contribution and Allen said that they should be able to work part time for +/- 2 weeks. Allen verified this after the call.

2. Modify the volunteer database by adding new fields (a list of new fields are in another document called additional_fields). These new fields will all be linked to documents that they are referring to. This task is directly related to item one. Shoreh asked if there was a way to query the resumes until the MVQ is complete and volunteers have updated their applications. Paresh suggested that the directory that all PDF's are stored in could be search by key words.
3. Create a new database for New Projects (from Project Form) and add new fields to that database (a list of new fields are in another document called additional_fields) – make sure to check what Little GreenCube has done with this database first. These new fields will all be linked to documents that they are referring to.
4. Create a new interface for posting method and for volunteers to declare their availability and to post their resumes, and etc. Shoreh mentioned that more detailed information about posting method is included in the SOPM_apr07 document on the FTP site.
5. Need a xxxx@giscorps.org email address to replace info@urisa.org with. Any emails sent to this address will go to all CC members. This issue was taken care of one day after the call.
6. De-bug existing group email application to volunteers and FOGs. If this issue is taken are of, we don't have to worry about sending email addresses to the HQ and can take care of sending all notices and newsletters.
7. Add Donors/Grants table (*structure to be provided*)
8. Develop an online donation interface (should allow for using credit cards). Paresh mentioned that Paypal provides an interface for online payments now.
9. Provide an FTP site for CC and one for projects, we already have one for the CC, examine it and determine if a new one is needed. Paresh asked if we could use URISA's FTP site for projects. Shoreh will verify that with Brett.
10. Add Partner Agencies table (*structure to be provided*). This table will be linked to the New Project and Volunteer databases. Shoreh explained that this table will be linked to the volunteer and new project table.
11. Install a web based collaborative environment – the one from URISA need to be examined, can we use that? Shoreh will investigate.
12. Install a forum and links to Blog space (do *we want a forum again – spam problems?)* Paresh asked if we were familiar with a product called Nukes and said that could be a good option for us.
13. Show Statistics by date of application. This item will be taken care of by MVQ.
14. Allow for multiple record deletion of volunteers or FOGs.
15. Create a new simple interface for upload of minutes. It may require a slight re-design of the minutes public page.
16. Data Collector for volunteers and FOG emails (new addition). May or may not be necessary.
17. Add a Web Stat (new addition).

After going over the lists, Paresh asked about resources that would be available to the subcommittee. Allen will make two of his staff available and Marcelle will work with Paresh on drafting a well defined document to clarify all the necessary steps that the programmers need to follow and will act as a liaison between the WS (Paresh and programmers) and the CC. He asked if Marcelle needed help and she said that another person would be helpful. Shoreh will look for an additional volunteer. Paresh also asked if they could have a test/development environment similar to the current website. Shoreh will investigate and get back with them.

The call ended at 4:30 PM EST.

The next conference call will be held on June 12th, 2007 at 3:00 PM EST.