

## **GISCorps Conference Call – September 24, 2005, 4:00 PM**

Present: Ed Wells, Martha Lombard, Shoreh Elhami, Chris Dionne

1. **Volunteers' credits for GISP purposes:** Scott has sent the Oversight Committee of GISCI an email about our request and they will inform us of their decision regarding credits for various positions and missions shortly. At this point, they don't need Martha's letter.
2. **GC legal matters (update on the status of registering the trademark – Chris):** no changes yet.
3. **Financial activities Discussion on types of donations:** Shoreh asked Chris to provide her with a list of new donors so we can update the web site. Chris will email it to her prior to the annual conference. Shoreh asked about the two types of donations; one for GISCorps and the other for Katrina Relief and Chris said that some donors made a note on the check that their donation would be for Katrina Relief (because the web site described it as such) and therefore, according to the Auditor, that money cannot be spent on anything other than Katrina related expenses. Shoreh said that would mean this fund will be locked because Katrina efforts are pretty much over. It was the consensus of the group that we should write a letter to those who made their donations to KR and ask them to change that to GISCorps so we can spend that money for generic purposes.
4. **CC Organizational: SP, OP, and Standard Operation Procedure Manual, activity report to the Board:** SP, OP, and SOPM will be postponed until after the annual conference. Shoreh will draft the activity report and send it to CC before submitting it to the Board.
5. **Deployment news (Katrina, Rita, South America, Louisiana):** Thankfully, Rita didn't damage as much as Katrina so a surge of requests for volunteers would be unlikely. However Shoreh reported that Mississippi EOC has asked for two more volunteers this week and two more volunteers next week mostly for the southern counties. Juna deployed one volunteer for a remote project in a parish in Louisiana and also five more volunteers for another remote project on three South American countries datasets creation for a non-profit medical organization.
6. **Annual Conference Activities:**
  - **Opening Ceremony:**
    - Bilal's presentation and expenses
    - Appreciation certificate. Chris has created the awards. Shore said that as far, 12 volunteers have confirmed their attendance.
    - Video taping individuals and the ceremony. Alan Ibagh's firm will video tape the ceremony and some of the volunteers.

Shoreh said that the opening ceremony will go as planned only will be lengthened by 15 minutes (total 45 minutes) because of Katrina. She will modify the script to reflect that. Shoreh also mentioned that Talbot Brooks would like to present all volunteers with a free course at his university during the ceremony.
  - **Silent Auction:** Shoreh has received items from Jay, Paul, Ray, Heather, Frank, and Juna. She will incorporate their descriptions and photos into a

template that Frank designed (the ones that haven't done that already). She will then bring a copy of each item with her to the conference.

- **Monday and Tuesday luncheon sessions:** J.D. and Talbot will speak at Monday's luncheon session and Tuesday's session will be moderated by Twyla and volunteers will present their maps at that session and then will open the floor for discussion.
- **Wednesday Session:** All non-Katrina missions will be presented.
- **The brochure:** Frank has created a part of the brochure and he'll finalize it this week and Chris/Wendy will find out about the costs of duplication.

#### 7. Other

- **GC's web site, yahoo email group, adding HQ staff's name to vol/FOG recipient list:** Shoreh reported that Frank and Juna will work on migrating the site to a temporary ISP until URISA is ready to take us. Juna has done a considerable amount of research on finding an ISP that could provide us with all that we need and do it with reasonable cost. She migrated the site internally to another server as well. Shoreh mentioned that the Yahoo group needs to be setup as membership only mail group. Chris said that she would take care of it. Shoreh mentioned that she and Juna receive an email when a new volunteer or FOG is added to the database and now that HQ has the list of vols and FOGs one person from HQ should also be getting these notices so they can keep the email list updated. Chris said to add her name to the list.
- **Seeking new CC members from URISA and GC list serves:** Shoreh will send the email out this week.
- **Hiring a paid temp:** not an issue at this time but in the future and as need arises, everyone agreed that we should seek this type of assistance.
- **Javier's demo:** he hasn't contacted HQ staff in spite of their emails and call and therefore his presentation is removed from the agenda.

Next meeting at the Annual conference in Kansas City