

**Agenda / Minutes  
Nevada Geographic Information Society (NGIS)  
2007 Board Meeting  
Telephone Conference Call – August 9, 2007**

**I. Roll Call of Board Members**

**Meeting called to order by NGIS President Tommie Weckesser. It was determined that a quorum of Board Members were present:**

<b>Art Ehrenberg</b>	<b>Southern Nevada Water Authority</b>
<b>Jan Gould</b>	<b>City of Reno, Nevada</b>
<b>Pat Guiberson</b>	<b>University of Nevada, Reno</b>
<b>Eric Ingbar</b>	<b>Gnomon Inc.</b>
<b>Gary Johnson</b>	<b>Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology</b>
<b>Matt Krok</b>	<b>City of Henderson, Nevada</b>
<b>Tommie Weckesser</b>	<b>City of Henderson, Nevada</b>
<b>Richard Wells</b>	<b>City of Las Vegas, Nevada</b>
<b>Sonya Wilson</b>	<b>Clark County Department of Aviation</b>

**II. Update on Website / Other Online Services**

**Constant Contact is a new email service for mass emails. It costs \$30 a month and can be used for 2,500 emails per month. The NGIS database has been put in. We are in charge of updating email addresses in the service. The service keeps track of failed emails and other stats that can be used to clean up the data. It also provides stats on the message as far as who opened it, actions taken etc...**

**For the 2007 Conference, \$5 was built into the budget per person for the conference to cover the costs associated with Pay Pal. In 2005, 40% of those who registered for the conference used Pay Pal. For 2007, the number increased to 60%.**

**Gary and Pat are exploring a new service – RegOnline – to assist with registration for future conferences. It costs NGIS about \$1.50 per person to register. They are testing the service and hope to get something together soon for the 2008 event. The service interacts with Pay Pal. It is able to do purchase order and can generate invoices.**

**Gary will work with the registration contact to exchange information as people register for future events. There is a annual \$150 fee to set up the database. Jennifer Mauldin manages the NGIS database. Gary will post a new database out there.**

Logo / Theme contest was discussed. Methods to get a vote from the membership are being explored. Possibly put something up on the website. Tommie will get with Adam.

### **III. Financial Report for the 2007 Conference and Overall NGIS**

Currently there is \$7,600 in the savings account. No money this year went into savings due to a minimum loss for the 2007 event. Checking account is at \$5966. The organization currently has \$10,000 in an 8 month CD that is slated to expire on March 1, 2008. The interest it will accrue is just shy of 5%.

The Jan/Feb period is when the money starts coming in for conference as well as the bills. This process usually balances out over the duration of the conference planning lifecycle. Facilities for the 2008 at the Orleans have been paid for.

An annual report from the accountant was requested for the Board. The tax year is the same as the calendar year but the organization does not have to file until October. Gary can fax tax returns to anyone that wants to review them. Next board meeting Gary will fax the previous year to Tommie.

### **IV. 501(C)3 Non-Profit Status Discussion**

Art mentioned he contacted a lawyer to inquire what it would entail to move from a 501(c)(6) to the organization's goal to a 501(c)(3) status. The cost for filing fees etc would be around \$2000. NGIS would have to dissolve the organization and reform it under a new name but still operate under the current bylaws. Because we are already a C6 we would have to go that route. Could take 6 – 8 months total. This status would allow grant money to do the things that the organization is currently charged with in the current bylaws as well as cover the scholarship fund and raise money.

Gary offered as an alternative to seek out an organization that could manage the endowment fund while we work with Matt's sister to achieve the 501(c)(3) status. The Board agreed to work on developing more communication with Matt.

Tommie asked to put a time limit on achieving the new status before exploring other options. She suggested we talk to Matt as well as explore the fund managers for non profits. Art expressed a concerned about how the funds can be raised. We should investigate between now and next board meeting. Jan volunteered to explore the matter further for report at the next board meeting.

## **V. NGIS Membership Dues Discussion**

The idea came up of getting away from trying to the conference income to cover operating costs of the NGIS organization. Possible ideas that came up were to charge more at the conference for those that are not members. Provide a substantial discount to the conference for those that register as members. A \$25 fee was thrown out for discussion. One question is what are we providing for the fee we plan to charge? Offer discounts to pre conference workshops? Issue of corporate sponsors was discussed. The administrative cost of implementing a membership fee was discussed as well as potential changes in the way the organization votes for officers.

Alternative to raising funds for NGIS that were discussed were corporate membership and / or sponsorships.

The Board decided to take a look at what our total costs are from the standpoint of the organization. Yearly expenses outside of the conference will be evaluated before the next meeting to investigate membership fees and other options. Gary will come up with numbers outside the conference and give a break down of expenses. Art will investigate the impacts of moving from c6 to c3 might have.

## **VI. Newsletter Editor Discussion**

Tommie seeks to appoint an editor to revive the NGIS Newsletter. Call for volunteers and editor. Has to be an ex officer. Can not be serving on the board. Tommie encouraged the Board to look for a person that might be willing to serve in that capacity.

The newsletter will be online and posted on the organizations website. The idea of journalism student to serve as an assistant to the editor was discussed to encourage student participation in NGIS. Possibly use scholarship money to give a scholarship to a journalism student to help the editor to work on a quarterly newsletter.

Do we want to start offering other types of scholarships to encourage student participation? Ideas included paying for conference registration and travel money. Pat will work on further fleshing the idea out and asked that the item be put on the next board meeting's agenda for further discussion.

## **VII. Conference Update**

The Orleans Hotel and Casino will be the site again. The dates are May 19 – 21, 2008. Things are underway and going well. Ideas are being kicked around for a potential bowling party possibly on Tuesday night – more to follow...

## **IX. Historical NGIS Information**

**Art, as chair of the NGIS Historical Subcommittee, has put together some past information about NGIS dating back the 1<sup>st</sup> event held up north. He would like to get as much information as possible on past officers and conference committee members. An increased interest in certification has resulted in the need to be able to prove participation in NGIS related activities. Any information on past events such as welcome and keynote speakers should be passed on to Art.**

**X. Old Business**

**Pat wanted to follow up on the Board's discussion of the idea of partnering with the land surveyors community on our events. For now the Board has decided to keep the events separate but encourage participation in both.**

**XI. Meeting Adjourned.**

**Next meeting tentatively scheduled for November 8, 2007 at 9:00AM.**