



## **PAMAGIC: Meeting Minutes 9-16-10**

Board Attendees: Tom Mueller, Glenn Mohler, Glenn McNichol, Dave Gilbert, Eric Jespersen, Brady Stroh, Laura Simonetti, Kathryn Reed

Not attending: Mike Bialousz

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### **1. Website update**

- a. <http://pamagic.org/>

Note from Chris Markel – images load too slow - need reformatted

### **2. GeoSpatial Town Meeting**

- a. Date 10/28
- b. DCNR booked for date
- c. Charge a fee?
- d. Meeting objectives.
- e. PAGIS conference

DCNR Middletown (TopoGeo) is reserved for 10/28.

Should we charge for this Event? A couple of factors – food, charge for using facility, what monies are available in budget. After evaluating factors, decision will be made.

Main focus = Council

Other topics – Annual Report items. Poll attendees on state of GIS in PA.

### **3. Annual GIS Report**

- a. Scope of report
- b. Release date

Topics:

- Information from CCAP event in Sept – what are Counties doing with data and how are they distributing it.
- Status of GIS in each County.
- Regional initiatives in GIS (i.e. homeland security groups) – tap regional orgs regarding data sharing/standards
- PAMAP status
- Develop methodology for Return-On-Investment? Reach out to Counties who may have some methods in place to calculate ROI (check with Chester County)

PAMAPPS (Chris Markel can supply maps and data on status of data per county).

#### 4. PAGIS Conference

The format may change to a less cost approach but it needs to move from it being just a Penn State supported function that it could become more of a Pennsylvania supported function.

Brady will still be able to participate in the transition and conference itself. But it can not be a chargeable Penn State Function for the planning side moving forward.

Possible future breakdown of tasks could include:

1. CCAP:
  - Registration
  - Abstract collection
  - Lunch registration
2. PAMAGIC/PAMAPPS:
  - Theme – content – program enlistment, speakers, panels

In the past the committee has been strictly advisors. There are other people beyond the committee who have become more involved. The committee is currently looking for additional help based on the current situation.

Has the idea of having the conference bi-annual been discussed to save costs? Idea would be to scale it back every year rather than go every other year. NJ tried it in the past but it caused problems.

Has the idea of having a 1-day conference been discussed? They have added registration for folks who want to come for just one day. The conference is actually 3 days with the workshops included. Many people can get additional financial support (credits) for educational functions.

George Love will fill in where Jay was participating in PaMAPS.

Perhaps a conference call among stakeholders should take place to organize this? CCAP, PAMAGIC, PAMAPPS, state education system, DCNR, Matt Gilara and Yassar, others? The focus needs to stay: How to do a good conference. Sometimes committees take too long to get things done. There still needs to be a single POC. Brady has an agenda of what needs to happen for operational planning that he can share.

The initial conference call would be nice to have 'in person'. Perhaps in conjunction with the CCAP meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Option to call in as well.... The PAMAGIC town hall meeting might suit for the face to face meeting.

**Action item:** conference call to be set up by  
Education – Tom  
CCAP – Laura, Brady  
PAMAPPS – Dave  
NW PA – Kathryn

Meeting to discuss conference will be Sept.....30<sup>th</sup> at 11am.

What Venues have been discussed? Even at Johnstown where costs were low the conference still went into red. Radisson was 40K, Holiday was 30K, Johnstown was 18K ... as examples. Booth registration was down in 2010. There have been numbers provided from other venues – But HACC has offered with no venue costs (only food would be needed).

- The need is to have 2 large spaces: HACC has this. There may be others. The Penn Stater was expensive and the exhibit hall is miles away from the meeting locations. Vendors look for traffic. Since the current model does not take grants – it is supported through registration and vendors.

From Brady: Kristin Woellmer at CCAP is very interested in exploring possibilities for the GIS Conference. I will be meeting with her next Thursday. I think CCAP is well positioned to handle a lot of the administrative and organizational work associated with putting on a large conference. CCAP in general, and Kristin in particular have lots of experience with conference planning and management. PAMAGIC would be an excellent “program development” partner for that effort. Personally, I believe a joint PAMAGIC/CCAP lead for the conference could be a very positive thing – it transfers the conference from a “Penn State” thing to one that is really a conference “of, for, and by” the Pennsylvania geospatial community.

From Mike B.: you can count on support, or some sort of co-leadership, from DCNR. While I cannot exactly define this at the moment, I know the interest is there. I am meeting with our Secretary on Monday to discuss this topic and will have a clearer definition of what we could potentially do after that.

## **5. HB 2300**

PA-MAPPS has been informed that H.B. 2300, a bill to create a Statewide Geospatial Coordinating Council, has been passed out of the House Rules Committee and referred to the House Appropriations Committee. We ask that all PA-MAPPS members call their representatives and request that they ask Majority Leader Todd Eachus to promptly schedule H.B. 2300 for a vote in the Appropriations Committee and the House floor, so we can get it to the Senate. This bill has been co-sponsored by 53 House members.

Capital Day by PA-MAPPS is being set for the 27<sup>th</sup> and contingent on the bill getting out of appropriations.

\*remind people not to try to amend this or it will fail.

\*Glenn Mohler will send an email blast for HB 2300 and include possible capital day on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

## 6. <http://geospatialrevolution.psu.edu/>

### 7. NHD conference

Over 30 people attended the NHD conference in Middletown (September 8 - 9, 2010). The purpose of the meeting was to:

1. Discuss the potential for moving PA NHD from 1:24,000 scale to a higher resolution and
2. Discuss alternatives to the NHD stewardship maintenance program for Pennsylvania.

The results of the meeting showed an interest in having a multi-phase approach moving forward:

1. Develop a Determination of Need, Requirements and Standards for High Resolution P-HD> Provided funding is available, an RFP will be released that will cover a Needs Assessment, Requirements Documentation, and Standards/Procedures Document for high resolution NHD development for Pennsylvania.
2. a Pilot initiative: > provided funds are available, a Pilot initiative will be conducted to generate P-HD and document the achievement of meeting the requirements identified in phase 1 and modify the standards / procedure document where necessary.
3. A statewide conversion phase >provided funds are available, the remaining portion of the state to be converted to P-HD
4. A Stewardship program for maintenance of the P-HD and timely submittals of NHD compliant data to USGS> This stewardship program may include multiple and tiered partners and potentially take advantage of crowd sourcing.

Initial steps in this process are to include:

1. The development of an 'elevator pitch' to identify current situation, opportunities and purpose.
2. The development of a white paper to further expand on the potential for P-HD.
3. A meeting of the NHD committee will be held to discuss the specifics of the Needs Assessment, Requirements Documentation and Standards/Procedures for P-HD.

### 8. Next Mtg – 9/30 to discuss 2011 PAGIS conference