



Oregon & SW Washington URISA Board Meeting

October 25, 2011 Meeting Notes

Board Members In Attendance:

Bob Haas, Co-President
Bob Pool, Co-President:
Amy Esnard, President Elect
Keith Massie Treasurer
Dick Bolen, Past President & Board Secretary
Colleen Miller, Central Oregon GIS Users Group
Lesley Hegewald, Willamette Valley GIS Users Group
Chris Wayne, Klamath Basin Users Group
Dean Anderson, Oregon GIS Association
Kelly Neumeier, Women in GIS
Paul Couey, Metro
John Sharrard, ESRI
Molly Vogt, Metro
Eric Bohard, Clackamas County
Carol Hall, Former Treasurer

1. **Maps in the Cloud Workshop Event** - November 17th - DoubleTree at Lloyd Center - John, Amy and Paul provided an update regarding plans for the event. The main event will be held in Portland with simulcast broadcasts being fed to Everett Washington and Medford. Registrations are in process and attendance counts are looking good. The meeting is a joint event being conducted by both Oregon and Washington URISA chapters.
2. **GIS in Action Conference** - March 13 & 14 - Update on Event Planning (Keith) – Plans are underway for the Conference. The Conference will be a joint event being sponsored and coordinated with ASPRS and PLSO. The venue will be the Red Lion at Jantzen Beach. An initial ORUSIA call for presentations has been sent out but the response has been very

limited. Efforts will need to be made to recruit for presentations and will include another email blast.

3. **GIS Pro - 2012 Conference** - Portland Hilton - October 1 - 5, 2012 (Bob, Amy) – Next year's GIS Pro URISA International Conference will be held in Portland. This represents a major accomplishment since OR-URISA has been trying to land the conference locally for the past 15 years. The Conference will be held in conjunction with the NW GIS Users group and should offer a wide range of general topics as well as technical sessions. The majority of the planning for the conference will be conducted by URISA International.
4. **OR-URISA Financial Report** - Keith reported that OR-URISA presently has approximately \$10,600 in the bank. The 2011 GIS In Action Conference generated \$6,900 in revenues. Expenses incurred during the past year have included \$1,000 for scholarships, \$380 to user groups, \$267 for the Board retreat, and \$76 in tax related fees. Bob reported that longer range financial planning indicated that we were in pretty good shape but need to be conservative in our expenditures.
5. **Sections & Special Interest Groups Updates** - Review of Activities - Lesley provided a brief update on the Willamette Valley GIS Users Group and provided information on an upcoming meeting. Wayne provided a brief update on the Klamath Basin GIS Users Group and provided information on an upcoming meeting. Dean reported on a current project being conducted by the Oregon GIS Association. Aaron Heriford is working with counties to update a statewide School Districts shapefile with the product to be provided to the US Census. Kelly reported on a project being conducted by the Women In GIS to work with the Grocery Cart team to develop a healthy foods accessibility map that is hosted on the Food Bank website <http://www.grocerycartpdx.org/map>.
6. **2011 Scholarship Awards** – Keith reported that two scholarships have been awarded during the past year. Tera Hinkley and Daniel Uthman were the recipients of 2011 OR-URISA scholarships. Tera, a Portland State University GIS Certificate Program student, has been awarded a \$500 tuition scholarship. Daniel, who is pursuing a Master's Degree in Geography from Portland State University, has been awarded a \$500 Research award to help him out in performing research on the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge.
7. **Proposed Adoption of Amendments to the ORURISA Bylaws** - Bob explained that the proposed changes were relatively minor and were pretty much "housekeeping items". The changes involved the payment of dues for chapter officers, the size of the Board, information related to standing and special purpose committees, and notices of meetings. Adoption of the proposed amendments was moved by Eric and seconded by Paul. The By Law amendments were unanimously approved by a vote of the Board.
8. **URISA International Chapter Affiliation Agreement** – Bob reported that URISA is proposing to enter into agreements with all of their Chapters in order to formalize

relationships, promote memberships in URISA International, and charge chapters dues. A draft agreement was recently released and will be discussed at the Chapter Relations Committee meeting at GIS Pro 2011 in November. The OR-URISA Board was asked for comments about the Agreement in order that feedback could be provided at the Chapter Relations Committee meeting.

Some of the comments received were that it seemed like a heavy handed approach to working with Chapters. There were questions regarding what problem URISA was trying to solve since the existing arrangement is working out great. Comments were also expressed regarding the changing nature of associations as exemplified in WhereCamp type groups/events and that we did not want to lock ourselves into an outdated model. Other concerns brought up included financial consideration as a result of the mandatory dues, timing concerns regarding the short implementation timeframe, why review of local of amendments to chapter by laws was required, and that there was no termination clause in the agreement. Questions were also raised concerning the services being offered by URISA and what the real benefits of those services were since historically we have not needed to take advantage of them. An additional concern was the requested sharing of our membership database since we have adopted practices whereby we do not share our database and have communicated that to members.

These comments will be presented at the Chapter Relations Committee and it is expected that a revised Agreement will be forthcoming. Bob stated that once a revised agreement is released, that it will be provided to the Board and that the Board will be asked to formally approve participation in the Agreement prior to signing of the agreement.

9. **Other Items** - There were no additional items added to the agenda.

10. **Next Meeting** – Bob reported that the next Board meeting will likely be scheduled for January.

Bob also asked the Board whether they would be interest in another retreat similar to the 2011 retreat. Members of the Board expressed an interest in participating in another retreat. The target timeframe is February, 2012.