

## November 23, 2010 OR-URISA Board Meeting Summary

**In attendance:** Kelly Neumeier, Greg Newkirk, Amy Esnard, Cy Smith, Keith Massie, Bob Haas

- **Funding Requests for 2011:** The Finance Virtual Team is presently in the process of developing financial recommendations for the Board's consideration. One consideration still under development is to establish a Fund Reserve that will assure sustainable long term chapter operations. The reserve represents a set level of funds we feel it prudent to maintain in a secure financial instrument. A second item under development is a budget proposal for CY 2011. There are two parts to the budget. The first is the determination of funds we will have available to expend in CY 2011. The second item is an estimate of expenses/grants for 2011. To this end, we are in the process of developing a couple of easy to complete forms to be completed by Sections, SIGs, and Virtual teams. The information to be collected on the forms will provide us a clear understanding of requests for funding. Once the Finance Virtual Team has this information in hand, we will formulate a recommendation for the Boards consideration. Keith and Bob led discussion on this topic. Keith made a suggestion that a reserve be set at \$6,000. This would be in addition to the set aside for the GIS In Action Conference.

### Board Retreat:

- **Board Retreat** - At the excellent suggestion of Amy, it was proposed that the Board hold a retreat. The retreat has two parts, the first is the Social aspect. It is time to kick back a bit and enjoy one of the state's recreational areas and to sample some of the state's fine micro brews. The second part of the proposed retreat would be to discuss at length topics of interest to Board members. One such topic is the consideration of what is a OR-URISA member and how to assure that we are relevant to our members. The Board was asked for their general reaction to a Retreat. Members present supported the idea of holding a retreat. Amy, Bob and Cy will develop plans for the retreat and will use SurveyMonkey to solicit ideas from Board members.

### URISA International Chapter

- **Feedback on the URISA International Advocacy Agenda:** Cy explained that the draft URISA Advocacy Agenda will be released shortly. This is the agenda that URISA International will be pursuing on behalf of its members and Chapters over the course of 2011. Each year the agenda will be refreshed with the help of the Chapters and through interaction with the members. URISA needs Chapter and member feedback on the draft Advocacy Agenda during the months of November and December. Discussion regarded how to facilitate that feedback.
- **Marketing the URISA International Trial Membership Initiative:** Cy explained that URISA International has made a trial membership available to all Chapter members who have not been URISA members during the past two years, for a nominal fee of \$20 to cover administrative costs. A marketing piece is currently being developed and will be completed prior to the ORURISA Board meeting. URISA needs Chapters to help market the trial membership as much as possible, with the hope of getting all Chapter members to become URISA members, thus increasing the size of URISA, the influence of the shared advocacy agenda, the size of the geospatial community with which we can interact, and the value of URISA to all. [View information on the Trial Membership](#). The Board supported the idea of the trial membership and Bob volunteered to work with Cy to promote the trial memberships with Oregon Chapter members.

### Bylaws

- **Proposed Changes to Bylaws:** Bob mentioned that while our bylaws are strong, there are a couple of areas that could use review. One issue deals with the term of office for the President. The President's term is presently two years. When combined with the President Elect and Past Presidents positions, this represents a pretty long commitment. A proposed change is to reduce the president's term to one year. If a president wants to, he or she can run for two consecutive terms. A second proposed change deals with Committees identified in the Bylaws. Most of the committees identified are no longer operating. A proposal is to update the committee with the new Virtual Teams that were adopted at our Spring 2010 Goals Setting meeting and that are identified on the website. If the Board concurs with these proposed changes, language will be drafted for consideration at the January Board Meeting. Bob briefly brought up the topic but discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

### Other Topics

- Wild Apricot Usage – Keith brought up the topic of whether sections were utilizing Wild Apricot's membership/email capabilities. He explained that a lot of effort recently went into developing an up to date contacts/membership list and he wanted to make sure that efforts were being made to assure that it kept active. Bob reported that projects were presently underway to assure that it was being kept active. He mentioned the Michael Hansen was presently working with the Willamette Valley Users Group to import their contacts and to train them on how to utilize the sites capabilities. Bob also reported that he was beginning to work with the Central Coast GIS Users group who had recently expressed interest in using the site's capabilities.