

Wednesday February 13th, 2013 at 2:30 PM EST
Call information: 1-800-944-8766 Code 28685

Attendees: Shoreh, Allen, Mark, Dianne, Carol, Heather, Wendy, Keri
Regrets: Dave

Minutes

1) Approval of Minutes

Moved to approve: Allen
Second: Heather

2) Monthly Financial Report

End of December 2012 Financial Report

- Total expenses in December '12: \$419.49 YTD: \$8,347.33 since 2003: \$70,326.07.
- Total contributions in December '12: \$450.00, YTD: \$1,400.00; since 2003: \$98,392.12.
- Total balance as of end of December '12: \$28,066.05.

3) Committee Updates

- **Website:** Forum and automating forms (feedback, certificates, GISP letters, etc.) was not discussed. Carol discussed a new group communication & collaborative environment that she is exploring. She said that the interface is called Open Atrium and allows for streamlining tasks and contains a streaming blog feature. It has to be installed on a server and the information is stored in a MySQL database. She said that she has just begun researching the platform and will provide additional information and examples before the next call.
- **Finance:** Shoreh will run the 3-year budget now that the end of year figures is available. Mark and Shoreh met with Vicki Sussman shortly after last month's call and provided her with previous information gathered for grant writing. She has been working on the grant package now and has been asking questions via email. One of the questions is regarding the best projects that can demonstrate the value of GISCorps volunteers' work the most. In order to most effectively respond to that, Shoreh will add more information to the web application that she has recently developed so that projects can be viewed not just by geography but also by the "type", "technology", and "number of volunteers" among other attributes. The CC will then vote on the projects using the editable web map interface. Shoreh will ask Vicki if she can wait on the results until next week.
- **Disaster response:** Heather drafted a letter to VOADs and sent it to the CC. She has sent it to the Missouri VOAD. She suggested that a similar letter would be sent to the states that CC members reside at and all agreed that if need be, they would either get on a conference call or have a F2F meeting with them if needed. A slide presentation will be prepared to be presented to VOAD if and when one is scheduled.
- **Publication:** All feature stories are complete (5 of them) and the entire material will be sent to Wendy today or tomorrow to be sent out shortly thereafter.

Deployment news (projects in progress and new projects)

- Completed projects: GSDI Tanzania (1) & Russia, Sandy1, Mozambique (Niassa), MAPSAR (1); these projects will be featured at February newsletter.
- Possible new projects:
 - The World federation for Coral Reef Conservation: there has been a conference call and a F2F meeting with the PA. The JD will be drafted soon. They are interested in having a volunteer that would perform data mining, cleansing and then creating a GIS portal.
 - World Cares has been put in contact with us via MIT, they will send a request via the online form.
 - Shoreh has a conference call with Recovers.org who came to us via Esri; they go to affected areas after a disaster and manage volunteers and even though they are a for-profit organization, there were agreement that they could put the community in contact with us to then request volunteers for various GIS services. To understand Recovers.org's model, Carol will research the organization's operation and report back.
 - World Vision may ask for more volunteers (AGOL sharing as well).
 - The Forensic Oceanography may be asking for teams of volunteers to act on a stand-by basis so that when they need volunteers, we can quickly provide those to them.
 - SLCS organization in Zambia is now interested in bringing a GIS educator to Zambia for 3-4 weeks to teach GIS to their team. Lisa Matthias who has been helping them for the past two years is willing to go. The training may be held in June 2013.
- Cameroon hasn't contacted again and the second UNO-PLUS is closing.
- Waiting on 3 JDs: Charity Water, Millennium Water Alliance, Save the Children. Mark said that he'll contact Save the Children contact to see if she'll need additional assistance to put the JD together.
- Launched and/or ongoing:
 1. Nigeria's new volunteer (third one): the new volunteer has been put in contact with the PA.
 2. Indonesia mission (U. of Georgia): the new volunteer has started the work.
 3. UNOSAT (remote sensing specialists): two volunteers are waiting on the imagery to start the project.
 4. USGS National Map Corps – end of pilot project: Dave was not present to report, however, the pilot project has ended and they are interested in continuing the project. A conference call will soon be arranged to discuss the lessons learned and details of the second phase.
 5. All Hands – requested 2 more volunteers, new recruitment: the needs assessment is almost complete and as a result, they have identified the need for two more volunteers. The recruitment has begun.
 6. HopeLink: ongoing.
 7. GSDI projects: South Africa (on hold), Zimbabwe, Uzbekistan: Zimbabwe just sent a report but it won't make it to the February newsletter since it hasn't been reviewed yet, the project isn't complete yet any way. No news from Uzbekistan.
 8. N. Korea: Project with iMMAP/WFP: steady progress and WFP representative recently sent an email and expressed their appreciation once more which was then conveyed to the volunteers and management team. One of the volunteers' profiles will be show cased in the newsletter.

Other business

- Report on AGOL training (Shoreh, Dave, and Carol), new AGOL site (map of volunteers and missions), and meeting with Jack; the training went very well and on the last day, a GISCorps “Maps and Apps” portal was created. We hope to test out the usability of the portal on a few projects this year.
- MIT Master student working on thesis focusing on DHNetwork’s needs: Shoreh was interviewed by an MIT Masters student whose thesis will focus on design and implementation of a collaborative environment where various digital volunteer organizations could post information regarding their projects and find comment grounds by having the capability to see and comment on each other’s activities and projects.
- NASA’s DEVELOP program: had a conference call with several individuals with NASA’s DEVELOP program and discussed the possibility of GISCorps volunteers lecturing and/or demonstrating the use and value of GIS and GIS volunteerism to the youth who participate in DEVELOP program where they are located in person and remotely when and if appropriate.
- Creating a core of volunteers ready and trained to digitize in OSM: the core of volunteers could be pre-trained on working on OSM platform so if and when a disaster or crisis happen, they are ready to jump in. Shoreh will talk with Randy Hale who has spearheaded a couple of HOT projects in the past to gauge the validity of the idea.
- Allen and Shoreh gave a webinar to the URISA Chapter in Florida FLURISA right before the conference call. Their presentation was well received.
- Wendy said that we need more brochures for Esri and GIS-Pro conferences and also asked if anything should change in the format and content. She will send a copy of the latest version for review and comment. Shoreh will check on the deadline for GC’s booth.

Next call: March 13th, 2013 at 2:30 PM EST