

Minutes of GISCorps Monthly Conference Call – May 16, 2006

Present: Wendy Francis, Shoreh Elhami, Mark Salling, Juna Papajorgji, Frank Chang, Chris Dionne.

1. **Financial Activities:** The monthly financial report reflected the following: total expenses: \$10,598.60, total contributions: \$50,824.51, and total balance: \$40,225.91. All figures cover the period between mid 2003 and up to end of April 2006.

CC Organizational – Shoreh sent a list of topics to be discussed at the World Urban Forum in Vancouver. The list is a lengthy one and as such we may not be able to address all the topics especially due to fullness of the agenda at the conference. However, we will make use of every opportunity including lunch and dinners to discuss those topics. Shoreh asked everyone to ass and modify the list prior to the conference.

Web site update/demo – Wendy said that the soft launch as of now is scheduled for next week and that after the soft launch they should be ready for GISCorps' web site. She will keep us posted.

GISP Credit for GC Volunteers – Shoreh received an email from Scott that stated the following:

“The Board modified the proposal slightly. Now, you get either .5 points per day for a mission or .05 points per hour (same) for volunteer work without travel. Therefore, a week long mission nets you $7 \times 0.5 = 3.5$ points. The proposal was sent back to the Subcommittee, who subsequently approved it, and then back to the Board. They will vote again on May 31.” Scott said that he was confident that it would pass without any changes.

2. **Deployment related news:**

CATHALAC – Shoreh emailed Josh Pierro and he said that he was starting his mission on the 17th of May on a remote basis and that he is planning to go to Panama for 2 weeks in July to complete his work. As far as the MOU, Juna asked if the draft can go to the lawyer and Chris asked her to send the latest version so she can follow up.

- **Sri Lanka** – Shoreh is working with Living Heritage on finalizing the job description. She sent them a draft and is waiting on their response. It is very likely that this position would be advertised to all the volunteers.
- **BrightEarth** – Mark and Shoreh attended a conference call with members of Brightearth. They explained their project and the job description of the volunteer. Mark drafted a job description and sent it to them for their review. We are now waiting on their response and after that the recruitment will start.
- **South Africa** – Shoreh received an email from Steve Canter and Graham Taylor and they stated that they wanted to have a conference call with us to explain their needs in greater depth. Shoreh is working with them on nailing a time agreeable to both parties.

- **Afghanistan** – AIMS has requested two volunteers and the job description is ready to go. Shoreh will prepare an email and will send it to the HQ to be sent to all the volunteers.
- **DHS/FEMA & Red Cross** – Shoreh called Ron Langhelm to get an update on the status of FEMA's pilot project. Ron said that they are still very interested in working with us and that he is working on finalizing the details for using our volunteers as part of their DEA group. Some changes much occur before our volunteers can join DEA and that is what he is working on. Shoreh also sent an email to Greg Tune of the Red Cross to reaffirm GC's interest in working with them.

3. **Other/New:**

- **Video clips** – Shoreh sent a draft of a power point that will become a part of the DVD and sent it to the committee. Also, reviewed all the clips once again and incorporated everyone's comments into a final document. She will send these two documents to Data Transfer Solutions.
- **Brochure** – Mark reviewed the web site and extracted material for the brochure. The document went to the graphic artist after Shoreh and Wendy's revisions. The graphic artist designed a draft and Wendy sent it to the committee. Based on everyone's comments some changes will be made to the document. Mark and Wendy will work on the text, Frank will select more photos, and Shoreh and Juna will work on the map and description of projects. The document must go to the publisher by June 5th at the latest so it can be mailed to Canada for the GeoTec conference on June 12th.
- **ESRI UC Plans** (Katrina Exhibit, Map Gallery, presentation, SIG, evening Gathering) – Shoreh went over the list of activities at the UC. An email regarding these activities will be sent to Volunteers and FOG in June.
- **VVAF** – We just received a partner agency form from Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation asking for 1-3 volunteers. Juna said that she would manage this project.

The meeting ended at 4 PM.

Next meeting (face to face): At the World Urban Forum Conference in Vancouver held from June 19th to 23rd, 2006.