

**NACIS: October 13, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes**

**The Depot Renaissance Hotel, Minneapolis - Soo Line**

Meeting Opened at 6:04pm Central Daylight Time

**Summary of Tasks identified from the August Meeting**

Synthesis of activities and tasks identified during the meeting for follow-up consideration and/or completion.

***CartoTalk:***

- let's further the discussion of getting Hans help at the Friday meeting

***Publications:***

- Atlas of Design update at the Friday meeting

**Votes and Motions Passed:**

-none

## **Board Composition:**

### **Executive Office (non-voting)**

Tanya Buckingham | Executive Director-Annual Meeting Operations (term expires 1/2016)

Susan Peschel | Business Operations (un-termed)

Daniel Huffman | Executive Director-Operations (term expires 1/2019)

### **Executive Board (voting)**

Nathaniel Kelso | Past President (term expires 10/2015)

Alex Tait | President (term expires 10/2015)

Amy Griffin | Vice President & Program Chair Minneapolis (term expires 10/2015)

Anthony Robinson | VP-Elect (term expires 10/2015)

Jenny Marie Johnson | Treasurer (term expires 10/2016)

Martha Bostwick | Secretary (term expires 10/2015)

### **Board of Directors (voting)**

Mamata Akella (term expires 10/2015)

Maggie Smith (term expires 10/2015)

Andy Woodruff (term expires 10/2015)

Nat Case (term expires 10/2016)

Kristen Grady (term expires 10/2016) *(via Skype)*

Alethea Steingisser (term expires 10/2016)

Lauren Tierney | Student Board Member (term expires 10/2015) *(regrets)*

### **Ex-officio Members (non-voting)**

Patrick Kennelly | Editor of Cartographic Perspectives

Hans van der Maarel | Editor of CartoTalk

### **Welcome and Annual Review / *Alex Tait***

- Welcome to a busy night and week
- We have some observers in the room, Matt Dooley and Robin Tolochko
- over the last year we have made a lot of progress on awards committee, as well as a lot of fixes/tweaks to the new website

### **Treasurer's Report | *Jenny Marie Johnson***

- Jenny gave us a preview of the Annual Board Meeting report she had prepared
- she's going to photocopy pages for business meeting since room will be too bright for projection
- no real changes to budget from April, the report will show budgeted income vs actual, and she highlighted important things for the membership to take note of.

### **Election Results | *Nathaniel Vaughn Kelso***

- email went out to board announcing winners
- announcement and introduction will happen on Thursday at the ABM

### **Awards Committee | *Alethea Steingisser***

- we restructured both the SDMC and SMPC into different categories, SDMC (group and individual), and the SMPC (Cartographic Design and Research Quality).
- the SMPC will be announced Wednesday night, with encouragement of people to please vote
- travel grants 11 applied, 6 were fully funded, and 5 were partially funded
- student grants: 20 applicants, and 20 awarded at full funding
- conference schwag: have to divvy it up among events, and make sure we announce who donated each item (had feedback complaining about lack of recognition in previous years)

### **CP Update | *Pat Kennelly***

- pressure of editorship got to him, and he asked for a co-editor. We voted last meeting on bringing Amy in as a co-editor for the next year. She will transition to editor when Pat's term is complete.
- editorial board meeting is Thursday night, will report Friday.

### **Discussion on CartoTalk | *Alex Tait, Anthony Robinson, Hans van der Maarel***

- we have about 13,500 registered members, about 100-150 active members
- we have had about 46,000 posts since 2004
- we get 10-20 new registrations per day, approx 90% are spam
- advertisements generate some income for NACIS
- spamming is a big problem, right now a moderator has to approve a new member
- once approved, they are a New Member, and posts are moderated to make sure they are a real person. After 5 posts, they are approved.
- mistakes sometimes get made and some real members get booted thinking they are spam
- we could try anti-spam databases, but that gets a lot more technical than he can do
- problem is we really need technical help. Hans doesn't have the skills to fix issues. He thinks we need someone that knows system admin stuff, he doesn't even know where to begin to fix some things.
- Alex: we really need to address this, it means we need to look into paying someone to fix this properly, and do proper maintenance
- Alex: let's add to Friday agenda for further discussion
- Hans: would like active membership to increase, and to try things to drive more traffic to us - more posts and more page views (increased profits for us)

- Alex: we need to discuss whole future, discuss how to make it more vibrant and see what we need to do to keep it going
- Kristen: what kind of competition is Stack Exchange for CartoTalk?
- Anthony: threads come up where people don't know what CartoTalk is, it shows up in search results when people are looking for a specific topic.
- Nat: is it part of a bigger question on the talk of cartography, and is it relevant still today?
- Hans: it seems to be more active in the past,
- Alex: we should to discuss if it's part of what NACIS wants to continue to do
- Anthony: if we fix it, let's cut the login, make it a Google or Facebook login to make it easier for people to participate
- Amy: can we find a way to let people get to CartoTalk from the Facebook page?
- Alex: How long has Hans been running it?
- Hans: pretty much since the beginning - he's member #13. Roughly since July of 2004?
- Alex: Are you willing to stay on?
- Hans: Yes. Average day, maintenance is 5-10 minutes.
- Maggie: if goal is to increase traffic, it's worth brainstorming ways to encourage people to post to Cartotalk
- Hans: we've encouraged people to post their program talks, ride & room share, etc.

### **Publications | *Nat Case***

CB Award:

-it has been awarded, but Rebecca can't come this year, we will still present the award. She gave us a speech to read, and she will be attending in Colorado Springs next year.

Atlas of Design:

-we have 30-ish copies here, we have some to sell, around \$400 in Amazon warehouses and are now being charged extra fees. It will start to add up.

-Alex: let's get an update and schedule on Friday

### **Minneapolis Meeting | *Alex Tait, Amy Griffin & Susan Peschel***

-Amy: if you observe something not working, fix it yourself, or call Amy, Anthony, Susan. Please don't ask hotel staff - they will charge for everything. Don't ask for extra AV equipment - contact Amy or Anthony

-Robin: maybe we could add that to moderator email so they are aware

-if we hear construction, contact board and we'll bring it up to hotel staff

-NVK: If you're moderating a session, don't forget to collect your slides from speakers

-most of the time, people don't mind sharing their slides if you ask and explain

-registration is just over 350 as of yesterday

-Nat: what do we do if we need to put the code of conduct into action

-Amy: find Amy, Anthony, Alex, Susan

-hopefully we never need to use it, but it's there just in case

-please don't intervene yourself, go to Amy, Anthony, Alex, susan

-Tanya: we have pins this year, everyone take some to hand out, similar to ribbons from Madison in past years. Meant to encourage board members to talk to new people

-Mamata - we've got t-shirts again this year, will be at registration desk tomorrow

-Group photo? When and where? right after lunch on Thursday, Alex will announce at the ABM

Meeting adjourned at 6:46pm.

-we did a quick intro to new board members after meeting