

MAGIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 18, 2022, 10:00am-2:00pm
Conference Room 326, City-County Building
316 N Park Ave, Helena, MT 59623

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87954716353>

Meeting Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7wUik9BHLKk&t=2228s>

Meeting opened 10:08 AM

Attendees:

Board Members:

Jeff Hedstrom (chair)
Jason Danielson
Eric Spangenberg
Rob Ahl

Phoebe Ferguson
Aaron Vaughn
Mike Powell
Steve Jay

Guests:

Meghan Burns
Jeffrey Young

Michelle Quinn
Jenny Connelly

Decision to approve Dec 21, 2021 MAGIP BOD minutes was posed by Jeff, Jason Danielson made a motion to approve, 2nd by Phoebe Ferguson. Passed unanimously.

New Business

Potential New MAGIP Position: Communication Specialist Liaison

- Jeff suggested looking at amending by-laws to allow possible board position on MAGIP
- Overview of role: Communication Specialist could be an ad hoc committee chair position to provide a go-to contact for directing messages from the public and within MAGIP community.
- Michelle Quinn explains from her experience it would be a person that would manage social media and other channels for disseminating messages and be the point of contact from one organization to another.
- Rob Ahl suggested more time should be used to define the role and whether that role could be coordinated between existing positions.
- Board determined to table discussion to further define role in subsequent MAGIP meetings.

Elections Timeline

- Elections Timeline: Jeff proposes elections in May and to be ratified in June. Usually takes a couple weeks according to former board member Jenny Connelly.
- This process to be spelled out in MAGIP by-law and the by-law amendment would coincide with board elections in May.

Financial Discussion:

- Nate said that new roles for MAGIP bank account management have been officially recorded and that the new document describes such roles with access and co-signing ability with the current Wells Fargo account.
- New roles allow more flexibility, in case the Treasurer is not present to write or approve transfer of funds, namely if not there to write checks where a payment needs to be made immediately.
- The co-signer will be able to access funds when the board does not have a treasurer immediately on-hand.
- The new co-signer would be Michelle Quinn.
- Will wait to have people read the document before motioning a vote.

Members Meeting:

- Board discussed Members Meeting at Big Sky GeoCon in Missoula.
- Board considered either conducting its' typically monthly board meeting in conjunction with a Members Meeting at the conference or keeping the board meeting as it traditionally has been, Friday morning after the conference.
- Members meeting at the Geo conference on Tues 3-4:30p is the proposed timeline by Jeff vs the alternative Friday.
- The purpose is to highlight board positions and their roles and also to engage with the members.
- Board discussed the idea of having a BOD meeting with member's meeting vs having the board meeting separate.

MAGIP Members and Job Board:

- Jason brought up an example of a new member who was looking for GIS work and he started the discussion with the board to explore more avenues with MAGIP to help promote matching job seekers with organization hiring, aside from the Google list serve.
- Steve says that the job board on the MAGIP discussion forums has grown stagnant and difficult to route new job posting traffic – says it's worth revisiting.
- The discussion revolved around possible paid job postings and member's only viewing of posted positions as well as refining job searches to make the board better than basic search engine job searches. Discussion to be revisited with Members Meeting to get MAGIP member views.

Reports

Treasurer's Report - Nate

- Update of everyone's address to update non-profit status with Secretary of State.
- State Library pushing for memberships especially through MLIA.
- Tax resource talked about contacting and doing taxes in March.

Local Government SIG – Chair Tommy Luksha

- Tommy says membership growing rapidly.
- As the newly elected chair, he says he will improve with meeting notes, agendas, and targeted approach on participation (at least 20 people per meeting).
- Group cycles through topics of interest by voted priority.
- Trying to accommodate all interests – latest was talk covering land records with the next meeting to go over city/county addressing.
- Jeff suggested updating the SIG agenda on the MAGIP site prior to the next meeting.

Conference Planning – Phoebe Ferguson

- Conference time outline is set, will have more time to flesh out.
- There are 6 gold, 1 silver sponsors set. Awards are still up in the air.
- Looking to create a Covid guideline, weighed with Holiday Inn's guideline. Leaning toward 'highly recommended' for mask wearing. Holiday Inn has a link to their safety protocols.
- Currently have 24 rooms reserved.
- Looking for track chairs in categories with Government, GIS and Health, and possibly AES and Engineering and Design.

Tech Committee – Jason Danielson

- Currently populating workshop info details – needing more details and abstracts from instructors (emails sent out) – including bios, software requirements and means of fielding Q and A.
- Trying to get this confirmed by the end of this week on the 23rd.
- Census is looking for workshop space. Looking at 2 workshops (2020 ACS, and processing the 2020 Census data).
- Instructor, Jon Hogland, is interested in adding another workshop. Jon is willing to host a machine learning analysis workshop as the second workshop from his python.
- Amanda from Imagine Nation Brewery planning on attending the conference keynote as well as hosting the meet-up at her brewery. Her talk will be over community involvement. Need a photo and bio for Amanda as a feature on the site (*See subsequent meeting notes as she had to cancel keynote).

Cadastral Working Group Meeting – Jeff Hedstrom

- New Cadastral Tech working group made created and will be held quarterly led by Jeff Hedstrom.
- Focused on agencies that use cadastral as well as wanting to help maintain the state system.
- Topics are over what's working, what's not and get an assessment plan.
- Try to understand the completeness. Also recommendations for funding and priorities with CadNSDI.

Scholarships and Grants – Rob Ahl

- Rob getting emails from students saying they did not get scholarship funds due to the amount of credits taken and the school's policy (specifically the issues he received from U of M) – yet details were worked out and students were ultimately funded.

- He says that grant application project proposal will be more detailed on credit allocation per semester in the application to get a better timeline on funds distribution.
- Applications due on 25th of March and awards announced the 4th of April during the geo-conference.

Land Information Report – Erin Fashoway, GIS Coordinator, Montana State Library

- MLIA Committee Annual Grants were opened up last Thursday because the required date is the 15th, and it was opened early due to the 15th being a Saturday.
- Prioritized grants based on advisement with council and them leads, not much deviation from previous year.
- Election data is only significant change due to more of a need and demand – now a tier 1 priority.
- The initiative is closely aligned with Next Gen addressing because they ‘go hand-in-hand’.
- Plan to get a grant application total until Feb 15, where it will be finalized March 1.
- Next Council meeting will be at the next Big Sky GeoCon in Missoula.
- Will offer grant training on the MLIA grant application tool (Amplifund) and, on the 28th, Janet Cornish, Jon Kilgour, and Erin Fashoway, will teach a grant writing workshop that Friday morning.
- Later to conduct a grant management course in the late spring.
- MLIA Strategic Planning process produced a final draft document and library is reviewing it for eventual approval.
- One goal will be improve communication with stakeholders including a business plan and will eventually reach out to the BOD as to how we can collaborate so our communication is aligned.
- Also targeting groups for app development that aren’t necessarily GIS centric. Using a specific tool, Gov Delivery, to gain these targeted audiences.
- Will be looking for assistance with MAGIP to help target specific groups as well as test the new tool.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Mike Powell, 2nd by Steve Jay, passed unanimously.

Future Meetings:

BIG SKY GEOCON PLANNING MEETINGS – 2nd Tuesday of the month 3:00 PM

MAGIP LOCAL GOVERNMENT SIG – 3rd Thursday of the month 2:00 PM

BOARD MEETING – Tuesday February 15, 2022 2:00 PM (Phone in)