

ASPRS Rocky Mountain Region Board Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2020 11 am - noon MDT, virtual meeting via StartMeeting.com

Attendees:

Mike Tuffly, Vice President
Jeff Young, Past President
Peter Cornish, Treasurer
Melissa Martin, Secretary
Kyoko Chenhalls, Regional Director (GISITR)
Aron Langley, Regional Director (GISITR)
Sheila Pelczarski, Regional Director (Communications)

Absent:

Terry Ryan, National Director
Chris Lippitt, Regional Director (New Mexico)
Ramesh Sivanpillai, Regional Director (Wyoming)

VP Mike Tuffly conducted the meeting.

Finance Report (Peter):

- Peter submitted a Region Finance Report for 2019 to National HQ, as required. The report was reviewed with the Board.
- So far this year, two Student Scholarships have been awarded for a total of \$2,500 in expenses.
- \$7,416.65 received from National for 28 members added by the dissolution of the Inter-mountain Region, so now Rocky Mtn Region (RMR) has around \$22k total.
- The Rio Grande Chapter in New Mexico has a separate bank account but receives support from RMR. Recently it has been difficult to obtain end-of-year financial statements from them. Contact information will be requested to try to streamline this process.

National News: Region Merges / Expanded Region (Sheila for Terry):

- The Inter-mountain Region was dissolved by National as part of a series of region mergers. 28 members, mostly from Utah plus a few from Idaho were added to the Rocky Mtn Region.

- The remainder of members from Idaho were added to the new Acadia Region.
- Geographic boundaries for the newly merged regions are being redrawn by representatives at the National level and will be put on the asprs.org website.
- We will ask National for a list of new members and where they are located to see if their locations might correspond to existing universities/colleges or Student Chapters of ASPRS, or if there is potential for new Student or State Chapters in these areas.

GIS in the Rockies Conference (Jeff, Kyoko, Aron):

- Conference is now planned as a virtual event in October 2020; Genie Hays and Matt Hanks are the Co-chairs for this year's event.
- Both Sponsorships for the virtual conference have already been sold! Great news.
- Information is being collected from other virtual conferences to help in planning a successful event.
- The Event Planner's contract is on hold to save money for the organizations; there is currently ~ \$20,000 on hand for this and next year's events.
- A live, in-person event is planned for 2021 to save the deposit already paid to reserve the Inverness hotel venue for 2020.
- Jeff Young will continue to serve on the GISitR Executive Board, with Mike Tuffly as Alternate.
- It is possible that GISCO may withdraw from GISitR, which would result in reconstituting the Executive Board and Planning Committee, if that were to happen.
- The next Planning Committee meeting will be held 7/23/20.

Student Scholarships (Sheila):

- Checks and Award Letters and Certificates were sent out by Peter
- Charisoulis (Ph.D) received \$1,500 and Beals (Masters) received \$1,000.
- Details of these awards can be found in the Spring newsletter and on the RMR website.

Newsletter (Sheila):

- Notice of the Spring newsletter will be sent to our new members from Utah and Idaho as an e-mail blast once all the re-coding has been done at National HQ, so that we can extend a warm welcome to these new members.

Region Annual Election (Sheila):

- HQ has all the information to send out our election ballots; we are waiting on the re-coding at HQ. Once this is completed, ballots will be sent out to all members within our newly expanded region, so that all will have an opportunity to vote.
- Idea proposed: We ought to revise and update the Region Bylaws and rename Board member positions to allow for representation from all states or areas that now comprise the Region, including part of Idaho and all of Utah, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Colorado.

Website (Sheila):

- Lots of current content has been posted to the website recently. Updates will continue to be added.
- A backup of the website was done before the updates and will be done again after the updates have been completed.
- Sheila is working with Matthew (IT Administrator at National HQ) to get our Region website updated to improve security and efficiency. PHP and Wordpress have been updated; additional issues are being addressed. Also working to get the website upgraded from http to https for better security.

Meeting adjourned ~1:00 pm.