

American Association for Geodetic Surveying

Board of Directors

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 12, 2020

1. Open meeting, President

A. The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President Dan Gillins at 16:03 Eastern.

B. Secretary Dan Roman called the roll:

i. Present:

President: Dan Gillins

President-Elect: Dave Zilkoski

Immediate Past President: Tom Meyer

Director (2nd year): Tony Cavell

Director (1st year): Bob Burtch

Secretary: Dan Roman

Treasurer: Dan Martin

Parliamentarian: Steve Briggs

Reporter (Association editor): Ronnie Taylor

AAGS/NSPS Liaison, Delegate to NSPS Foundation and Chair: Jacob Heck

SaLIS Editor: Chuck Ghilani¹

ii. Absent:

Vice-President (Director 3rd year): John Bean

iii. At least two directors were present as well as a quorum; therefore, the meeting was authorized.

2. Agenda

A. Upon call for further additions, new business was not introduced.

B. Martin's motion for acceptance of the AAGS BOD agenda, posted March 12, was seconded by Meyer, and carried without objection.

¹ *Italics indicates AAGS board ex officio members*

3. Minutes

- A. No new alterations to the February 13 Meeting Minutes were submitted.
- B. Gillins approved the finalized February 13 Meeting Minutes as distributed.

4. AAGS By-laws regarding Director attendance

- A. This was the fifth meeting in succession missed by John Bean, who last attended October 10, 2019. Having received no response by email, President Gillins will reach out to him by phone.

- B. Meyer read aloud the related by-law, from Article IV, Section 11:

In the event an emergency condition, pertaining to the filling of the vacancies of the officers and the directors of the AAGS, arises and is not covered by the by-laws, the Board of Directors has the authority to fill the vacancies by any means appropriate, and shall notify the AAGS of the action taken by posting on the website.

- i. Upon inquiry by Briggs, Meyer confirmed the content of the most recent by-laws.
- ii. The by-laws do not currently cover cause for removal.²

5. Review of last month's action items

- A. Draft letter to government agencies on selecting a liaison for Government Programs Committee (Taylor)

- i. As discussed in the January meeting, Taylor will work with Zilkoski to draft an Official Request for Liaison.
- ii. Taylor will then present the letter to the board, for dual signature with Gillins.

- B. 100 Advances in Geodesy (AGU) (Heck)

- i. Heck had not received any contributions for AGU's list of the top 100 advances in geodesy.
- ii. AGU list items so far are highly specific, recent scientific advances, which should be rounded out with items from the past 100 years, in science, technology, data, education, and broader impacts.³
- iii. Heck will send out a reminder to everyone by email. Please send your ideas to jacob.heck@noaa.gov (1-3 sentences, 1-3 references) to compile and forward to the AGU team.
- iv. Meyer suggested that obvious contributions such as GPS might be out of step with items already listed, but Heck affirmed that such are legitimate items needed to complete the list.

² e.g. "Absence from three board meetings within a calendar year, without prior notification, is equivalent to resignation from the board."

³ <https://connect.agu.org/geodesy/celebrating-agu100>

- C. John Hamilton – delegate from AAGS to attend FIG 2020 – (Gillins)
- i. Hamilton seeks a \$1000 sponsorship from AAGS, which was discussed at the February meeting.
 - ii. Gillins encouraged a decision to be made for communication with Hamilton.
 - iii. Martin indicated that reserve funds are available, if needed.
 - iv. Discussion focused on the benefits of representation for information sharing.
 - v. Briggs made a motion, seconded by Taylor, to approve a \$1000 sponsorship to John Hamilton, toward his travel to Amsterdam for FIG 2020 Working Week. The motion passed without objection.
 - vi. The FIG Working Week 2020 Steering Committee will make an announcement the latest on the 31st of March with a decision on whether to cancel or to continue preparations for the Working Week, May 10-14.
 - vii. *As Meyer posted by email March 27, this year's FIG Working Week in Amsterdam, and the associated General Assembly, have been cancelled.*
6. Treasurer's Report (Martin)
- A. Long-term holdings (scholarship fund, CD) may have suffered with the market, but this is not a concern if the market recovers.
 - B. Net income in March shows a \$1000 deficit. Membership has been dropping steadily year by year.
 - C. As encouraged by Zilkoski, Gillins will work with NSPS office manager Trish Milburn to send an email reminder to those who have allowed their membership to lapse. The message will highlight AAGS membership benefits.
 - D. Heck reported on his communication with NSPS Vice President Tim Birch about AAGS and NSPS partnering to boost membership.
 - i. Full NSPS members may join AAGS at a reduced rate.
 - ii. The new NGS datum and related changes, such as legislation, data transformation, Bench Marks, and metadata, present good opportunities for AAGS to provide training to NSPS as well as other organizations.⁴ Dan Roman highlighted additional training opportunities present around the world.
 - iii. Heck will follow up with Birch as schedule changes settle down.
 - iv. The NSPS Spring Meeting will be held through the *GoToMeeting* platform, May 27-30.⁵
 - E. Zilkoski and Briggs discussed scheduling a special one-hour meeting, Thursday, March 26, at 4pm Eastern, to brainstorm ways to help increase membership. This AAGS

⁴ <https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/INFO/OnePagers/NewDatumsOnePager.pdf>

⁵ https://www.nsps.us.com/resource/resmgr/2020_spring_meeting_/2020_Fall_Meeting_Cancelatio.pdf

Membership meeting will be facilitated by Zilkoski. The regular AAGS board meeting phone number will be used.

F. The January P&L statement was distributed March 12. Additional financial details are available on request.

7. Surveying and Land Information Science

A. SaLIS Ex-Comm (Meyer)

i. The latest issue is forthcoming.

B. SaLIS Editor (Ghilani)

i. The May issue is currently in the process of being published. It has 4 peer-reviewed articles.

ii. Currently there are only two promising articles for the November issue plus one undergraduate student paper.

iii. Dru Smith has said that he'll be a guest editor on changes in 2022.

iv. Perhaps NGS authors will provide more articles for future issues.

v. A special issue may be produced to encourage article submission. Subject matter may be the new datum, drones, or UAV applications.

8. Committees

A. Communications (Meyer)

i. Meyer has material for the next AAGS newsletter. A replacement is sought to take over handling the newsletter.

ii. Reporter/Editor Taylor, who operates the AAGS Facebook account, indicated that contributions such as the newsletter need to come in text format, rather than as Word documents.

B. Membership Committee (Zilkoski)

i. See section 6.E. above.

ii. Don't miss follow-up at the AAGS Membership meeting Thursday, March 26, at 4pm Eastern, at (877) 988-6989, Passcode 1680881#.

C. Geodetic Certification Committee (Stoughton, Meyer)

i. Meyer's work on certification committee materials has resulted in three articles for publication.

ii. Contacted by committee member from NMSU, Ahmed Elaksher, who is interested in helping certification efforts.

iii. Anyone else who is interested in helping, should contact Meyer at Thomas.Meyer@UConn.edu

9. Liaisons

A. NSPS (Heck)

- i. *NSPS Spring Meetings rescheduled April 6-11 via GoToMeeting⁶*
- ii. The next quarterly meeting with AAGS, NSPS, and NGS is March 13, 1pm Eastern. These quarterly meetings are open to members of all three groups.
 - *Online: meet.google.com/ipr-aejw-upu*
 - *Phone: +1 409-698-0097 PIN: 176 944 #*
- iii. NSPS Foundation Scholarship applications are in, Nearly 20 had applied for the AAGS Dracup scholarship. No one who was qualified had selected the graduate fellowship, but one application above stood out. Heck phoned the student's advisor, who indicated that the student has been accepted to graduate school in a geophysics program. Heck will recommend this applicant for the graduate fellowship. Heck rated the applications and forwarded the information to Briggs and to Joe Strait.

B. COGO (Cavell)

- i. Nothing to report.

C. ASPRS (Zilkoski/Gillins)

- i. Seeking someone, preferably connected in NGS, who can actively represent AAGS as a liaison with ASPRS. This effort is ongoing.
- ii. Bob Burtch indicated that the ASPRS Geo Week Conference has been postponed.⁷

D. UESI (Dennis/Gillins)

- i. ASCE-UESI Surveying & Geomatics Conference is still slated for May 31 – June 2, 2020 in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. (*Only one taxi service covers Lawrenceburg.*)
- ii. Hotel Booking is open.
- iii. AAGS has a meeting scheduled for 4pm, Tuesday, June 2nd. This meeting may also serve as the AAGS Annual Meeting.
- iv. *All in-person ASCE events⁸ scheduled before April 30, 2020 are cancelled, postponed or have a virtual offering.*

10. New Business and Announcements

- A. Don't miss follow-up at the AAGS Membership meeting Thursday, March 26, at 4pm Eastern, at (877) 988-6989, Passcode 1680881#.

11. The next meeting of the AAGS BOD is scheduled for Thursday, April 09 @ 4:00 PM Eastern.

⁶ https://www.nsp.us.com/resource/resmgr/2020_spring_meeting_/2020_Fall_Meeting_Cancelatio.pdf

⁷ <https://www.geo-week.com/novel-coronavirus-update/>

⁸ <https://www.asce.org/covid-19/>

Suggested Future Board meetings for 2020 are shown below. If a sufficient number of Board members express conflict with a specific date, the meeting may be rescheduled or cancelled.

May 14 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
June 11 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
July 09 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
August 13 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
September 10 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
October 08 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
November 12 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
December 10 @ 4:00 PM Eastern

12. Upon invitation, Treasurer Dan Martin read: *“For the Good of the Order, the AAGS Board gives the President and Treasurer the authority to carry out the day to day activities of the AAGS until the next Board Meeting.”*

13. AAGS President Gillins adjourned the meeting at 17:03 Eastern.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisabeth Rollins

Acting Recorder

File: Documents\AAGS\AAGS Board Minutes March 12, 2020 final.docx

Date: April 4, 2020

Compiler: Elisabeth Rollins