**2013 ILLINOIS GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY**

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

**Peoria, IL**

**April 25, 2013**

* **Call to Order:** Susan Holderread, President, 7:29 pm
* **Present:** Susan Holderread, Kevin Suess, Linda Weatherwax, Michael Sublett, Joe Kubal, Keith Yearman, Michael Cornebise, Mark Healy, Jill Thomas, Len Ealey, Ty Liles, Lindsay Tuegel
* **Motion passed unanimously: (Cornebise, Yearman seconded) that the Executive Council approved the consent agenda and executive council minutes from April 26, 2012 meeting in Grayslake, IL and Fall Work Day from October 20, 2012.**
* **2012 Annual Meeting Final Report (Liles)**
  + Numbers: 75 attended, including 23 students. 12 presentations. 3 different Field trips, sent $835 income to IGS
  + Yearman summarized two extended field trips following meeting as going well.
* **Illinois Geographic Alliance Report (Sublett for Kruger)**
  + Sublett explained AP Human Geography Initiative, the Alliance has been involved in. Conducted online survey of teachers. Found 85 teachers across state, heard back from 34 about attending an AP Human Geography conference. Amy Bloom and Sublett will present findings at NCGE meetings. Direct result of survey was first annual AP Geography conference at Stevenson High School on April 6, 2013. About 40 people signed up, about 35-37 present. Went well, full day’s roster of presentations, weather cooperative, mixture of active teacher and in-service teachers. Planned to do it again. Surveyed participants online following conference. Stevenson is great venue. Greg Sherwin is dynamic teacher.
  + Working on getting online the *Atlas of Illinois*. Darrell Krueger is paying for the cartographers’ salary through IGA funds. A few IGS members are doing maps: Crystal Williams, John Kostelnick.
  + Thomas added that will be presenting some of the interactive maps at the NCGE meeting. Maps are available online, with activities and lesson plans attached. Will survey people to see if there is more interest in full lesson plans or activities. All maps are for Illinois. Currently working on agricultural data, with a focus on GIS data and maps that will tell stories.
* ***Illinois Geographer* Report (Thomas)** 
  + Last journal sent out was Spring 2012. Printing costs are $1,187.80. Thomas’ concern is that she is getting some journals and other mailings sent back. Thomas and Ealey will work on getting correct addresses to fix this issue.
  + Have some articles for Fall 2012. Asks for Council help in recommending some articles to be submitted if presented papers are interesting at the annual meeting.
  + Holderread reminded council of idea that for Jubilee year journal will have old articles from past. Thomas has those articles ready.
  + Thomas reinforced point that we need to recruit for papers, especially among presenters.
* **Community College Student Awards (Healy)** 
  + Same process as last year. Sent out 44 letters, received 4 nominations for 3 students from 2 faculty members. 2 winners are from Lincoln Land. Students will be present and at field trip. Not as many students nominated as past years, but good to see new school nominating.
  + Suggested discussing possible change in how letters are sent.
  + Yearman proposed Healy, Yearman, Holderread, Sublett form ad hoc committee to change some of the requirements to make students easier to qualify for community college award.
  + Takes only half hour to fill out paperwork to nominate student. Sublett questioned why more teachers are not interested in nominating students. Healy sends out multiple letters twice.
  + Liles explained that he wanted to nominate a few students, but they did not get back to him on personal information. Even telling them about the award winnings does not entice them.
  + With senior awards being a surprise, Sublett suggested something has to change to get more nominees. Healy explained that it might not be same at community college level because of mostly adjunct faculty, students may not take multiple classes or not be as focused.
  + Yearman remembers that most we have ever had is 6-7 winners. Some years only 1-2 nominees. Hard to duplicate same results as senior awards.
* **2013 Annual Meeting Initial Report (Ealey)**
  + 63 registered so far, expects a few more on Saturday morning. 34 going on field trip, 44 at banquet, 27 at luncheon, 3 on Segway which might be cancelled due to flooding, Caterpillar tour has 9, and 15 papers.
  + Field trips have had to change due to flooding. Initial plan: leave 8 am, go to Dixon Mounds, Havanna for lunch at Riverfront park, Hatchery, Hopedale for wind farm. Several cancellations.
  + Current trip: Dixon Mounds, have lunch in Pekin, then Hatchery and Hopedale. Flooding can be seen in small towns along way.
  + Speaker for luncheon lost due to government budget cuts. New speaker is Stephanie Schmidt from Nokia. Nokia gave IGS $400 to sponsor speaker for luncheon. Speaker will present 2 high tech cars and tours of vehicles.
  + Kubel reported on extended day field experience: Caterpillar museum instead of going to the plant, then Segway tour along riverfront.
  + Yearman reported on premeeting field trip with 5 at Pontiac Prison, Route 66 museum, Chenoa for lunch, Eureka college museum, Metamora Courthouse.
  + Will probably not break even this year for budget. Buses cost too much—almost $1,200 for this weekend—very expensive time of year. Hard to raise prices because will lose members.
  + Yearman suggested renting bus in Chicago area and bringing it down. Ealey estimates that will be over $3,500.
* **2014 Annual Meeting Discussion (Ealey)**
  + Starting in Metropolis, hotel is Baymont Inn which is next to casino. Next is Paducah, Cairo
  + 75 Anniversary. One new thing is travel companion coin. Encourage people to take photos on vacation with coin. People can send in photos to be put on Facebook and in slide show at Annual Meeting. Coin made by Pekin Trophy House in Pekin.
  + Sutton, Ealey working on trivia facts for bus, maps of memberships. Other specialities like candies, cakes, etc in making
  + Will be challenge to get people to come down. Hoping to build in extended field trip so people will stay longer since it is so far
  + Need to brainstorm more concrete ways to help with transportation at fall meeting.
  + Important to work on kinks of listserve. Some emails not going through. Ealey hopes to send out monthly reminders throughout year to boost numbers and get people. Yearman thinks College of DuPage is changing network buildings, may need to tell them to reset server.
  + Healy suggested adding an email sign-up on the website.
  + Discussion of bus cost again (see above for last year’s information). Have a breaking point of about 60-70 members attending is important. Problem is less active members because current members are older, not recruiting as many. Yearman tossed out idea of having meeting Friday through Sunday, so people don’t have to take two days off work. Liles proposed having vans coming down from Chicagoland area to get more people. Sublett reported that southern part of state is weaker area of members. Young university faculty are focused on AAG.
  + Sublett recalled that annual meeting was cancelled in southern IL in early 80s and moved to Macomb at last minutes. Rental van is good idea to pool people. Ealey questioned if we should pull out now, council consensus that is would be unique and should not be cancelled, but need to make arrangements to get people here.
  + Discussion among council members of having bus come from northern areas. Discussion about trying to tap into K-12 teachers as new members. Discussion about trying to change date to accommodate members.
  + Ealey will reach out to Kentucky, Missouri Alliances. He will look into bus companies from Chicagoland. He will look into changing date to June 19-22. Travel Thursday and Sunday.
  + **Montion unanimously approved (Ealey, Yearman seconded) to change the date from April to June 19-22, 2014.**
* **Audit Committee Report (Yearman for Resutko)** 
  + Yearman read letter from Resutko that IGS Auditing Committee met earlier with Ealey to look over IGS financial records and found them to be very organized, accurate, and up-to-date.
* **Treasurer Report (Ealey)**
  + Been pretty level. $31, 571 balance. 2 accounts: checking ($9,835.80) and savings (21,735.25). Biggest budget was special field day with Norm Moline on Chicago River. That made some money. 65% of expenses were from that, but 58% of revenue came from that. Bulletin expenses was 12%, 4% of budget went to Geography Bee, then breakdown of smaller things.
  + Revenue: 58% from Chicago trip with Moline, $1,335 from membership, 2012 and 2013 annual meetings. More donations than have had in past due to asking for donations. One person donated $300.
  + Ealey also doing a renewal for the State Farm bond.
* **Field Days Report (Yearman and Kubal)**
  + August 2012: in West Chicago Area, airport control tower, Fermi lab, few temples. 23 people—IGS members and College of DuPage students
  + September 2012: Lockport powerhouse along I-80, Lindburg crash site, I&M Canal, Ladd. 27 people in attendance.
  + December 2012: architectural tour. 20 people. IGS gave initial deposit, but all reimbursed back.
  + Added 3-4 members from tours
  + Planned tour for Tampico, Amboy, Fulton, Clinton at date to be determined. Suggestion by Weatherwax to stop in Sterling for Lincoln historic site.
  + June 28, 2013: South Bend, tour Notre Dame, need to work through financials. Have 7 people signed up so far.
  + Fall field trip for Graceland Cemetery and winter trip to Oak Park.
  + Kubal brought up that many people on Chicago trips that are not geography teachers. Need to promote more in general public to join. Possibly having a special membership category for them, with a reduced joining membership. Then they will be notified through GIMBY of all IGS events to get even more participation. Council agreement that should have associate membership, at $10 rate (same as student) and no journal option. No conflict with constitution.
  + **Motion by council (Sublett, Ealey seconded) to add new category of associate membership for $10 fee and no *Illinois Geographer* bulletin which will be required after June South Bend Field Day for all field day attendance.**
* **Central Office Report (Yearman)**
  + Everything off of old website. Around 169 people on GIMBY and membership list is 159. About $125 in Central Office Funds. Will be used to make down payment on bus for field day.
  + Emailed 12 schools regarding research grant. Few questions, but nothing submitted for that.
  + Discussion of moving GIMBY to website. Holderread said new website can handle the emails or Ealey said his school district could also do that.
  + When emails go out, need a tag line at bottom about sending email address for field trips and Jubilee reminders. Suess volunteered to keep adding Facebook updates. Suess tried on Twitter for a while as well, but was not getting much activity with members.
* **Constitution Committee (Holderread)** 
  + Ealey, Cornebise, Holderread looked over IGS Constitution to see if there needed to be any changes. Not many new changes to propose, but just updated it to motions and changes we have already made.
  + Constitution will be sent out to all membership at least 30 days before 2014 Annual Meeting, then approved during that business meeting. Will also be worked on at Fall meeting if needed.
  + Yearman suggested adding copy of Constitution to Fall *Illinois Geographer* mailing.
* **Nominating Committee Report (Holderread)**
  + **The slate for officers are:**

Secretary: Greg Sherwin; Treasurer: Len Ealey; IGA Coordinator: Darrell Kruger; Elementary Member: Ani Thompson-Smith; Two-Year College Member: Veronica Mormino; Applied Geographer: Joe Kubal. **Motion passed by 10 council members (Cornebise, Yearman seconded) to approve the nominations at the business meeting. Ealey, Kubal sustained.**

* + Amendment to slate: addition of President: Kevin Suess; Vice-President: Lindsay Tuegel
  + Officers to be voted on at the Business Meeting.
* **Old Business**
  + **Website Update (Holderread)** 
    - New website is updated. Discussion of posting old journals, minutes, and *Illinois: A Geographical Survey* onto new websites and links to active departments. Council agreed that those should be added.
    - Healy suggested place for new people to put in email addresses to gather contacts
    - Planning to add way for them to become member straight from website. Other thoughts to add Annual Meeting registration materials straight from online, then send out postcard to remind them to check online to fill out meeting registrations. Ealey will work on that for next year.
  + **Research Grants (Sublett)** 
    - Tried to circulate and talk it up. Chris Sutton felt there would be interest among graduate students. Possible changes: not requiring membership to apply, increase stipend. Discussion of possible changes.
    - Decision to give it one normal cycle. Promote on website, GIMBY. Timeline: June 1 is Central Office sends out request, August 1 applications are due, checks issued October 1. Discussion of timing being an issue of why there is no interest. Agreement to try it as planned, then discuss again at Fall Workshop.
* **New Business** 
  + **Central Office Director Applicant (Ealey)**
    - Applicant for Central Office Position received week of April 15. Susan Holderread is only applicant. Ealey presented her cover letter and resume, including goals of growing members and communicating with sister organizations. Her department and administrators at New Trier fully support her, as they have done this with other organizations in past.
    - Constitution says she would have to give up the presidency to take this position.
    - Discussion of concern of not being at a university level. Need to see letter of support from administration regarding secretarial support and space. Interest and dedication look good.
    - **Motion passed unanimously (Sublett, Healy seconded) to accept application of and appoint Holderread as new Central Office Director effective June 1, with a transition time from Yearman to be completed by August 1.**
    - Congratulations and thanks to Holderread for serving.
    - **Motion passed by 10 approve the amendment to the nomination report (Cornibese, Yearman seconded) to nominate Suess to carry out the rest of the presidential term (through 2015) and Tuegel to become vice-president (through 2015), changing the whole slate. 2 abstentions: Suess and Tuegel**
* **Motion unanimously passed (Ealey, Yearman seconded) to adjourn the meeting: 10:15 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lindsay Tuegel