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MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS SOUTHEAST CHAPTER



March 13, 2014 Membership Meeting Minutes 8:40 pm

1. Regular Membership Meeting Call to Order

The March 13, 2014 Membership Meeting of the Southeast Chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors was called to order at 8:40 p.m. by President Adolfo Castillo followed by self-introduction of the 25 members attending the evening's program.

2. Review of Agenda

The agenda was not reviewed.

Approval of January 16, 2013 Board Meeting minutes

A motion was made by David P. Smith and seconded by Joe Bishop to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

4. Treasurer's Report (Adolfo Castillo for Jim Hollandsworth)

Adolfo Castillo reported that Jim Hollandsworth had sent him several sheets of information regarding the current status of the Southeast Chapters accounts. Adolfo stated he selected the sheets he felt were applicable to the information the membership would be interested in and presented the assets to the membership. (Account Balance Sheets Attached)

5. State Highlights Report (Larry Feindt)

Note! On March 3, 2014 Jason Verran contacted the Southeast Chapter Board of Directors by email stating that he would be unable to fulfill the position of State Representative due to work schedule conflict. Larry Feindt indicated that he would be interested in the position if elected. The Board voted in majority support via email to elect Larry as our State Representative.

Larry presented an outline report and offered it to the board as follows:

MSPS State Board of Directors Meeting 3/6/2014

2014 BOARD MEMBERSHIP

o Jim Hollandsworth, President (Southgate)

- o Chris Lester, First Vice President (Traverse City)
- o Tim DeMumbrum, Second Vice-President (Muskegon)
- Jon Wildrom, Secretary (Portland)
- o Kelly Fedele, Treasurer (Southgate)
- Zak Stevens, Past President (Iron Mountain)
- o Jeff Autenrieth, Director (Jackson)
- o Karol Grove-Tomlinson, Director (Highland)
- o Gil Bonno, Director (Grand Blanc)
- Carol Waite, Director (Cadillac)
- o Ron Brand, Director (Gaylord)
- o Max George, Director (Grand Rapids)
- o Pat Hastings, Central Chapter Rep (Ann Arbor)
- o Craig McVean, Northern Chapter Rep (Cadillac)
- o John Quine, Mid-Michigan Chapter Rep (Elsie)
- o Barbara Snyder, Saginaw Valley Chapter Rep (Saginaw)
- Carl Kiiskila, Northeast Chapter Rep (Gaylord)
- Larry Feindt, Southeast Chapter Rep (Novi)
- o Robert Burtch, West Central Chapter Rep (Big Rapids)

GENERAL

 Jim Hollandsworth attended the 2014 Association of Ontario Land Surveyors annual general meeting and presented a report.

• LEGISLATIVE

- o John Korr reported that Legislative Day held on 3/5/2014 in Lansing was a success.
- Senate Bill 422 (Remonumentation) was officially passed on 3/6/2014. It now goes to the House.
- o Joe Kapelczak is looking into PA-346 remonumentation funding.
- Senator Howard Walker is trying to get some of the \$15 million back which was taken by the State Legislature.
- PA-74 proposed revisions were discussed. An agreement is needed with Chris Beland at LARA.
- The Condominium Act has a lot of problems and proposed changes will take a while.
 - The OSLR Working Group chaired by Bill Karr is working with MARD (Michigan Association of Registers of Deeds).
- o PA-132 was not discussed at this time.

COMMITTEES

- Annual Meeting
 - Carl Kiiskila, reported on the progress re the 2015 Annual Meeting. Dennis J. Mouland, PLS has been chosen to be the Tuesday speaker as well as segments on Wed. or Thurs. Repeating concurrent sessions are being considered.
- .Communications

- Gil Bonno spoke about submitting the Michigan Surveyor publication to NSPS for entry in to the Excellence in Journalism Award contest.
- The older MSPS brochures are to be reviewed and possibly updated.
- Ad-Hoc Dealing with Unlicensed Activity
 - Zak Stevens held a meeting with the Foresters.
 - A letter was approved by the board to be sent to the Northern Michigan Land Brokers pertaining to a Blog re "Forestry Surveys". The purpose was to clarify the Occupation Code as is relates to the practice of surveying.
 - Other ongoing situations were discussed, particularly as to the procedures which should be followed in the case of a failure of persons to respond to missive questions concerning potential unlicensed activity.
 - AESLC / Lobbyist
 - Discussed which condominium sheets should be signed by surveyors, engineers and architects.
 - Discussed certificates of merit performed by a Professional Surveyor to legitimize claims of improper activity.

Seminar

- Karol Grove reported that a spring seminar at the MSPS office was planned. The speaker is to be determined.
- Perhaps other areas could be considered for a fall seminar.
- Please offer any ideas for seminars.
- Is there any interest in a cruise seminar?
- o Ad-Hoc Dealing with Life Membership
 - The cost to MSPS associated with maintaining life members was reviewed. Should there be a cost assessed for life membership in the future?

MISCELLANEOUS

- O Karol Grove presented information re the TwiST (Teaching with Spatial Technology) program. This is a week-long workshop held in Vancouver, WA designed to teach grade 6-12 educators how to use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS) in the classroom to create meaningful and challenging lesson plans for students. Karol is trying to raise the funds necessary to send three Michigan educators to this workshop to bring the program to Michigan.
 - Bob Burtch and Carl Shangra (Ferris reps) and Mike Drewyor (MTU rep) have all agreed to participate if the expenses were covered.
 - The board approved routing the funds donated for TwiST through the MSPS organization. No direct money from MSPS was authorized to be allocated for this program, since the availability of extra funds for 2014 is presently uncertain.
- o The possibility of creating a Geospatial Technology Committee was contemplated.
- National Surveyor's Week is from March 16-22, 2014. The program of measuring GPS coordinates on NGS bench marks by surveyors is being again promoted to help NGS improve the geoid model.

Karol Grove was asked to explain the TwiST Program and she stated that with the decline of the number of people writing the Professional Surveyors exam it would seem we are in a dying profession and something has to be done to reverse this situation. On the East and West Coasts of the country the profession is participating in or backing the Teaching with Spatial Technology program which is designed to teach 6-12 grade educators how to use GIS and GPS in the classroom therefor exposing students at an early age to the profession. Karol explained that one major problem with expanding this program is the travel expense of getting teachers to the training. Karol has the idea that for Michigan we can support two or three Instructors from Michigan Tech and Ferris State to learn how to and then to train the local teachers here in Michigan. This approach will cut out the travel expense for the local teachers.

Karol followed her explanation with soliciting for donations from Business Owners, MSPS Chapters and individuals to support the initial expenses for the college Instructors. It was also stated that there was an April 15th cutoff for application to the training.

Discussion, questions and comments were entertained and a motion to donate \$500.00 was made and seconded. A voice and show of hand vote was held in which a majority was for support. The motion passed.

6. Correspondence

- **a.** Legal Offense Fund (Letter) A thank you letter was received by Adolfo Castillo from Zak Stevens, Past State President, regarding the Southeast Chapter contribution of \$1,000.00.
- b. Electronic correspondence from Leyla Ahmed P.S. seeking an instructor to teach basic surveying courses. Adolfo Castillo stated that an email was sent to the Southeast Chapter Membership regarding the interest of Baker College in employing a part time instructor for surveying classes. It was mentioned that Dave Cole P.S. may be interested.
- c. Updated Southeast Chapter member database from Mollee Neff (email). A question was presented as to, "if all Southeast Chapter members are included in the database, or just the professional members?" Jason was going to look into this and make sure all members will be included on the mailing list.
- **d. 73 Annual meeting speaker notes available at MSPS website.** A comment was made regarding how good it is that the notes are on the website.

7. Unfinished Business

None!

8. New Business

a. Committee Suggestions for 2014

Jason Verran suggested that a committee should be formed to create a chapter approved safety manual. The idea was supported by Larry Feindt. Anyone who is interested can inform Jason.

b. Ideas for Chapter Activities for 2014

The organization of tracking CEH's for the Southeast Chapter will be kept by Jason Verran and will be delivered and posted on the chapter website at the end of the year.

9. Good of the Order

It was mentioned that National Surveyor's week was approaching and that the annual GPS event would be performed again per an email from Mollee Neff; contact Craig Amey for details.

Ray Donnelly stated that Karol Grove was the recipient of the *Surveyor of the Year* award presented at the annual meeting. Karol was applauded by the membership for this accomplishment.

The NSPS Committee on the ALTA/ACSM Standards is meeting Monday April 14th from 8:00-10:00am at the Town and Country Resort at 500 Hotel Circle North in San Diego, California. Gary Kent, Chairman of the committee, has asked for any feedback or comments regarding the present ALTA Survey standards that can be discussed at the NSPS Spring meeting. You could forward your comments to Ray Donnelly, Craig Amey or Gary Kent.

Karol Grove and Ray Donnelly both received a *President's Award* for the help they provide the society.

Don Ross was named the Surveyor of the Past.

The 50 – 50 drawing was won by Craig Amey in which he donated the winnings back to the Scholarship Fund.

10. Adjournment

The meeting ended at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Gary M. Chalice