

Connecticut Geospatial Information Systems Council

Education and Outreach Working Group

Meeting Minutes

16 March 2010

- The meeting started at 13:30
- Present included: P. Sandgren, C.Chadwick (by proxy for E. Wilson), B. Stewart-Kelly, B. Asimonye, P. Petrella, T. Dymkowski, B. DeGrazia
- Bill mentioned that Thad will attend CGA meeting tonight, they will discuss relationship between CGA and CT GIS. Their steering committee meets 3 times a year. Bill discussed the details of a State Bill HR 1240, that is being supported by several state legislators, and the Connecticut Geographic Alliance. Aim is to provide funding for teaching of geography. Right now teaching geography is not mandatory. 18 High Schools now teach it.
- Discussion regarding the database from the GIS survey
 - Cary has the database in 2 forms, one with contact info, one without
 - A phased update was proposed, first contacting those towns that were listed as having no GIS or not having any in-house GIS
 - It was noted that the Addressing Working Group recently did a similar survey, and that we should compare the results of the two surveys
 - Cary has the results of the Addressing Working Group survey
 - Peter suggested we give the respondents the option to have their contact information available on the web page
 - It was suggested that 1 person could send an e-mail to the phase 1 towns, and that phone calls to others would be divided up
 - Peter agreed to draft an e-mail to send and circulate it to the group
 - The e-mail should contain a link to the map currently on the web page
- Discussion regarding the GeoFocus newsletter
 - Beth asked if there was a web page view count
 - Bernard reported not at this time
 - Bernard noted the 2010 link has been taken down, as it is currently blank
 - Most recent edition is at the top of the page, with others collapsed below

- Beth announced that Spring edition will be released within next 2 weeks
- Peter suggested checking with other working groups to see if they have anything they can contribute to the newsletter
 - Peter will contact Erik Snowden about the Imaging Working Group project
- Cary will give Beth an article on CT ECO
- Discussion regarding the “What is GIS” presentation
 - Bernard noted that it is not yet on the web page
 - The web page does currently have 2 similar presentations, one from the USGS and 1 other
 - Peter will provide the CT GISC presentation to Bernard
- Discussion regarding presenters to the GISC
 - Fred North is due for the next meeting (Bernard will contact Fred to ask for his slides for the website)
 - Mary Huda attended a meeting and introduced herself
 - Scott Roberts has offered to present his “GIS on a blackberry” application, hopefully bringing the Police dog. (He also has a map-based document management program he presented at NEARC 2009.
 - Possible invite to Dan Czaja regarding his upcoming presentation to NEURISA
- Discussion regarding the Survey Monkey results from the GIS Day 2009 survey
 - Note was made regarding response to the distance willing to travel responses
 - One reviewer suggested more technical presentations
 - Note was also made regarding suggestions for next year’s GIS Day
 - Thad reminded the group about a field trip to CCSU to look at the facility ahead of GIS Day.
- Beth commented on the recent natural resources conference at UConn
- It was unanimously decided to list Bill DeGrazia as a regular member of the working group
 - Bill agreed and graciously accepted the invitation.
- Meeting adjourned at 14:55