

Applied Geography Conferences

Spring 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order

President Tom Dwyer called to order the Spring 2020 Board of Directors meeting at 2pm via conference call.

II. Attendance

The following board members were in attendance: President Tom Dwyer, Executive Director Murray Rice, and Board Members Harrison Campbell, Dawna Cerney, Jay Newberry, Linda Peters, Wei Song, Chetan Tiwari, and Clayton Whitesides.

III. Review and Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes: AGC 2019 in Charlotte

Cerney moves to approve minutes. Campbell seconds. All approve.

IV. AGC 2020 Venue Updates

Rice provides an update on behalf of Michael Ratcliff. Hotel Indigo in Baltimore will host the main event and reception. Additional meeting rooms for hosting sessions will be needed. Conference this year is in coordination with the Race, Ethnicity, and Place (REP) Conference. AGC will take place Oct. 18 to 20 (Sunday through Tuesday). REP will follow.

Discussion(s):

- Relatively higher costs of hosting AGC in Baltimore follows. Whiteside comments on efforts to save monies by encouraging poster presentations.
- Advantages of hosting conference in coordination with REP. Rice comments that the hotel was not available for the AGC meeting after REP (only before – hence the Sunday through Tuesday schedule).
- Peters suggests looking into hosting more technical sessions. Will coordinate with Rice. Rice requests additional help with session planning. Cerney emphasizes the importance of hosting technical sessions. She found that the technical sessions at ESRI conferences are useful. Peters comments that technical sessions can be focused – e.g. targeting educators, etc. Rice requests board involvement in planning these sessions.
- Newberry points out that in earlier AGC conferences, large hotel suites were converted to session rooms. That may be a possibility in this conference given the need for additional meeting space. Rice suggests that the planning committee continues to work on these efforts. In the meantime, board members can assist by advertising the 2020 meeting.

V. *Board Member Changes*

a. *Member Retirements*

Two board members are leaving due to retirements. Rice acknowledges and thanks members for their contributions.

b. *New Nominations*

Peters nominates Steinberg for AGC board member position. Earl nominates Blanchard for board member position. CV and statements of interest for both nominations distributed to the board via AGC website. Board members discuss the strengths of each candidate and express excitement over potential contributions to AGC. Dwyer calls for motion for approve. Peters seconds. All in favor.

VI. *Proposal for Partnership with NCGE*

- a. Cerney discusses proposal for potential partnerships with NCGE. See NCGE proposal (ncge_proposal.pdf) document on the AGC website. Board discussed strategies by which AGC can reach out to NCGE. There was a discussion oo efforts to engage geo-educators with AGC. One suggestion was to think about bringing an NCGE member to the AGC board to act as a liaison between the two groups. Potential candidates were discussed at the meeting.

VII. *Financial Updates (new addition to the agenda)*

- a. Tiwari provided an update on the budget. Details can be found on the AGC website. Efforts to use software to keep better track of financial transactions/records was discussed. Tiwari and Rice will work on identifying a better system for accepting payments for AGC registrations – the current two-step approach is not very intuitive and is tedious to manage. Rice provided updates on the tax issue from the last tax year. The issue is close to being resolved with the IRS.

VIII. *Plans for Next In-Person AGC Board Meeting at AAG Denver*

- a. Possible dates for a board meeting at the AAG were discussed. For members who cannot make it in person, some type of a conference call will be set up. Board meeting confirmed for Thursday, April 9th from 6:30am to 8am.

IX. *Other Business*

- a. Rice provides an update on revisions to the by-laws: Hernandez is working on it. We should expect to see that as a major agenda item for the upcoming board meeting in Denver.
- b. Cerney asks if REP has already selected a venue for their next conference. Raises the possibility of jointly selecting a site for the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned