

**NYS GIS Association**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes**  
The Desmond Crowne Plaza  
Albany, New York  
Tuesday, September 26, 2023  
Minutes by Heather Ferrero and Michelle Debyah

**Board Members Present:** Mary Susan Knauss, Karyn Tareen, Dawn F. McCall, Heather Ferrero

**Not Present:** Greg Andersen, Mary Colomaio, Catherine DuBreck, Michelle Debyah, Matthew Solo

**Members Present:** 54 in attendance of 410 members in good standing, quorum established.

**Minutes:** The meeting began at 11:02 AM.

#### Welcome

Karyn Tareen introduced President Mary Susan Knauss. President Knauss welcomed the membership and thanked them for attending the NYS GIS Association Annual Meeting. President Knauss acknowledged and thanked Board Members, Committee Chairs, and Committee Members for their dedication and hard work. President Knauss also thanked the NYGeoCon Committee for an excellent conference.

#### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report dated September 15, 2023 was reviewed. The current balance is \$58,208.06. Major expenses for the year include website hosting and domains, D&O insurance, general liability insurance, marketing and awards, and meeting and conference expenses. To date there has been \$31,237.29 in income from membership dues and conference fees, and \$26,852.89 in expenses.

There is \$5,105.33 in membership money being held for GISMO, and \$982.79 for WNY.

A motion was made by Ana Hiraldo-Gomez to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion was seconded by Carol Zollweg. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Bylaw Amendments

The changes are designed to strengthen the Board and add additional talent and focus. The Board is recommending that the size of the Board be increased to six (6) Directors. This will create two (2) new Director positions with the alternate year terms currently in place. It is also proposed that the requirement that Past-Presidents wait two (2) years before running for Director be removed. The most forward-looking change is the creation of a new position: Information Technology Officer (ITO). The back office of the Association needs rejuvenation. This appointed position will focus on achieving that goal. The bylaw amendments were approved by vote of the membership.

## President's Report

President Knauss presented Association accomplishments for the past year:

- Membership Over 500
- Continued Coordination and Interaction with GAC
- Added the Zoom account for standard platform for all online meetings
- Bylaw Revisions
  - Two Director Positions were added
  - Information Technology Officer
- Outreach & Support
  - Sponsored 2023 Westchester GIS User Group meeting and Annual GIS/SIG Conference
  - Working with WNY GIS Users Group to strengthen relationship
  - NYSAPLS & NYS GIS Association Joint Committee on Shared Service Applications
    - NYSAPLS 2023 Annual Conference Roundtable
    - NYS GIS Association 2023 Annual Conference Roundtable
- GeoSpatial Summit Location & Date Set
  - September 23-24, 2024, Skaneateles

## Committee Reports

- Awards Committee (Steven Russell Jr., Chair)
  - Lifetime Achievement Award
  - Individual Contributions to the Profession
  - GIS Champion Award
  - GIS Application Award
  
- Communications Committee (Carol Zollweg, Ann Deakin, Max Villanueva, Co-Chairs)
  - Public Face of the NYS GIS Association
  - Association Website ([nysgis.org](http://nysgis.org))
  - NYGeoCon 2023 Website
  - Monthly Newsletter
  - News of interest posted throughout the year
  - Social Media: LinkedIn, FB, Twitter, Instagram
  - Emails keep membership informed
  - Maintain member database
  
- Education Committee (Paula Lazrus, Chair)
  - Committee members have been very active at presenting at conferences
  - Ongoing teacher professional development state-wide
  - Working with other committees to develop Continuing Education Credits
  - Developed repository for sharing educational trainings and workshops
  - Strengthening relationships with national educational organizations
  
- GeoSpatial Summit 2024 Committee (Mary Susan Knauss, Chair)
  - Mission to host the best and most informative GeoSpatial Summit for GIS Professionals in New York State
  - Invite engaging keynote speakers
  - Provide a forum for communication, cooperation and collaboration among the GIS community
  - The Lodge in Skaneateles, September 23-24, 2024

- Legislative Committee (Mary Susan Knauss, Chair)
  - Challenge
    - How to promote and accelerate the adoption of geospatial solutions to support our practitioners
    - No immediate legislation planned
  - 2023 Efforts
    - Participated in Board of Directors Meeting with NYSAPLS
    - NYS GIS Association presence at the NYSAPLS Annual Conference
    - Developed a NYS GIS Association Legislative Agenda
  
- Membership Committee
  - Develop and Administer Association surveys to meet membership needs
  - Ongoing assessment of membership service and experience
  - Coordinate membership growth strategy and renewal efforts
  
- NYGeoCon 2023 Committee (Karyn Tareen, Rick Reichert, Co-Chairs)
  - The NYGeoCon Committee is excited to bring the first in-person NYGeoCon since 2019!
  - This biennial event brings together approximately 200 GIS professionals from state, county and municipal government sectors, non-profit organizations, academia, as well as environmental, engineering and surveying consultant companies
  - The conference provides opportunities for comprehensive education, in-depth discussion and exchanging of ideas
  
- Professional Development Committee (Melissa Albino Hegeman, Chair)
  - Provide training, guidance and assistance to the members of the NYS GIS Association at all levels of expertise in an effort to further their knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the numerous geospatial technologies along with solutions that are available through webinars, workshops and training sessions
  
- Regional Coordination Committee (Ross Baldwin, Alan Leidner, Co-Chairs)
  - Mission to work to improve collaboration, cooperation and mutual support between the NYS GIS Association and regional GIS groups
  - The Association recognizes that its regional partners are critical to the success of GIS in the State and understands that by helping to strengthen them, it will also be strengthened
  - Composed all NYS Regional GIS Groups
  - Maintains contact with regular Zoom calls
  - Supported all Practitioners during the COVID Years

#### Departing Board Members and Committee Chairs

President Knauss thanked departing Board Members and Committee Chairs:

- Karyn Tareen, Past-President
- Mary Colomaio, Board of Directors
- Kate Kiyanita, former GeoSpatial Summit Committee Co-Chair
- Lis DeGironimo, former GeoSpatial Summit Committee Co-Chair
- Stephanie Rockwell, former Membership Committee Chair
- Jim Bennett, former Treasurer

### Election Results

President Knauss announced the results of the election:

- President-Elect: Greg Andersen was elected as President-Elect
- Board of Directors: Catherine DuBreck was reelected to second two-year term as Director
- Board of Directors: Amanda Cruz was elected to first two-year term as Director

### Leadership Transition

Mary Susan Knauss, now Past-President, introduced Dawn McCall as the new President. President McCall thanked Past-President Knauss for all she has done for the Association. President McCall congratulated Catherine DuBreck and Amanda Cruz for being elected to the Board of Directors. President McCall thanked Karyn Tareen for her contributions on the board.

### Looking Forward

President McCall presented several areas of focus moving forward:

- Continue the work with both Regions and other sister organizations like NYSAPLS
- Fill the Information Technology Officer role
- Open call for volunteers for a full bylaws review
- Continue process documentation

### Awards Presentation

- Individual Contribution to the Profession
  - Jenny Mogavero
- Geospatial Application Award
  - NYS Department of State Geographic Information Gateway
- GIS Champion Award
  - Ann Deakin
  - Carol Zollweg
- Lifetime Achievement Award
  - Frank Winters
  - Eric Herman

### Open Discussion

President McCall asked the membership for feedback:

- A lot of training via zoom. Are virtual trainings an ongoing feature? Yes.

President McCall thanked the conference sponsors and everyone for attending the NYS GIS Association Annual Meeting.

A motion was made by Ana Hiraldo-Gomez to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Carol Zollweg. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 AM.

NYS GIS Association  
September 15, 2023  
Annual Treasurer Report  
Matthew Solo

**Bank Balance:**

Balance 9/15/2022: \$53,823.66  
Balance 9/15/2023: \$58,208.07  
  
Increase of \$4,384.41

\* Balances include amounts for NYS GIS Association, GISMO and WNY

Date	NYS GIS Assoc.	GISMO	WNY GISUG	Total
9/15/23	\$52,119.94	\$5,105.33	\$982.79	\$58,208.06

**Income & Expenses 9/15/2022 - 9/15/2023**

Expense Category	Debit
Vistaprint	\$645.51
Delaney	\$12,947.38
AmTrust	\$778.00
Check	\$7,906.89
USPS	\$176.00
Really-Simple-SSL	\$23.20
DDA Debit	\$1,020.00
Desmond Hotel	\$1,000.00
Go Daddy	\$42.34
Hostmonster	\$19.99
Exchange Fee	\$0.69
InMotion Hosting	\$109.99
Adams and Sons	\$782.46
Zoom	\$445.00
PayPal	\$450.00
Survey Monkey	\$505.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,852.89</b>

Income Category	Credit
*Membership Dues Collected	\$6,223.75
DDA Deposit	\$7,091.12
Delaney	\$17,922.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$31,237.29</b>

\* This amount includes multi-year memberships and WNY and GISMO membership dues