

**NYS GIS Association
Annual Meeting Minutes**

Allyn Lodge at Skaneateles Fields

Skaneateles Falls, New York

Thursday, October 6, 2026

Minutes by Melissa Boglioli and Michelle Debyah

Board Members Present: Catherine DuBreck, Heather Ferrero, Ryan Mayr, Greg Andersen, Casey Dunne, Jeff Herter, Dawn F. McCall, William J. Trask Jr.

Officers Present: Melissa Boglioli, Melissa Albino Hegeman

Not Present: Ana Hiraldo-Gomez, Matt Adam, Michelle Debyah

Members Present: 32 in attendance of 461 members in good standing.

Guests Present: 17 guests present.

Minutes: The meeting began at 4:32 PM.

Welcome

President Catherine DuBreck welcomed members and guests and thanked them for attending the NYS GIS Association Annual Meeting. President DuBreck acknowledged and thanked Board Members, Committee Chairs, and Committee Members for their dedication and hard work. President DuBreck also thanked the GeoSpatial Summit Committee for an excellent conference.

President's Report

President DuBreck presented Association accomplishments for the past year:

- Continued working with our Regional and Local User Groups
 - WNYGIS
 - Attended 2026 NE ESRI Meetup
 - Sponsored 2025 GIS Day Event
 - Shared recorded video message for 2026 GIS Day Event
 - GIS/SIG
 - Sponsored & attended 2026 Spring Conference
 - Attended 2025 GIS Day and 2026 Mappy Hour events
 - ADK/North Country
 - Shared recorded video message at 2026 Spring conference
 - LIGIS
 - Shared recorded video message for 2026 GIS Day Event
 - CapGeo (Albany Metro) Regional Group
 - Member-based renewal of the CapGeo (Albany Metro) Regional Group
 - CapGeo 2025 GIS Day Mappy Hour at Common Roots Albany Outpost

- Synergis
 - Ithaca Mini Map Conference
- GISMO
 - Attended the Commemoration of the Geospatial Response to the Attack on the World Trade Center and Reflections on 25 Years of Progress
- Continued working with sister organizations
 - Sponsored NYSAPLS 2026 Annual Conference
 - Continued partnership with NYSAPLS at the Digital Access to Public Land Records in NYS, which met earlier today and the Digital Access Working Group (DAWG)
 - Coordination with NSGIC at the Western State's Caucus and NYS Association of County Clerks at their annual meeting
 - Seeking to build new partnerships, such as with the North American Cartographic Society
- Young Professionals Group
 - Formed the Early Professionals Committee
- Continued recruiting volunteers
 - Secretary
 - Welcome, Melissa Boglioli!
 - Professional Development Committee Volunteers
 - Several new members since last year's annual meeting, working on GISP study groups!
- Continued Process Documentation
- Continued annual membership drive
- Migrated member map to AGO, thanks to Max Villanueva
- Continued migration of content to new Association Google Workspace
 - Board Member, Officer, and Committee Chair training sessions
- Membership database migration
- Working on using Stripe for payments
- Continued growth and momentum of 2 new Committees
 - Early Professionals
 - GeoAI

Treasurer's Report: Matt Adam, Treasurer

The Treasurer's Report dated September 21, 2026, was reviewed. The current balance is \$97,829.57, including money being held for GISMO and WNY. Major expenses for the year include website hosting and domains, D&O insurance, general liability insurance, marketing and awards, and meeting and conference expenses. There was \$69,343.00 in income from membership dues and conference fees, and \$64,171.77 in expenses.

There is \$11,773.77 in membership money being held for GISMO, and \$1,568.48 for WNY.

A motion was made by Dawn McCall to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion was seconded by Mary Susan Knauss. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

- GeoSpatial Summit Committee (Jeff Herter, John Marino, Co-Chairs)
 - Bring together leading GIS professionals and enthusiasts for an engaging day of presentations, discussions, and networking opportunities.

- 2026 Updates:
 - New website format using ArcGIS Hub
 - New registration platform using Jotform
 - New networking event - Boat Tour of Skaneateles Lake
 - Meeting 7 - NYS Alliance for Digital Access to Public Records
 - Record number of sponsor support and interest
- Thank you for making this year's GeoSpatial Summit a success!
- Awards Committee (Steven Russell Jr., Chair)
 - The Awards Committee manages our annual awards program to recognize achievement, innovation, and contributions to our profession, and help foster a strong community of GIS Professionals in New York State.
 - Awards are given annually to members of the NYS GIS Association community after a call for nominations is made to the membership.
 - This year's awards include:
 - Lifetime Achievement (2)
 - 1 GIS Application (1)
 - GIS Champion (2)
 - The awards ceremony will take place tonight at 6pm during networking reception!
- Communications Committee (Max Villanueva, Michelle Debyah, Co-Chairs)
 - Website and social media administration
 - Promote events, membership drive, and award nominations on social media, the website, and by email
 - Regular job postings on the website and social media for prospective GIS Professionals
 - Photography at annual events
 - Email communications
 - Membership database management
- Early Professionals Committee (Joshua Weilert, Chair)
 - Connect students and early career GIS professionals across New York State to opportunities for learning, networking, and leadership development
 - Create a supportive community that fosters professional growth and collaboration within the geospatial field
 - Offer insight/guidance on navigating an early GIS career
 - Highlight different subsets of GIS
 - Help understand different GIS jobs and where to look
 - Looking for members to help grow this new committee!
- Educators Committee (Mark Baran, Chair)
 - Several new members, reviewed Mission Statement & Committee Goals
 - **Mission Statement:** The Educators Committee is dedicated to supporting and empowering educators at all levels by fostering GIS education and outreach throughout New York State.
 - **Committee Goals:** It is our intention to provide knowledge, resources, and collaborative opportunities to educators in order to foster their ability to provide geospatial education, promote spatial thinking, and give learners the work force ready GIS skills and knowledge to succeed.
 - Current Projects:

- Library outreach – getting academic librarians an introductory understanding of GIS so they can better help their students
 - Future Projects under consideration:
 - Training opportunities for K-12 teachers
 - Dual-enrollment courses for high school students
 - Identify key professional GIS skills for university students
 - If you have projects that the Educators Committee could help with or want to join, please reach out to Mark Baran at mbara009@plattsburgh.edu
- GeoAI Committee (Alan Leidner, Chair)
 - Committee Goals:
 - Technology Awareness: Identify innovative GeoAI tools, agents, & capabilities & bring them to the attention of Association members
 - Research and Innovation: Guide GeoAI research and development efforts to address New York State private and public needs
 - Education and Outreach: Inform NYS and its local governments about educational practices that will enhance the public's ability to use GeoAI for their own benefit
 - Economic Development: Foster development of GeoAI oriented private sector companies in NYS
 - Ethics and Governance: Explore ways of minimizing abuses & inaccuracies of GeoAI, while maximizing effectiveness & public trust.
 - Data Standards and Infrastructure: Support Enterprise GIS, robust metadata, and geospatial data standards, to ensure high quality, interoperable datasets for use with GeoAI tools and applications
 - Promote Collaboration: Work with other governments and organizations to develop GeoAI based solutions of benefit to NYS
 - Greg Anderson and Wayne Howard have volunteered to serve as Co-Chairs next year
 - Be sure to join us during tonight's networking reception for a special GeoAI Committee presentation!
- Legislative Committee (Dawn F. McCall, Chair)
 - The NYS Digital Public Land Record Access meeting is a collaboration between the NYS GIS Association and NYSAPLS
 - Mission: To champion the standardization of public access to digitized public land records statewide in order to better serve NYS
 - Meeting 7 was earlier today
 - We have a DOT working group focused on DOT items
 - The County Clerks Working group has expanded to Digital Access Working Group (DAWG) - they are targeting different areas and have 12 members
 - County Clerks
 - National Parcels
 - Real Property Tax Services
- Membership Committee (Binod Shah, Chair)
 - Mission: encourage users of geospatial technology from all backgrounds to join and participate in the NYS GIS Association, ensure member's user experience is of the highest quality and benefit, and in conjunction with other committees of the Association strive in all efforts to continue membership growth.

- As of September 30, 2026, we have **461** current members.
- Successful annual membership drive.
- Become a member today!
- Professional Development Committee (Melissa Albino Hegeman, Chair)
 - Provide training, guidance, and assistance to the members of the NYS GIS Association
 - Created a GISP study group via Google Groups
 - Working on instructions for the website so anyone can join the group
 - Getting ready for a Fall 2026 GISP Study Group
 - Stay tuned for more info coming soon (October)
 - Working on planning a mapathon through HOT OSM & Missing Maps - stay tuned for more info and we need volunteers to help
- Regional Coordination Committee (Dawn F. McCall, Heather Ferrero, Co-Chairs)
 - We will hold a Regional Meeting in the coming months.
 - Many of the 15 Regions are holding events. Regional Coordination Committee will continue to identify those events and work with the Communications Committee to promote the event on all NYS GIS Association socials and the website. If you are in a region that is planning an event, please reach out to us so we can help.
 - We will be engaging the regions for input on how the NYS GIS Association can be an active resource for them.
 - Updating the regional map on the Association's website to reflect new regions and region names.
 - A Commemoration of the Geospatial Response to the Attack on the World Trade Center and Reflections on 25 Years of Progress
- NYGeoCon Committee (Karyn Tareen, Heather Weller, Co-Chairs)
 - Plan and organize the state's premier geospatial conference
 - NYGeoCon 2027
 - Hosted by the NYS GIS Association
 - September 12-15, 2027
 - Glens Falls, New York

Departing Board Members and Committee Chairs

President DuBreck thanked departing Board Members and Committee Chairs:

- Casey Dunne, Board Member
- Heather Ferrero, Past-President
- Michelle Debyah, Secretary
- Paula Lazrus, Educators Committee
- Alan Leidner, GeoAI Committee
- Binod Shah, Membership Committee

The NYS GIS Association needs your help!

- **Webmaster** – Someone to help maintain our website with WordPress experience or interest
- **Stripe API Specialist** – Someone to help integrate Stripe with new membership database
- **Membership Committee Co-Chair** – Someone interested in growing our membership

- **Early Professionals Committee** – People interested in growing a new Committee & connecting students and early career folks to opportunities
- Volunteer with any of our committees! www.nysgis.net/committees

Election Results

President-Elect Ryan Mayr announced the results of the election:

- President-Elect: Greg Andersen was elected as President-Elect
- Board of Directors: Jeff Herter was reelected to second two-year term as Director
- Board of Directors: Dave Genaway was elected to first two-year term as Director
- Board of Directors: Mike Mason was elected to first two-year term as Director

Leadership Transition

Catherine DuBreck, now Past-President, introduced Ryan Mayr as the new President. President Mayr thanked Past-President DuBreck for all she has done for the Association. President Mayr congratulated Greg Andersen on being elected President-Elect, and Jeff Herter, Dave Genaway, and Mike Mason for being elected to the Board of Directors.

Looking Forward

President Mayr shared his goals for the coming year:

- Strengthen organizational infrastructure and member services
- Advance financial stewardship and organizational sustainability initiatives
- Support governance improvements through policy and bylaw review
- Enhance collaboration among Regional and Local User Groups
- Expand volunteer engagement, leadership development, and membership growth opportunities
- Improve organizational documentation and operational continuity

Open Discussion

President Mayr asked the membership for feedback:

- John Marino asked about the structure of Regional groups. Dawn McCall answered that the Association is looking to strengthen the Regional groups. Elisabeth DiGironimo stated that there are a couple of MOUs with local and regional groups and she had previously worked to communicate with groups across the state.

President Mayr thanked everyone for attending the NYS GIS Association Annual Meeting.

A motion was made by Shawn Rooney to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Heather Ferrero. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 PM.

NYS GIS Association
September 21, 2026
Annual Treasurer's Report
Matt Adam

***Bank Balance:**

Balance 9/16/2025: \$95,273.87
Balance 9/21/2026: \$97,829.57
Increase of \$2,555.70

* Balance includes amounts for NYS GIS Association, GISMO and WNY

Date	NYS GIS Assoc.	GISMO	WNY GIS	Total
9/21/26	\$84,487.32	\$11,773.77	\$1,568.48	\$97,829.57

Income & Expenses 9/16/2025 - 9/21/2026

Expense Category	Debit
Adams & Son	\$763.00
AmTrust	\$535.00
Checks	\$40,937.01
Delaney	\$12,002.94
GoDaddy	\$94.76
ESRI	\$761.25
Exchange Fee	\$1.93
Google	\$831.59
InMotion Hosting	\$109.99
Jotform	\$127.23
NYSAPLS	\$200.00
Office Depot	\$97.86
Really Simple	\$69.00
Reimbursements	\$338.75
Survey Monkey	\$505.44
Midlakes Navigation	\$975.00
The Queensbury Hotel	\$5,000.00
UPS	\$2.00
USPS	\$78.00
Vista Print	\$158.88
Zoom	\$445.00
Total	\$64,171.77

Income Category	Credit
*Membership Dues Collected	\$5,154.77
Check	\$8,167.00
Delaney	\$30,923.52
STRIPE	\$25,092.71
Savings Account Interest	\$5.00
Total	\$69,343.00

*This amount includes multi-year NYS GIS Association memberships as well as GISMO and WNY membership dues.