



PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY



**P.O. Box 10243
Trenton, N.J. 08650**

Minutes of General Meeting:
Fezziwig's Warehouse Grill & Bar
April 25, 2006

Persons Present: (Roll Call)

Jay Pierson Don Rife Don Kamp

Executive:

Dennis Smith, President / Director
Ken Raike, Treasurer
Jake Rigelon Jr., Secretary
Dawn McCall, Acting Secretary

Meeting called to order 7:13

Minutes:

Amended minutes as prepared see the Red section of the March 06 meeting minutes.

Ken make the motion to approve the minutes as amended second by Don Kamp, motion passed.

Treasures Report:

Checking Balance.....\$ 3,735.18
After writing the check to Tom Harris

Savings Balance.....\$ 5,622.23
As of April 25, 2006

How is the search for the CD and rates? The rates keep going up so Ken did not want to lock us in. Ken to call Heather to find other options.

Motion to approve Treasures Report by Jake seconded by Don Rife, motion passed.



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Communications:

Only other correspondence was the Website contract that was taken care of at the exe meeting. Jay commented on how nice our website looked.

Committee Reports:

GIS:

Next NJGF meeting is June 2nd. The parcel task force should be meeting before that. Also there is a NJSPLS GIS Education meeting on May 11th to discuss expanding the presentation given at the September 05 General Membership meeting.

A point that might be of some interest is at one of the recent NJGF meeting the 2007 NJDEP Flight was discussed. This time the NJDEP is soliciting information about what specifications the community would like the project to have. They are not thinking increasing the resolution or accuracy, they are looking for information about the method for the digital imagery and there has been a Task Force established to handle that issue. Jake asked if there was a surveyor on that committee and Dawn said that she believe that there is at least one surveyor on that committee, but not 100% sure, however all Task Forces are open to anyone that would like to participate.

The state is also discussing the idea of a “local buy up” meaning that certain areas of the state can be flown at a lower altitude to get a better product. Dawn has been involved in this process of soliciting interest in this option and has written a memo to that effect. Jake requested a copy of the memo to see if Mercer County engineer would be interested. Jay also requested a copy of this memo sent to his email. This memo started by a phone call from Trish Long, a planner for the City of Trenton, to Dawn to request some information about the Mercer County Area, from there Dawn though it might be a good if something was put together to give people information about this opportunity. Jay asked if this was the LIDAR in Ocean County. Dawn thought that it is not the same, the LIDAR was most likely with the Army Corp of Engineers and not the 2007 NJDEP Othophotography project.

Directors Report:

This is an off month for Directors reports.

Old Business:

Founders and Past Presidents meeting was approved for June 22. Dennis came up La Piazza restaurant in Allentown. BYOB place nice meeting place. A number of packages



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are offered. We are recommending the package that would be \$ 35.90. Jakes motion to move forward with a commitment for 25 people, Ken seconded. Post it to the website ASAP. Dennis will finalize the letter to the Founders and Past Presidents. One gentleman was very instrumental in creating PLSANJ but was never president. Final letter will be attached to the minutes.

Next meeting Joint with BUCKS on May 25th

Presentation by Jay Pierson:

3 avenues to work on for NJSPLS: Education, Image and Membership.

Education. Jay was speaking to Bill Beardslee today working on a CAD course to give to technicians. Not known how long it will be at this time and possibly dovetail it in with NJIT idea to work with NJIT possible new course for CAD. Last months POB highly education orientated and pointed it out to Bill Beardslee. How long is still up in the air, thinking of 1-2 hours. Also might try to involved HS teachers to try to get HS students to know what surveyor look like.

Jake. Discussion about old computer user magazine that told you what you can make if you take xyz courses. He thinks it's a good thing that Josh might be doing a CAD course.

Jay.... You can still get your 4 year degree at Gloucester. The course for next year and there are 90 students. They have canceled the one course last year for lack of interest. As of this year there was 17 in Newark and 0 in Gloucester, they might cancel the course again.

Jake...if Josh puts together the course it may be shared with other community colleges...Jay is hoping for HS schools, CAD schools, trade schools, vo-techs. Something like a week of surveying experience in those kinds of classes.

Jay...that's what we are working on with the CAD course....Jake that was my idea with the Building for NJSPLS....to have a Training center in that building, with that kind of course. In the past....there had been people didn't want to be a PLS but would like to try the drafting and this would give them an opportunity. Many years past, maybe in the time of John Rossi, we tried to help people with disabilities to become drafters. We funded the costs for them to go to the 2 CAD classes at Mercer County College. Other people showed interest but there are no other venues. It would be great if we had a 6 week program for a CAD course at a community college, and the that NJSPLS would focus on getting that class filled. This would be a good topic for our Pizza Meeting if we



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could get this put together. ...Jay will take this back to Bill to talk about it. This is a little more in-depth in detail than the original thought, but it is a good idea for people who don't want to attend college.

Don Rife and Don Kamp... Bucks county tech school has a program that is specifically focused on Survey. The instructor is a licensed PLS, Bob Hale, PLS. The instructor might be a resource. There are approximately 20 workstations. PLS has donated some materials to the school. It has an advisory committee that is active to try to guide them in the technology of the industry.

There was an NSPS safety video that was voted down. Being New I didn't know what to say about this, how much to discuss. There might have been some polices there. It's not a businesslike sound venture; it costs double the amount to have the sponsor name at the \$2,500 level. Jay's recommendation will be through the \$5000 level so each chapter can have a copy as well as head quarters. Jake would like our directors to support Jay. Would you be looking for the chapters to fund this? NO. NJSPLS will fund this.

Linda is not here but Jay was going to congratulate her on the roll in the Scholarship Committee.

Image. NJSPLS is trying to go into schools to make people aware of what we do, to try to convince people to make this a career. But we might need some help with this, through a public relations firm. Jay feels that it is important to have the surveyor to go to the schools as well as the firm.

Dennis was upset that we could not find a sponsor for the trig star; Jay said this was a problem throughout the state.

Jay was very excited about the pursuing the possibility of a Society Spokes Person, several years ago Jake had prepared a proposal on this topic. Not only to go to schools but also to go to other events that might have architect or engineers, as a local expert. Jake's proposal generated a significant amount of interest. Bruce Rigg was charged with further developing the idea, but nothing was ever reported. Jay asked Jake to forward his documents to him again, and he will review it. Bruce Rigg might have a good file on that. It was not that long ago, 3-4 years ago. A PR person is essential to help promote the profession.

Ken asked if anyone thought about a circular profile type flyer in a publication to help educate the public. To help answer the question why does a survey cost X? Don Rife,



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added at PSLs they stress that people put together a profile about why a survey costs what it does and what it takes to be a surveyor.

Jake, sometimes he comes across crews that he talks with about going to the meetings. And they say where does this money go, what does it do for me. Don Kamp.....that is the problem....what do I get out of it.....we need to change the idea of value added time and networking opportunities.....Jake,,,,, more like the budget for the NJSPLS where is all this money going.....what is it doing for us practicing in the profession. At this time all the people see is the conferenceit is one of the best conferences around. But if the society can produce something it would be a big help. Jay....I think this ties back to the education as well as the PR.

The next coordinate is going to focus on education. Maybe some interviews of graduates of NJIT and Josh. Also to discuss what is involved. At the conference there were PE's that said they never knew what was involved until they went thought it. It is hoped to get this publication to legislators as well as others.

At the prodding of PLSANJ, (a letter from Jake), Bruce Rigg and John Dziemian, were charged with preparing white paper on minor engineering 3 years back or so. There never was a report and it went off radar as a matter of fact, soon thereafter John dropped off of the Executive Board. Jake got a call when he asked what the results were. Jay said that that committee has been resurrected. Jay said, there was a report that he had with different states and what is required. Ken asked to see that white paper. Jay said he would forward it.

Jay said that we have gone to Ed Gross to research the definitions to understand what might have been the engineers intent of the legislation, they threatened PLS's with. There was a meeting with Bill Beardslee and several PE groups several months ago....they were supposed to give recommendations on the definition of topography. They have not provided one, so NJSPLS will give one to the board....such as engineering measurement are how big and what the size but not WHERE it is spatially.

Where is all the money going??? Is there any proposed new legislation that would help land surveyors? What about the minor subdivision legislation? We have been working on it for the last few years and it has gone nowhere at a significant financial cost. What new is happening? Some other surveyors from other states have emailed Jake some legislation that they thought would benefit N.J. Surveyors that he forwarded to headquarters and has never heard anything about it. Jake would like to see some new blood added to the legislative committee to look into new legislation. The current legislation committee has not been too successful lately. It would be great to see some



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new proposals out of that committee. Jay agreed and said he is going to charge the Legislative Committee to call a full membership meeting so all Chapters are represented and can bring ideas forward and establish goals. Don Kamp is our representative for that committee.

Another committee that never produced anything was the Home Base Building Search Committee. Despite a fabulous preliminary report that drew a lot of excited interest from a broad spectrum of NJSPLS members, Jack Gravatt and Bruce Blair asked to co-chair the committee, but never produced a report. Maybe it will be reintroduced in a few years. When the accolades can be attributed to others.

Don Kamp...Jay what else do you have planned for your term.

Membership Bruce McKenna is chairing that. He is working on a student membership at NJIT, to get activity of NJSPLS for NJIT

Membership meeting May 9th, flood surveys affidavits. River boat cruise coming up. As far as membership, trying to create the activity for general membership. Benefits, we have tried it before and I don't know if it gets any place low cost health care that Joe Doland put together was great but didn't have support. The cruise ship meeting to have fellow ship.... To see if we can get things done in a relaxed manner. How is that coming along? The boat is going, but we don't have final numbers yet, there are only about 75 people at this time.

Jay would like to generate interest for members to move people into the Exe Board. There has been a change in the Secretary Treasurer position, shortening up the ladder to the exe board. Jake, the spokes person to focus on the fun part of the profession that could be around year after year, to allow the exe members to do all the do all the hard work that they do.

Jay we want to get these things out to promote the profession. NGS to publish the data sheets in feet also, NJSPLS, Office of GIS and NJGS. The topic of Coalition of design professionals in the state, discussed by Lew Conley to discuss if the coalition even exists any more. Lew, Jay and president elect Don Pernel are working on that. Talking about the definition of Topo that might not be too offensive to engineers. Exe members donation to pac and make sure it will not be a problem with the pay to play legislation.

Jake...is there another planning retreat planned...Jay...September or October...hopefully to get a budget and then hopefully the retreat to follow. If you were invited to the planning committee it is paid for.



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Ken.....Engineers, what we can throw back at them? Basically what they do on their plans is a pretty picture that is not geometrically correct. The municipalities are accepting this. Don Rife, the engineering plans are basically good. Ken if you get the CAD drawing from them nothing works with where the building is located. Don Kamp....however there is always an architect in another room that makes other decisions that change those plans. You will see this more and more as GPS comes into bull dozers. Ken is right with what comes out of the engineers....Don Kamp.....I am getting leery about turning out digital drawings with the liability...because my survey plan turns into your site plan.....and then it gets staked out And things don't always work. Where does the liability lie? When all the locals are requiring digital submissions at all the levels.....how do you know what version is what and what happens to all these submissions.

Jake NJIT is the future of surveying profession....but as a State Society we do need to focus on attracting more technicians.....Dennis, says PLSANJ has a standing invitation to techs. And we only have one that is active ... Dawn

Don Kamp....are you looking for anything from the chapters. Jay said, I want them to be available to the committees to bring ideas to the committees...we are trying to use the website more to have e-meetings and such to help facilitate those communications. Jake maybe try something like "Fred's corner" on the PLSANJ website to get interest. Jay asked if we are all registered with finding a surveyor???

New Business:

No new business

Good and Welfare:

No good and welfare

Motion to adjourn Don Kamp, seconded Ken

Announcement of Next Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

By: *Dawn McCall*

Dawn McCall, GISP
Acting Secretary