Southeastern Minnesota GIS Users Group

Meeting Minutes

Saint Mary's University – Winona, MN – November 6, 2014 9:30-12:00 pm

Attendees:

Frankie Mpagi – Winona County
Leanne Knott – City of Red Wing
Ashley Ignatius – MPCA
Tom Chambers – Goodhue County
Michelle Trager – Rice County
Alex Johnson – City of Red Wing
Mark Engel – SEH-Yaggy
Nick Meyers – Bolton Menck
Dan Krzoka – Houston County
Lexi Hamilton – SMU
Gordon Robertson – RPU
John Hansen – SMU
Tenquian Han – SMU
Todd Zielsdorf – Winona County
Greta Poser – St. Mary's University
Sarah Fanning – SMU
Maddy Stiehl – SMU
Jay Forstner- RPU
Stephanie Nuttall – Winona County

9:30 am Meeting Started

Updating the Southern Minnesota National Wetland Inventory and Wetland Functional Assessment

Andrew Robertson – GeoSpatial Services, St. Mary's University

- Andrew Robertson provided information on the Southern Minnesota NWI and Wetland Functional Assessment project currently underway with GSS and St. Mary's. The assessment utilizes an applied science approach that evaluates indicators of wetland abundance, condition, and provision of goods and services.
- Steps in the process include inventory of present-day wetlands, convert and refine the data to NWI FGDC standards, interpreting additional metrics, correlate wetland functions and data, identify historic and restorable wetlands, and then prioritize wetland preservation, enhancement and restoration.
- The statewide NWI update was started in 2008 and is anticipated to reach completion in 2020. GSS participation in the southern Minnesota area started in fall 2012 with completion in spring 2015.
- Andrew showed workflow examples including primary and secondary data sources, decision rules, wetland functional correlation, and map outputs. He showed an example of wetland restoration using the outputs from the wetland functional assessment model.

ArcGIS Server on the Amazon Cloud: A Case Study for Student Use

Greta Poser – St. Mary's University

- Greta Poser presented information on a case study utilized in 2014 to provide ArcGIS Server services to students via the Amazon Cloud. The case study grew out of a need to provide flexible homework options for students in Greta's Internet Mapping Services class.
- Greta described the case study process, including a needs assessment, installation, administration, server architecture, managing the services, and hosted applications.
- Case study objectives were met with the use of the Amazon Cloud – students were able to work from off-campus and they gained experience administering a GIS Server in the Cloud.

Winona County GIS News

Frankie Mpagi – Winona County

- Frankie Mpagi presented information on recent activities at the Winona County GIS offices including improvements to their parcel viewer, GIS integration at the County, and web application demonstrations.
- The development cycle for the Winona County web applications included retiring their ArcIMS and WebADF sites in 2012, rolling out new Silverlight and ArcGIS Server versions in 2013, applying user feedback to improve application performance, and rolling out mobile viewer applications.
- Frankie described integration efforts at the County – culvert and guardrail inventory application for the County highway dept., integrating GIS with the County Electronic Data Management System, integrating GIS with the sewage inspection database, and emergency operations.

GIS & Statistical Analysis of Winona County Underage Drinking Offenses in the Wake of Judicial Policy Change

Stephanie Nuttall – Winona County

- Stephanie Nuttall presented on the use of GIS for statistical analysis of Winona County underage drinking offenses. Her presentation was part of her MGIS capstone project for the St. Mary's Resource Analysis Department.
- Underage drinking is an issue in Winona County, especially with two college campuses in the city of Winona. Historic background on the national issue of underage drinking was provided.
- Stephanie described the data collection process, including records from three different records management systems. She also discussed effort to standardize and mitigate data errors for her study.
- Her data analysis included data input, assigning offense severity, statistical analysis through Excel and SPSS. She separated by juvenile or adult and first time or repeat offender.

- Results showed a concentration of offenses in the Winona and St. Charles and along major roads. Recidivism analysis showed that most juvenile and adult offenders were first-time offenders and that adult offenders were less likely than juvenile offenders to commit future offenses. Severity analysis showed that most offenses were committed by adults and that there was a dramatic increase in offenders who were unable to test.
- Future crime analysis options included offender sentencing, repeat offender progression, University sanctions, Social Host ordinance impact, rental housing and zoning impact, hospitalization and detox trends, and ongoing data collection.

Statewide Update

- Michelle Trager provided an update from the Statewide Geospatial Advisory Council. MnGeo will be requesting money from the state general funds to support GIS efforts in the state. They will also be looking for letters of support.
- MnGeo projects in progress include MN Geospatial Commons, aerial imagery, AGOL for state agencies, drainage modernization records, parcels, and street centerlines. Future projects included statewide addressing.
- Michelle listed open positions on the GAC and how to apply.
- MN GIS/LIS Consortium is looking for committee volunteers and help with upcoming spring workshops.
- Go Southeast MN was discussed – updates need to be added to the site, a suggestion was made for a larger discussion on long-term maintenance of the site.

- **Michelle Trager will be hosting the next Southeastern MN GIS Users Group Meeting on Thursday, February 26 at Rice County offices in Faribault.**

12:oo pm Meeting Adjourned

** Members are encouraged to present at a future meeting and to offer suggestions of vendors or other agencies to present. Please contact a Steering Committee member or the next meeting's host if you are interested in presenting.

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