



CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF LAND SURVEYORS, INC.

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JOHN WAGENBLATT PRESIDENT	KEVIN L. DAROS 1 st VICE-PRESIDENT	DAVID PALMBERG 2 nd VICE PRESIDENT	JASON RACETTE SECRETARY	ALAN FENROW TREASURER
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MINUTES FROM THE BOARD MEETING JANUARY 29, 2009

GENERAL BUSINESS

The meeting was held at the Wethersfield Community Center. **President** John Wagenblatt called the meeting to order at 7:35p.m. Those present included: **First Vice President** Kevin DaRos; **Second Vice President** David Palmberg; **Secretary** Jason Racette; **Treasurer** Alan Fenrow; **Fairfield County** Charles Spath, Sr.; **Hartford County** Jon Kula & Reese Roberts; **Litchfield County** Gary Giordano; **Middlesex County** Steve Mazeau; **New Haven County** Larry Fisher & Wayne Zirolli; **New London County** Bob Baron & Susan Camp; **Windham County** Alan Woodis; **MAPPS** Ken Pudeler; **South Central Proprietors Council** Bob Jackson; **Past Presidents** Andy Tupper & Michael Wilmes; and **Member** Jim Sheehy.

President John Wagenblatt introduced **Anthony Householder, Lobbyist for Updike, Kelly & Spellacy**. Mr. Householder gave a brief synopsis of the 2009 Legislative Session and identified some of the bills that are being monitored for CALS. The majority of issues that impact land surveyors come through the General Law Committee of which Jim Shapiro is now the new chairman. Kevin Reynolds, from UKS, is planning to meet with Mr. Shapiro in the near future to discuss these issues.

The 2009 Legislative Session will be a long budget session, and interesting because the state government will propose reshaping the budget expenditures.

Two bills of interest include:

SB-36 AN ACT CONCERNING WRITTEN EXAMINATION EXEMPTIONS FROM ENGINEER AND LAND SURVEYOR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

To provide written examination license exemptions for individuals that do not engage in design work.

CALS opposes the weakening of these requirements.

SB-200 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS.

To adopt a model law regarding the licensing of professional engineers.

Both of these bills should move forward to a Public Hearing.

Senator McLaughlin has introduced a Federal E-Verification Program.

Attorney Kevin Reynolds has sent a response to a Petition for Declaratory Ruling to George M. Wentworth, Director, Program Policy, CT Dept. of Labor, on behalf of CALS. In his letter he stated that the position of CALS is that prevailing wage requirements generally do not and should not apply to work performed by surveyors.

MOTION - made by Kevin DaRos, seconded by Larry Fisher, to approve the December 2008 minutes.

PASSED

Treasurer Alan Fenrow reported that the 2009 dues are coming in nicely. Second dues notices will be mailed February 15th.

MOTION - made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Ken Pudeler, to approve the December 2008 *Financial Report*.

PASSED

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

MOTION - made by David Palmberg, seconded by Reese Roberts, to approve the following applications for membership:

- | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------------------|
| a) Matthew J. Lewis, Vernon, CT | Associate Member | Endorsed by David Palmberg |
| b) David L. Trates, Manchester, CT | Associate Member | Endorsed by David Caricchio |
| c) James Ussery, Jr., East Windsor, CT | Firm Member | Endorsed by David Riordan |

PASSED

APPLICATIONS FOR CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP STATUS

MOTION - made by Jon Kula, seconded by Andy Tupper, to approve the following applications for change in membership status:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a) Francis T. D'Onofrio | Surveyor Member to Life Member |
| b) Benedito Nascimbeni | Surveyor Member to Life Member |

PASSED

ADVISORY OPINION FROM THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS CONCERNING THE SIGNING & SEALING OF DIGITAL DOCUMENTS

Past President Andy Tupper reported that there is currently no way that land surveyors can legally sign electronic maps at this time. Thus, digital maps cannot be required to be submitted to town GIS, Planning or Engineering Departments. Anthony D'Andrea, Chairman of the Board of Examiners, has issued a statement to address this issue. This letter, on State letterhead, can be presented to the various towns which require electronic submission of plans. Some towns may still insist on submittal, if you are aware of any please report it to CALS. Raster image files may be submitted, as they are very difficult or impossible to change. The announcement has been sent to all town clerks in Connecticut.

GIS WORKING GROUP CADASTRAL QUESTIONARE

Andy Tupper reported that the committee met on January 22, 2009. The committee discussed the letter from the Board of Examiners addressing the issue of signing & sealing of digital maps. The concern is that town officials and GIS professionals find the easiest way to add property/boundary information to a GIS System with Electronic Vector CAD files. CALS members are aware that this is the case, however, these files cannot be legally signed and are easily changed either accidentally or on purpose. Once submitted the files are subject to the Freedom of Information Act; anyone can request and get electronic copies of these maps and make changes. The Land Surveyor then loses all control of his work, and many professional liability insurance companies are very concerned about this and have advised against any electronic submissions. The GIS community would like to work with CALS to come up with an acceptable solution for both parties. Stripped out drawing files with only Geo-referenced boundary lines depicted was mentioned as a solution. All notes, signatures, certifications, and non boundary information would be removed from the file submitted.

Another topic that was discussed was the location of all town lines and town line markers in the state. As money is not available, it was asked if CALS members could somehow help out. This is something for future discussion.

The topic of authoritative versus non-authoritative location was discussed. Basically, when a GIS professional does location of features on the earth with GPS or other means, they will state that it is non-authoritative. Mr. Tupper brought up examples of problems with this, as over time people will forgot how the information was achieved. This could result in a fire crew looking for a Hydrant may be looking on the wrong side of a snowy road as the hand held unit used to locate it was only accurate to +/- 30'. That did raise some concern with some that work in public safety but others didn't see it as huge problem.

The committee will meet every other month.

REGULATIONS CONCERNING FILING REQUIREMENTS OF MAPS

CALS has been advised by the Connecticut State Librarian that changes to proposed amendments for filing requirements for maps in the State of Connecticut have been submitted. Copies can be obtained from the CALS office.

President Wagenblatt reported that under section 731, "indexing" to separate landscape or architectural plans from deeds and land records is a concern. Mr. Wagenblatt will draft a letter stating that, although we are in agreement with most of these changes, CALS finds that the indexing requirements require separate cataloging.

NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS ANNUAL 50TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

President John Wagenblatt attended the NYSPLS 50th Annual Conference in Albany, NY on January 14-16. As is consistent in New York, the meeting was excellent with about 700 surveyors in attendance. On Thursday evening many of the attendees followed a Dixie land band through the streets and into the New York State Museum where they were able to view some of the original equipment that George Washington used.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) CALS will renew it's membership with the Surveyors Historical Society for 2009.

MOTION - made by David Palmberg, seconded by Jon Kula that CALS purchase a "cigar wrapper" from the Surveyors Historical Society, in the amount of \$30, to be sold at the CALS auction in November.

PASSED

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) In response to his recent court case, John Miller has submitted the results of a survey regarding suggested clarification of survey standards in the "blue section" of the code, and is seeking support from CALS. Larry Fisher pointed out that the *Standards for Surveys and Maps in the State of Connecticut* were adopted thirteen years ago and concurred that this might be a good time for a committee to review the standards and make suggested revisions.

In accordance with the by-laws, the Board of Directors appointed nine Surveyor-Members, one member from each of the eight counties in Connecticut plus a current officer or one of the two immediate past presidents of the Corporation as Chairperson, to the 2009 Survey and Map Standards Committee. Committee members are as follows:

- a. Fairfield County – Ray Redniss rlr@redness-mead.com
- b. Hartford County – Reese Roberts Reese.Roberts@snet.net
- c. Litchfield County – Gary Giordano ggpels@juno.com
- d. Middlesex County – Rick Martel martelnorthstar@aol.com
- e. New Haven County – Larry Fisher, Chairman lwflandsurveying@sbcglobal.net
- f. New London County – Susan Camp susan_camp@sbcglobal.net
- g. Tolland County – Andy Tupper tuppera@medinaconsultants.com
- h. Windham County – Alan Woodis kwp@snet.net
- i. President – John Wagenblatt johnw@lrconsult.com

The goal of the committee is to review the existing standards, request comments, and make recommendations for changes. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact your county director.

- 2) In an effort to disperse information in a more timely manner, make every issue of the CALS newsletter easily accessible throughout the year, sustain the life of the new copy machine, and cut expenses of paper, postage, and supplies, **THE CALS NEWSLETTER WILL OFFICIALLY GO ON-LINE BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2009**. Each month we will send out a reminder that the newsletter has been posted. It is your responsibility give CALS your current e-mail address. If you contact CALS via email and **do not** receive a response, please try again. We receive lots of junk mail and your message may get overlooked. If you do not have a computer, or prefer to receive a hard copy of the newsletter each month, please advise Kathy at the CALS office. Thank you for your cooperation in this new venture.
- 3) Mark Lebow has agreed to run the map design competition at the Annual Meeting this year. If you would like to be a judge please contact Mark at ml@wvs-ls.com.
- 4) A big thank you goes to Mike Scanlon for presenting an excellent workshop on Analytic Geometry January 23rd. Mr. Scanlon has suggested that CALS distribute a survey at seminars to ascertain the quality of each workshop. The survey that he has recommended will be used for future seminars.
- 4) In response to the recent death of Charter Member David Bascom, the Board of Directors took up a collection and a donation was sent to the United Churches of Durham in his memory.

MOTION - made by Gary Giordano, seconded by Andy Tupper, to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

PASSED

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Kurland

Next Meeting – February 26, 2009