

Minutes of Meeting
Preliminary to the Organization of
A Society of Land Surveyors

Tom Sawyer Motel

Albany, N. Y.

May 9, 1962

Minutes

More than thirty interested people gathered at the Tom Sawyer Motel for dinner on May 9, 1912 to consider the advisability of creating a society of Land Surveyors to serve the area contiguous to the Capital District. Several others arrived after the dinner to take part in the meeting which followed.

Mr. Ken Male opened the meeting by welcoming the group and outlining the reasons for initiating this meeting.

The meeting nominated and elected Mr. Tom Male as temporary chairman and Mr. Reed Shaw as temporary secretary for this preliminary meeting.

Mr. Male then outlined the agenda that he believed necessary at this meeting. This included:

- Consider the desirability of such an organization.
- Consider whether it shall be an independent organization or affiliated with some national group such as the Professional Engineers or the American Congress of Surveying and Mapping.

- Create an organization committee.

- Select a date for an organization meeting to consider the proposals of the committee.

Some discussion followed concerning the boundaries of the proposed organization.

Mr. Coulter of Glens Falls was asked if he considered Warren County to be too far from the center of the area. His reply was that he did not believe so and that if such a group were organized the more rural areas would have to join with other areas and travel some distance in order to have an effective society.

A motion was made:

That it is believed desirable that an organization of Land Surveyors be created to serve the area contiguous to the Capital District. The Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion was held concerning the advisability of affiliating with some national group or to create an independent organization.

Mr. Boutelle pointed out that the Syracuse area is operating very successfully as an independent group. It might appear at some later date that affiliation with a national group would be advantageous.

Mr. Higbee as a past president of A.C.S.M. did not advise affiliating with this group at the present time. He suggested that these local groups might well create a strong State organization which in turn might affiliate itself with a national organization. This is basically the plan of the Canadian Society of Land Surveyors which is an excellent organization.

A Motion was made by Mr. Don Seeley:

That this group organize a Land Surveyors Society which shall operate as an independent group.

This was seconded by Mr. Ralph Champagne and was carried unanimously.

Mr. Phillips of the Syracuse Society was introduced who discussed the organization of their group and answered many questions concerning their operation.

The Syracuse Society:

Operates as an independent but maintains contact with ACSM to benefit by their literature and the national trend.

Meets monthly. At first these were dinner meetings but they have found them more successful if they are only evening meetings with light refreshments served after the meeting.

One meeting a year is a purely social meeting and is a dinner meeting.

Dues are \$10 per year for a regular member and \$1 per year for a junior member. The junior member is one who is working in surveying but as yet does not have his license.

Standing committees are set up to consider such problems as Ethics, Fees and Salaries, and Program.

Mr. R. K. Palmer raised a question. Is it felt that to be effective a group of this kind needs as much "organization"?

Mr. Phillips: Yes, a group with definite aims needs an organization to bring about those things which are deemed desirable

These aims of the Syracuse group are:

1. To provide a means of friendly exchange of ideas among the Surveying Profession.
2. To foster a spirit of cooperation and understanding.
3. To promote a betterment of standards, ethics, and professionalism.
4. To improve public relations and contribute to public education in the use and importance of surveys and maps.

Mr. Higbee: An organization is necessary if reforms of any kind are to be brought about. Individuals are not effective but an organization can be in many areas where the Surveying Profession is concerned.

Education - need for more time in the 2 and 4 year schools.

Advancement of standards and ethics.

Legislation which may affect the Professional Surveyor.

Two questions were put to Mr. Phillips

1. How long has your group been organized?
2. What have you accomplished?

Mr. Phillips:

The group was organized in 1952.
In these ten years:

The City of Syracuse has made available to all the Surveyors an atlas showing all monuments and lot and block dimensions for the entire city.

Fees have raised.

Increase in cooperation in the exchange of data.

The group has participated in many community projects.

A question was raised concerning the need for financing of the activities prior to organization, stationery, typing, mailing, etc.

Mr. Higbee: Considering the relatively small mailing list I am certain that we at Gurleys can provide the necessary services until the organization meeting.

A discussion took place concerning a possible name for the new organization. Four names were suggested for the consideration of an organization committee:

Hudson Valley Land Surveyors
Eastern New York Land Surveyors
Mohawk Hudson Land Surveyors
Capital District Land Surveyors

A motion was made, seconded and carried that an Organization Committee be selected. This was done resulting in the following:

Mr. L. Boutelle, Chairman
Mr. R. Champagne
Mr. Van Sinderin
Mr. L. Higbee
Mr. Roy Gilbert

Mr. Champagne moved that:

1. Next meeting be Wed., June 27, 1962 at the Tom Sawyer Motel.
2. That the committee named above have prepared and circulated the results of their studies ten days prior to June 27, 1962.


Motion was seconded and passed.

Some discussion followed concerning the advisability of holding dinner meetings. The general feeling seemed to be that most of the meetings should not be dinner meetings.

Mr. Male closed the meeting with an expression of appreciation to all who had contributed to the success of this first effort toward organization of the Surveying Profession.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


G. R. Shaw
Temporary Secretary