



**EASTERN NEW YORK SOCIETY OF LAND SURVEYORS
INCORPORATED**

Charter Affiliate of the New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors

P.O. Box 4399, Clifton Park, N.Y. 12065-4399

Visit us on the web at www.enysls.org

MINUTES

**EASTERN NEW YORK SOCIETY OF LAND SURVEYORS
ANNUAL ELECTIONS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 11, 2021**

Virtual Meeting by phone and PC
Due to COVID-19 Pandemic gathering restrictions

President Winters called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm

Present: Kaleb Winters, Jason Peterson, Jim Vianna, Dwayne Cooper, Larry O'Connor, Rick Palmer, Randy Paquin, Lucas Boyer and Brie Strom

Absent:, Pat VanHaverbeke, Nick Lehman, Chuck Lent, and Kristin Darrah

Secretary's Report: Dwayne Cooper

- The December 2020 BOD meeting minutes were presented to and reviewed by the BOD. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Randy and seconded by Kaleb. A vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Vianna

- Jim reported to the BOD on the LPL account balance and the Bank account balance.
- Jim filed the E-Postcard with the IRS.
- Kaleb purchased six certificate holders at a cost of \$14.03 and mailed out the three scholarship certificates and checks via USPS for at a cost of \$23.85.
- The recipients of scholarships were
 - Gregory Jared Axel-Lute.....Charles E. Hartnett Scholarship – SUNY ESF Ranger School
 - Corey Robert Ingham.....Eastern Scholarship – Alfred State College
 - Robert Jay Lawrence, IV.....Eastern Scholarship – Alfred State College
- There was a discussion held on the distribution of the scholarship checks. The checks are sent to the school with the student name in the Memo line. There was discussion held about whether or not the scholarship specifies what the use of the money is? There did not seem to be any specification other than for school fees. Brie and Randy recalled that the reason the checks were sent to the school was for possible tax reasons.

Minimum Technical Standards

- Jim reported that the committee met on January 6th and February 10th. A letter was going to be sent to each of the Regions that if interested, the MTS committee would put on a FAQ session to answer member questions. The format (live and/or Zoom) of the meetings was uncertain at this time.
- Jim also reported that Marshall Williams was stepping down from the committee. Saeid Jalilvand would be taking his place on the committee.

ENYSLS Proposed Budget

- The proposed budget was generally the same as last years with some modifications to the BOD meetings and General Membership meetings since it is anticipated that they will not happen in person until at least August. There was discussion held about having ENYSLS host the first in person General Membership meeting and cover the cost of the meals and an open bar. After discussing it more, for possible liability reasons, there seemed to be an agreement that the meals would be covered, and each attendee would get two drink vouchers. There would be no presentation for the evening, rather it would be a celebration and a chance to visit with one another after a long absence of meetings.

President's Report: Kaleb Winters

- Kaleb reported on some of the highlights of the NYSAPLS January 19 and 29 meetings.
- At the NYSAPLS BOD meeting Kaleb spoke to NYSAPLS President Marvin about sending a joint letter with the NYLTA to the NYSACC regarding digitizing records and expanding access to them. President Marvin agreed to draft something and send it out soon.
- Reminded everyone to please take the NYSAPLS Conference survey that was emailed out to everyone that attended the conference.
- Pillars of Excellence recipients for 2020 were:
 - Gregory J. de Bruin.....Meritorious Service Award
 - James M. Vianna.....Surveyor of the Year Award
 - Dwayne A. Cooper.....Associate of the Year Award

Kaleb congratulated ENYSLS members Jim Vianna and Dwayne Cooper for their awards.

- Thanked Brie and Lucas for their help in reviewing the scholarships. There was discussion on forming an ad hoc committee to review/update the ENYSLS Scholarship application form.
- ENYSLS Ethical Practices Committee proposed appointment of Charles Lent. Kaleb made a motion to appoint Chuck, the motion was seconded by Brie. A vote was held, and the motion passed.
- enysls.org domain will auto renew on March 12 for \$18.17 for one year (was \$14.95 2018-2020)
- enysls.org hosting due November 24 for \$358.20 for three years (was \$178.20 2015-2021). A discussion was held, and it was determined that we are covered by Pixelheap for website hosting through the end of December 2021, at which point the fee would be \$150 per year. Dwayne is going to check with Eric at Pixelheap to see what our obligations are for website hosting.
- IRS E-Postcard due by May 15. Jim has already filed it.
- Program or Happy Hour for March general membership meeting. Discussion held and it came out that many of the other Regions have not been offering any meetings and/or their BOD have not met since the pandemic began. Ideas were discussed for ideas for March program. Kaleb mentioned that Zoom has a function that allows for breakout rooms to have smaller group discussions. Jim suggested polling the membership to see how many would be interested in attending a virtual webinar for CE credits. Kaleb said he would contact NYSAPLS to get a list of available options.
- National Surveyors Week March 17 - 27, 2021 (Global Surveyor's Day March 23, 2021). NYSAPLS is doing a # hashtag event. Jason suggested we do something similar. Kaleb suggested using the same # hashtag. NYSAPLS is also doing a photo competition.

Executive Vice President's Report: Brie Strom

Women's Summit hosted by NYSAPLS Young Professionals Committee at the annual Conference

- Brie was one of the panel members. She said that she has received good feedback about the event. Ashley Metz was the moderator and Brie said that she did an excellent job putting things together and developing the questions for the panel. Kaleb said that he thought it was valuable and worthwhile.

Vice President's Report: Lucas Boyer

- No report.

Past President's Report: Randy Paquin

- No report.

Standing Committee Reports

Calibration Base Line (ad hoc): Randy Paquin, Rick Palmer

Pattersonville updates

- Randy said that he contacted Steve Roden. NGS no longer loans equipment and should contact Dan Martin with specific questions. Jim said that he recalls a similar email was received a couple years ago. Randy said he will follow up with Steve and Brian Magee about the next steps. He is also going to talk with the attorneys at the Parks Department for guidance as well.

Website Redesign (ad hoc): Brie Strom, Chuck Lent and Dwayne Cooper

- Dwayne reported that the website is finally live. We should send a notification out to the membership to look over and report any edits.

Constitution and By-Laws: Larry O'Connor

ENYSLS Constitution and By-Laws updates

- Larry reported that he had converted the old pdf document into a word document. Going forward, edits/revisions will be much simpler. Larry made a word document for the approved 2016 version. Larry also began working on a draft for the latest changes that have been previously discussed by the BOD. Some of these changes include:
 - Included "telepresence" as a means of attending meetings.
 - Adding the ability to vote at the annual election electronically. There were also discussions held on moving the signature from the back of the mail in envelope to the back of the ballot.
 - Revising the method of calculating a quorum to be a rolling number similar to the way NYSAPLS does it.

Continuing Education: Jody Lounsbury, Chuck Lent, and Eric Crampton

- Nothing to report.

Ethics Practice: Larry O'Connor and Jeff Ostertag

A member suspects unlicensed practice of land surveying by another member

- The Ethics committee looked into it and the member offering services was newly licensed, so there are no violations in this case.

A member suspects company is offering land surveying practices illegally

- An Engineering/Land Surveying firm no longer has an LS as a Principle but has LS on staff. The Principle of the firm did not feel that they were in violation based on conversations they had had

with their attorney. The Ethics Committee was going to follow up with a letter highlighting the rules that apply and the need to have an LS as a Principle.

Another member suspects another company is offering land surveying practices illegally

- The second company is not an ENYSLS member. All the facts of the case are not known, but they seem to be operating in a possible grey area. The Ethics Committee is going to continue to look into the matter further.

Finance: Carl Rigdon, Bill Darling, and Chris Czerw

- Nothing to report.

Legislative: Larry O'Connor

- Nothing to report.

Program: Randy Paquin and Gary Mitchell

- Nothing to report.

Public Relations: Jody Lounsbury, Eric Crampton, and Brie Strom

- Kaleb suggested sending out a survey to the members to see what they would like us to work on/what we are doing/what we could be doing better. Kaleb said he would put together a survey for the Public Relations Committee to review and to send out to the membership.

Scholastic Development: Randy Paquin and Kristin Darrah

- Nothing to report.

Business Practice and Technical Information: Chris Czerw

- Nothing to report.

Membership: Robert Wilklow and Steve Dickson

- Nothing to report.

Website: Ralph Hill

- Nothing to report.

Old Business:

Review of the 2016 By-Laws document that Larry put together.

New Business:

How do we engage our members to get more involved and potentially run for the ENYSLS BOD in November?

- Discussions were held on identifying members that could be nominated for the BOD elections in the fall. Three candidates were identified, and Brie, Jim and Dwayne agreed to reach out to them to gauge their interest levels.

Northern Scholarships

- Jim reported that he had received a call from Barb Marvin from Northern. Northern has two scholarships that they issue: One in Creighton Fee’s name and one in Ives Turner’s name. They have a fair amount of money in a checking account for the scholarships. Barbara asked Jim how ENYSLS handles scholarships and asked how ENYSLS would feel about managing the scholarship money for Northern. Northern is not incorporated. Jim asked the BOD if we would be interested in handling their scholarship money and writing checks to the recipients that Northern picks. Kaleb suggested that we should maybe consult with an attorney and a tax professional to see what our options/liabilities might be. Larry noted that NYSAPLS might be an option for Northern. NYSAPLS could hold the money in the Shaw Fund or similar account. Discussions were held on whether or not the Shaw Fund was set up for something like that.

Upcoming Events

- ENYSLS BOD & General Membership Meeting will be held virtually on Thursday March 11th at 5:30 pm.
- NYSAPLS BOD Meeting will be held virtually on Friday, March 19th at 2 pm.
- ENYSLS BOD Meeting will be held virtually on Thursday April 8th at 5:30 pm.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Randy Paquin and seconded by Jim Vianna. A vote was held, and the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dwayne A. Cooper, PLS
ENYSLS Secretary

EASTERN NEW YORK SOCIETY OF LAND SURVEYORS, INC.

President: Kaleb Winters	Chuck Lent	2021	Randal Paquin	2022	Lawrence O’Connor	2023
Exec. Vice-President: Brie Strom	Lucas Boyer	2021	Jason Peterson	2022	Pat VanHaverbeke	2023
Vice-President: Lucas Boyer	Brie Strom	2021	James Vianna	2022	Kaleb Winters	2023
Secretary: Dwayne Cooper	Nicholas Lehman	2021	Dwayne Cooper	2022	Richard Palmer	2023
Treasurer: James Vianna	Past President - Randal Paquin					

Director N.Y. State Assoc. of Professional Land Surveyors - Kaleb Winters
Director N.Y. State Assoc. of Professional Land Surveyors - Brie Strom