**Minutes of the**

**2015 Business Meeting of the Illinois Geographical Society**

**Parke Regency Hotel, Bloomington, IL**

**May 2, 2015**

The IGS business meeting was called to order at 11:34 am by President Kevin Suess who welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Business Meeting**. Minutes from the Business Meeting of 21 June, 2014 in Metropolis, Illinois were reviewed. ***Motion to approve (Cornebise, Thomas) passed unanimously***.

**Executive Council Meeting Report**. President Suess reviewed for the membership the Executive Council meeting from 30 April. Action items will be voted upon later in this meeting.

**Central Office Report**. Central Office Director Susan Holderread reported that the membership presently stands at 44 regular members, 61 life members 2 student members, and 21 institutional members. The mailing of the *Illinois Geographer* will now be borne by IGS. Illinois State University has stopped its sponsorship of the mailing. The cost will be roughly $300-$350 per issue. Director Holderread and Joe Kubal attended the Association of American Geographers conference and were at the booth which was jointly held with the Geographical Society of Chicago and ILGISA. The booth was expensive and the tangible benefits of having the booth have not been seen in new memberships.

**Field Experiences Report**. Secretary Chris Sutton, reporting for Joe Kubal, announced an air-ground tour from Chicago to Decatur is scheduled for May 21. Information related to the tour has been circulated via GIMBY. There are no field experiences scheduled for the fall. Members were encouraged to consider organizing a fall event.

**Treasurer Report**. Treasurer Leonard Ealey reported that IGS funds are up almost $3,500 from last year, largely because of Director Holderread’s push for membership. Current balances are $11,862 in Savings, $10,093 in CD, $8,718 in Checking. Mike Sublett asked if it would be worth keeping track of separate donations coming in to which Treasurer Ealey reported that he has already begun recording such information. Treasurer Ealey thanked Mary Ann Hanline and Larry Resutko for conducting the audit report. ***Motion to approve the Treasurer Report (Moline, Thomas) passed unanimously***.

**Audit Committee Report**. Larry Resutko and Mary Ann Hanline reported that the budget is in good shape. Treasurer Ealey was commended for how well the books have been kept.

***Illinois Geographer* Report**. Editor Jill Thomas thanked Joe Kubal for an awesome job editing the Route 66 editions of the *IG*. Copies have been donated to libraries and museums along Route 66. The next issue (Spring 2015) should be out summer of 2015. Chris Sutton offered do a map series for future issues.

**Illinois Geographic Alliance Report**. Mike Sublett reported for John Kostelnick happenings of the IGA. John Kostelnick is Coordinator and Amy Bloom is co-coordinator. IGA ran three AP conferences which were successful. National Geographic has mandated a BioBlitz; 10% of 2016 budget will need to be dedicated to collecting data.

**2015 Annual Meeting Report**. Meeting organizer Mike Sublett reported the meeting had 95 attendees, including award winners & families and van drivers. 62 attended the banquet, 40 attended the field trip, and 34 have registered for the luncheon. There were 18 presentations (12 papers and 6 posters). Sublett noted that IGS got a great deal on the hotel because economic times were different when the conference was organized. President Suess thanked Sublett for his effort at organizing the meeting, which all agreed was excellent.

**2016 Meeting Invitation**. Central Office Director Holderread invited the membership to the 2016 meeting in the Chicago area, titled “Seven Wonders of the North Shore.” Dates for the meeting are tentatively set for April 28-30.

**NCGE Report**. NCGE Representative Mike Sublett reported on NCGE meeting in Memphis. The annual breakfast was successful. The 2015 meeting is in Washington DC with subsequent meetings in Tampa and then Albuquerque.

**Old Business**.

1. Norm Moline has been trying to get hold of David Saltzman for a Chicago Architectural tour without success. There will be no tour in 2015; hoping to have the event in 2016.
2. National Geographic has picked the Mississippi River as a focus for geotourism. October 2016; suggest places to nominate as locations.
3. Upper Mississippi River Conference will be held October 14-16

**New Business**.

1. The following persons were placed in nomination (Sublett & Thomas) to serve as officers of the organization. ***By unanimous vote, all were elected.***
	1. Mike Cornebise (Eastern Illinois), President
	2. Chris Sutton (Western Illinois), Vice President
	3. Nick Goodwin (Northrop Grumman), Secretary
2. Mike Sublett was again thanked (Sutton, Cornebise – ***unanimous consent***) for organizing the 2015 meeting.
3. Kevin Suess was thanked (Cornebise, Thomas – ***unanimous consent***) for his service as IGS President.

The Business Meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm.