

DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

INFORMATION RESOURCES EXCHANGE GROUP

Minutes of December 9, 1998

Location: DVRPC, Bourse Building, 111 S. Independence Mall East, 8th Floor

Attendance:

Name:	Organization	E-mail Address
Joel Fontane	DVRPC	jfontane@dvrpc.org
Michael Ontko	DVRPC	montko@dvrpc.org
Richard Roisman	DVRPC	rroisman@dvrpc.org
Lauris Olson	University of Pennsylvania	olson@pobox.upenn.edu
Tom Stanuikynas	DVRPC	tstanuikynas@dvrpc.org
Wyndi Bullock	Census Bureau	Wyndi.P.Bullock@census.gov
Eileen Gallagher	DVRPC	egallagher@dvrpc.org
William S. Bauer, Jr.	NJ Office of State Planning	bauer_w@tre.state.nj.us
Aaron Klibaner	Montgomery Cnty Planning	akilbane@montcopa.org
Susan Hauser	Delaware County Planning	--
Jake Lewandowski	West Chester University	jlewando@wcupa.edu
Gary Jastrzab	Philadelphia City Planning	gary.jastrzab@phila.gov
Jennifer Hurley	Philadelphia City Planning	jennifer.hurley@phila.gov
Joe Fazekas	DVRPC	jfazekas@dvrpc.org
Julie DelMuto	Delaware County Planning	delmutoj@co.delaware.pa.us
Bob Bielski	Chester County Planning	R_Bielski@mail.co.chester.pa.us
Bob Walker	Chester County Planning	R_Walker@mail.co.chester.pa.us
Frank Ferdetta	NJ State Data Center	fferdett@dol.state.nj.us
William Mead	Gloucester County Planning	--
Craig Totaro	DVRPC	TotaroC@dvrpc.org
Scott Hall	Gloucester County Planning	--
Connie Smith	Census Bureau	CPSmith@census.gov
Janyce Hughes	Census Bureau	--
Bob Wendt	Lehigh Valley EDC	wendt@past.net
John Tyrawski	NJ DEP	johnt@gis.dep.state.nj.us
Chris Pfeiffer	Penn State University	cxp7@psu.edu
Ken Sipos	City of Philadelphia	kenneth.sipos@phila.gov
Kevin Sullivan	NJ Pinelands Commission	economic@njpines.nj.us
Trish Maggio	NJ Office of State Planning	maggio_t@tre.state.nj.us
Carol Placchi	Delaware County Planning	placchic@co.delaware.pa.us
Will Stevens	DVRPC	wstevens@dvrpc.org
Peter Cotroneo	NJTPA	petrus@megahertz.njit.edu

Attendance (continued):

Name:	Organization	E-mail Address
Charles Dougherty	DVRPC	cdougherty@dvrpc.org
Barry Seymour	DVRPC	bseymour@dvrpc.org
Rich Stein	Ben Franklin Tech Center	rich@benfranklin.org
Curt Noe	Camden Cnty Engineering	curtnoe@co.camden.nj.us
Susan M. Weber	NJ DOT	susanweber@dot.state.nj.us

The meeting was called to order at 10 am.

1. **Minutes of the meeting of September 16, 1998**

- a. The minutes of the meeting of September 16, 1998 were approved.

2. **Presentations:**

Christopher Pfeiffer, Metadata Specialist, Pennsylvania State University Libraries

Mr. Pfeiffer presented an overview of the reasons for creating metadata (data about data), such as data consistency, transferability, and efficient use of data resources, including staff time. He also discussed several of the metadata standards, focusing in greater detail on the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) standard. Mr. Pfeiffer provided several examples of FGDC-compliant metadata, as well as metadata-making websites and spatial data clearinghouses for both Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Joseph C. Fazekas, Webmaster, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Fazekas presented an update on the Regional Information Network (RIN), specifically the Interactive Mapping application and the history of developing the DVRPC website. This presentation highlighted some of the recent improvements made to the both the Commission website and the Interactive Mapping application, OnlineMapping. The application has an easier-to-use graphical user interface (GUI) and allows improved display of multiple map layers. New content is being constantly added to the DVRPC website. A significantly new look and feel will come to the website in early 1999, based on the work done by Mr. Fazekas, the DVRPC website subcommittee, and the Commission's web consultant. Other new features will include a search capability, and increased speed and performance for OnlineMapping from a new dedicated map server.

3. **Census 2000 Update**

Matthew Zimolzak and Janyce Hughes gave updates on several Census 2000 programs.

a. Statistical Areas Program-- status

- i. Completed maps for the Statistical Areas Update Program are due to the Census Bureau's Philadelphia Regional Office by the end of January 1999 for Pennsylvania Counties, and by the end of March 1999 for New Jersey counties.

b. Sampling Litigation-- status

- i. The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments on November 30 in its consideration of the two cases challenging the use of statistical sampling, U.S. House of Representatives v. U.S. Department of Commerce, and Glavin v. Clinton. A decision from the court is expected before the close of the current term in summer 1999.

c. Funding for Census 2000-- status

- i. Congress approved 6 months of funding for census activities for the current fiscal year. Additional funding will depend on how the issue of sampling is resolved in the Supreme Court. Until a decision is reached, the Bureau will continue with its two-pronged approach to the decennial count.

d. LUCA Program-- status

- i. LUCA '98, also known as Address List Review (ALR), which updates urban style addresses, is in high gear. Both Pennsylvania and New Jersey have high participation rates in ALR.
- ii. The registration deadline for LUCA '99, which updates rural-style addresses, is December 31, 1998. Training sessions for LUCA '99 will be held in multiple locations in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

e. Complete Count Committees—status

- i. Representatives from the Census Bureau met with Mayor Rendell and other local elected officials to stress the formation of complete count committees. As part of complete count efforts, block canvassing in urban areas will begin in early 1999, as will the opening of early local outreach offices. Recruitment efforts for block canvassers and other positions are ongoing.

f. Census Transportation Planning Package (CTPP) 2000-- status

- i. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Census Bureau have begun outreach for CTPP 2000. This program, in which Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) are updated for designated areas, will allow submissions via paper maps or in digital form (TIGER). Since many areas use census tract boundaries as part of their TAZ boundaries (like DVRPC), preparation for CTPP 2000 is highly dependent on the completion of the Statistical Areas Update Program.

4. DVRPC Work Program Updates

Mike Ontko, Joel Fontane, and Joe Fazekas gave updates on elements of the DVRPC Work Program.

a. Year 2000 Aerial Imagery Acquisition

- i. This project may be funded through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). If the project is TIP-funded, there will be no local match required for DVRPC member counties and cities. The TIP funding will support acquisition of the core digital products only. Other products such as photo atlas sheets and a digital elevation model (DEM) must be funded separately by member governments. Board action on this project will be taken later this month.

b. Region-Wide Transportation GIS Development

- i. This project may also be funded through the TIP. However, for this project the standard local match will be required for member governments. DVRPC staff are meeting with member governments to begin assessing the scope and participation in this project. Board action on this project will be taken later this month.

c. Regional Information Network (RIN)

- i. See agenda items 6a and 6b.

d. DVRPC Year 2025 Interim Forecast Revisions

- i. The revised forecasts have been sent to DVRPC member counties for review and approval. Member counties may also enlist their municipalities as part of the review process. The next forecast meeting is scheduled for January 8, 1999. Board review of the forecasts is expected in May 1999.

e. 1997 Building Permit Data

- i.** These data are pending.

5. Aerial Imagery Update

a. New Jersey DEP Digital Ortho Imagery Program

- i.** John Tyrawski reported that the New Jersey statewide coverage is complete and available. Since the image files are in JPEG format, they cannot be read by the Intergraph GIS system.

b. Pennsylvania Digital Ortho Imagery Program

- i.** Pennsylvania is flown on a 5-6 year cycle. The next flight for the region that includes the DVRPC counties is being planned now. The committee will continue to receive reports as the flight preparations progress.

6. Information Items

a. DVRPC website update

- i.** See agenda item number 2.

b. DVRPC enterprise-wide database project update

- i.** Development of the DVRPC enterprise database continues in-house.

7. Old Business

a. Nomination of new IREG officers.

- i.** The committee approved the following officers for 1999: Susan W. Hauser, Delaware County Planning Department, Chair; William S. Bauer, Jr., New Jersey Office of State Planning, Vice-Chair. The new officers' terms will begin immediately and they will preside over the next IREG meeting.

8. New Business

a. Concerns about boundary and mapping errors in the Census Participant Statistical Areas Program Update.

- i.** Aaron Klibaner stated that over the course of correcting Montgomery County's statistical area maps he encountered a series of mapping errors that could potentially be avoided by reverting to the 1980 Census geography. It was proposed that the committee make a formal statement to the Census Bureau to advance the issue of correcting these mapping errors.
- ii.** DVRPC staff will prepare a letter to Census addressing these issues to present for committee review at the next IREG meeting.

9. Next Meeting Date and Location

The next IREG meeting has not been set but will either be March 3 or March 10, 1999.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30pm.