

**Meeting Agenda
NAACCR GIS Committee
Wednesday, November 25, 2009**

**2:00-3:00 PM Eastern Time
1:00-2:00 PM Central Time
12:00-1:00 PM Mountain Time
11:00-12:00 noon Pacific Time
10:00-11:00 AM Alaskan Time**

Toll free number: 1-866-731-8994

Passcode: 9275065

A. Roll Call

Present Members: Kevin Henry, Frank Boscoe, Bob Borchers, David O'Brien, Chris Newton, Annette Gardner, Christian Klaus, Pam Agovino, Rachael Suelflow (NC Alternate), Chris Johnson, Aruna Surendera Babu (Florida DoH)

Absent Members: Recinda Sherman, Dan Goldberg, Zaria Tatalovich, Karen Knight, Jennifer Kachajian, Mary Mroszczyk, Holly Hodges, Meg Watson, Ed Peters, Simple Singh, Catherine Riddell, John Morgan, Carrie Fish (Scarlett – Alternate), David Stinchcomb, Yongping Hao, Jesse Stewart, Myles Cockburn, Eileen Kelley, Wes Kortuem (Guest – Arizona DHS)

B. Minutes

1. Approval of October minutes
 - a. Chris Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as written pending recalculation of quorum. The motion was seconded by Frank Boscoe. All were in favor of the motion and the minutes were approved.

C. Old Business

1. Census NAACCR Fields –Kevin H
 - a. 2010 Items approved in September – Kevin, David O
 - i. Some members brought to attention some old language that probably should have been changed on these items last month. The group approved the motion to make the required changes to these items. The changes have already been sent to the NAACCR office. The changes will begin going through the process, the same as the variable changes. Chris brought up a variable value of “00” which was basically made for areas of the US that were “not tract-ed.” Essentially, there are no such areas as of the 2000 census. David thinks he has been using this code for foreign countries. David suggested using a value of blank instead of this value for foreign countries but he does not wish to vote on this now. Currently there is no field for country of diagnosis. Some put this information in the supplemental address line. Several people

on this committee seem to have cases with diagnosis from foreign countries.

2. Subcommittee activities updates
 - a. National Health Provider Area Resource File (NHPARF) — Kevin obtained 2008 ARF file.
 - i. The 2008 file was purchased and Kevin has the license and CD. He will probably re-tally and write up information about the results.
 - b. Geographical Visualization of Cancer Data: New Activities — Recinda
 - i. This project is moving along. Recinda is not going to contact anyone until she has a substantial document. She would like this item left on the agenda for now.
3. NAACCR/Komen Road Network Distance Project – Quantifying Transportation Barriers in Accessing Health Facilities for Breast Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment — Dan G, KH, Frank, Chris J, Holly
 - a. Updates
 - i. Chris said we are currently waiting for data to arrive from the participating states. A lot of states are probably waiting to get their Call for Data from NAACCR done before submitting their data for this project. It is possible that 14 states will submit data. So far, only one registry has submitted their data.
 - b. Year three (final year) activities
 - i. Finish papers and move server to NAACCR.
4. Course at NAACCR 2010 sponsored by GIS committee (Quebec City) — Kevin
 - a. Multi-level Modeling Course
 - i. Discussion and planning are still ongoing for this course. There is some buy-in from NCI on the course and the group is hoping to maybe get sponsorship from NCI. Hanna Weir was trying to get another National Death Index workshop but the course was rejected because there were too many requests for workshops. This course is still a go as of now, but there are problems with timing, instructors and a possible lack of materials.
 - b. Google Earth Course
 - i. This course was not approved because of the number of currently scheduled courses.
5. Census 2010 Information — Long Form vs. Short Form & Census Block Group/Tract Data — Kevin
 - a. Would be good if we, as a group, could stay on top of any changes being released.
6. NAACCR Run/Walk (Quebec City, NAACCR Annual Meeting) — Recinda
 - a. Recinda said she has nothing new but going to continue pushing forward with this.

D. New Business

1. 2010-2011 committee plans, projects, grants (brainstorming) — Kevin
 - a. Komen project – Many members helped write the grant and the GIS committee has helped guide the project along. A few members of the committee went to the USC for planning. October of next year is the end of the project. In the past, we've always come up with ideas for new projects as old projects come to an end. Previous major projects include: the Geocoding Best Practices Handbook; The GIS Best Practices Guide; and other smaller projects including surveys, the Great Circle Distance calculator, and GIS training websites. Bob said that he often hears of the need for basic reference data. This committee could provide a portal for fresh downloads by state (or other geographical division) of zip codes, etc... We would need a \$1,000/yr subscription to USPS data to post the tables for download. Christian thinks the USPS does offer some kind of API to their data that might also work in this way. Annette noted that the CDC was working on a geocoding server. They purchased some equipment, but the project is currently on hold. Maybe the group could find a solution for registries who don't have a lot of money. 82% of NAACCR registries were doing geocoding as of the geocoding survey several years ago. Bob liked Frank's idea to put together the Google Earth course. Maybe the group could put together some web pages with an introduction on how to do certain functions within Google Earth. Annette suggested putting together a list of useful and free software/websites to do GIS and geocoding projects although this might be hard to do because it's a moving target.