

**Society of American
Archivists Council Meeting
November 1, 3, 2022
Virtual Meeting**

**SAA Representative Report:
National Historical and Publications Records Commission
(NHPRC)
(Prepared by Commissioner Tanya Zanish-Belcher, SAA Representative)**

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), a statutory body affiliated with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), supports a wide range of activities to preserve, publish, and encourage the use of documentary sources, created in every medium ranging from quill pen to computer, relating to the history of the United States.

In addition to attending the regular Commission meetings, in 2021, I was also appointed to the Executive Committee by the Director of the NHPRC, Christopher Eck, and the Archivist of the United States, David Ferriero. The spring meeting included Acting Archivist of the US Debra Wall, due to the retirement of AOTUS. The Commission continues to meet online semiannually.

A special thank you for the NHPRC staff who are always professional and helpful.

Strategic Plan Update:

NHPRC reviewed and updated its strategic plan in 2021 and among the new goals were to increase cultural equity and a review of recruitment and processes to reach new audiences. NHPRC implemented a “listening tour” to inform the ongoing transformation of the Institutes for Historical Editing program and to better serve newcomers to the field. NHPRC staff also identified archival organizations for another “listening tour” to hear what those working in the field need and want, and to inform equity efforts.

Over the past year, Commission members have collaborated closely with staff as members of the NHPRC Process & Recruitment Committee. The Committee reviewed outreach and communications, the recruiting of new groups and expanding NHPRC grants to new audiences, evaluated the grant evaluation application, peer review process, and staff report process, and reviewed new calls for grant proposals, including the NHPRC-Mellon Program, the Institutes for Historical Editing, and the Archives Leadership Institute.

The new NHPRC-Mellon Start-Up Grants for Collaborative Digital Editions in African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American History received 10 applications received (one withdrew after submitting). Staff recommended support for 6 projects for \$717,766. These are non-Federal funds.

Grant Requests:

At its semiannual meeting in May the Commission reviewed the following:

DP-Public Engagement	5 grants	\$652,538
PE-Publishing	17 grants	\$2,308,753
RH-Archival Projects	14 grants	\$1,752,434

Budget:

The final FY22 appropriations bill—which was signed into law by the President—included \$476.6 million for the National Archives and Records Administration (this is \$78.7 million above the FY21 enacted level), of which \$388.3 million is for operating expenses, \$71 million is for repairs and restorations, \$29 million is for electronic records preservation, and \$2 million is for the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018. Appropriations of \$7 million for NHPRC grant programs, an increase of \$500,000, provide the Commission with sufficient funding to address anticipated grant programming for FY22. These funds are supplemented by the Commission’s no-year, unobligated carryover grant funds of approximately \$1.3 million and returns of approximately \$150,000.

The final bill also included earmarks (now known as “Congressional Directives”) to be managed by the NHPRC in the amount of \$5.265 million for eleven specific records projects in various states. Please note, these were not reviewed nor evaluated by the NHPRC, but they are responsible for overseeing them.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for November 15, and the full Commission will meet on November 16, 2022.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, zanisht@wfu.edu.