**Committee on Public Policy**

**Monthly Conference Call**

**Agenda**

**October 29, 2018**

Present: Nancy Beaumont, Rachel Greggs, Wendy Hagenmaier, Daria Labinsky, Sarah Quigley, Kathleen Roe, Eira Tansey, Bryan Whitledge, Audra Yun

Absent: Virginia Millington, Samantha Winn

1. Updates

* SAA/COSA/NAGARA Joint Task Force conference call (Sam)
  + Sam was absent so Nancy gave the update.
  + Main focus was discussion of the future of the working group, primarily the degree to which the group will take on next steps for Archives on the Hill and the legislative agenda.
  + Also discussed memberships in NCH. RAAC is withdrawing and COSA has changed their membership level. COSA is working on a document outlining what services/benefits archival members expect from NCH. Nancy will share the final draft with COPP.
* Others
  + None

2. Legislative Agenda check-in (Sarah)

* Most specific items on the agenda have either been achieved or some degree of work has begun. The proposed white paper is the most notable exception. We discussed whether this was still desirable as a deliverable or if a slightly different product would be better. COSA is reportedly still interested in doing something along these lines. The joint advocacy group will need to decide how to do this work.
* Kathleen raised the need for a 5-10 year effort to take on increased federal funding beyond support for NHPRC, IMLS, etc., for example advocating for block grants for states to support archives/archival work.
* Nancy asked if there are possibilities beyond block grants.
* Kathleen suggested bringing together a group of individuals with different kinds of grant experience to do backgrounding, surveying, and other research to identify possibilities. Block grants would help the state government community but what would be helpful to others? Recommended the suggested group earmark 3 days to sit together and develop a framework for an initiative. What responsibilities do archives have that warrant federal funding? Possibly apply for a planning grant from Mellon or Carnegie.
* Kathleen offered to share some background information from PAHR efforts. Nancy and Audra will take this idea to Council to see if there's interest in SAA contributing to such work.

3. Net Neutrality next steps (All)

* Deferred. Will discuss virtually.

4. Long term planning (Sarah)

* Looking ahead toward a mid-year meeting, discussed some logistical possibilities and some content possibilities.
* February is best for the SAA office given other work planned for next spring. Though the idea of having the meeting in DC and taking meetings with Congressional staff has been raised several times, Sarah feels it's better to do more planning work before a meeting like that happens. We shouldn't go to DC until we have a concrete initiative to discuss. Talked about having the meeting in Atlanta since three members live here and Meredith is also here.
* Ideas for work to do during the meeting:
  + Identify gaps in existing briefs and plan to fill them
  + Begin moving forward on idea presented above. Develop a two page concept paper with short term and long term goals for a federal advocacy initiative.
* Send Sarah any availability issues via email. The earlier we can set a date, the better for folks to plan.

5. Other business

* Discussed the Department of Interior schedule statement. Decided to issue that statement separately from a broader statement about SAA's policy regarding comments on appraisal decisions of individual institutions. Discussed proper format for the second statement. COPP will continue to massage that draft before sending to Council to determine best venue.