

Committee on Public Policy
Monthly Conference Call
Agenda
December 9, 2019

Present: Sarah, Nancy, Kathleen, Eira, Sam, Bryan, Brad, Krista, Logan, Virginia

Absent: Nick, Audra

1. Volunteer to take notes: Nancy

2. 2020 Presidential Candidate Questions

ET: Reordered priorities since original draft; “a” is the question, “b” is typically SAA’s stance. Eira has busy month and would like to turn this over. SQ: Questions are in good shape; perhaps Sam and Logan can refine based on comments in document, run past the group one last time, hand over to Beaumont for sending to campaigns. Challenging question is #2 re “Open government data.” SQ: Important to remember that this is a sort of test, as the first time we’ve done this. KR: While their answers may be simply yes/no, they’re being educated by virtue of receiving these questions from us. Getting on their radar. Depending on level of interest in questions/issues, we may have a hint that this is someone whom we can approach in the future. Members could use these questions with local candidates. SW: Next AOH event or next letter, important to note that in our 2020 candidate survey, you answered “yes” to this question and we’re holding you accountable. SQ: Consider how to strengthen “please specify what actions you would take.”

SW and LL will notify group of when to expect final draft, any big changes so that COPP can weigh in. Otherwise, forward to staff office when completed.

3. Congressional records brief

SQ: Conference call scheduled for Thursday, December 12, to initiate conversation. SQ has provided background so that everyone is aware of what has been done in the past on development of a brief/statement.

4. Archives on the Hill assessment

KR provided summary of recommendations in document. BW and Dennis Riley participated in development of document. Would be useful to agree on a date for comments from COPP members. Tighten up processes, get serious about training for federal advocacy efforts, do more and better assessment of our efforts. Need to regularize existing resources, look at whether we must/need to collaborate with CoSA, NAGARA, and RAAC. Solidify education function that supports a larger SAA advocacy plan. Need to decide whether we will continue to be reactive (eg, NHPRC) or become more assertive and proactive. Where does the SAA leadership stand? SQ: Lots to unpack in document, big decisions to be considered. Discuss in more depth on COPP’s January 13 conference call. Please comment in document (on shared Google drive) by

January 8. SQ: How do we create a visionary advocacy agenda with volunteers as the “work force”?

5. Briefs/statements assessment

KF and BH: Have not met, but KF can share some preliminary perspectives. 22 briefs/statements on issues around transparency, 20 on copyright, 14 on advocacy at large (6 specific to NARA). Also reviewed for older or outdated; USA Patriot Act in 2004 might be looked at again. Other “NARA-type” things that might be updated or for which there are gaps. (Examples: FERMI, executive orders re all born-digital records being managed electronically, taking only digital materials unless given specific exemption) We have qualities of AOTUS, but might want qualities of a state archivist. BW: Perhaps frame statements on EOs in terms of best practices in general. KF to share charts when call is over.

6. National Humanities Alliance Advocacy Day

Consider sending experienced advocate with one or a few proteges/novices to learn how to make a Hill visit. Discuss again in January for possible spring visit(s).

7. Local Government Records Section webinar

- a. Scheduled for January 9

8. Updates from other groups

- a. Council
- b. SAA/COSA/NAGARA/RAAC Joint Working Group:
 - i. None (December meeting is on the 10th)
- c. COPP/COPA/I&A/RAAC
- d. COPA