**Committee on Public Policy**

**Monthly Conference Call**

**Agenda**

**January 22, 2019**

1. Updates from other groups

* CoPA is working on several blog series, including ongoing interview series -- Caryn can fill us in during a future meeting
  + There’s a possibility there may be a post related to the gov’t shutdown, TBD
* Last Joint Working Group meeting was cancelled
  + CoPA submitted a program proposal for the Annual Meeting (still with the Program Committee)
* SAA Council has not yet met for January meeting
* National Coalition for History Policy Board update:
  + Met in conjunction with the American Historical Association meeting in Chicago
  + There was a lot of interest in archival issues -- will be important for archivists to be at the table
  + Nancy is working with NCH and AASLH to see about having an archivist involved with 250th anniversary commission
  + Discussion about (Presidential?) records destruction
  + On the radar: possible re-do of Preserving the American Historical Record Act
    - The funding we’ve been advocating for over the past few years is small; it may be time to start asking for more if we want to accomplish our goals
* CoSA’s advocacy committee is discussing an effort related to using the 250th anniversary as an opportunity/theme to advocate for funding

2. Website revision

* Rethinking how we present info on our webpage
  + In the past: we had a public policy agenda, and within the agenda, items were linked to statements
  + Now, we read the agenda, and then we go to the bottom and click on statements, and have to read through all statements to find the one you’re looking for
  + How to make the statements easier to navigate to?
  + Is this what we’re talking about?: <https://www2.archivists.org/advocacy/public-policy/legislative-agenda-and-action-plan-2018> or <https://www2.archivists.org/advocacy/public-policy/saa-public-policy-agenda>
  + Action item: Nancy will share notes and background about the website before our next meeting

3. NEH/NHPRC funding

* Budget conversations will be starting again soon
* In the past few months, we’ve had conversations about our ask being small; is the amount of our ask commensurate with the effort we invest in advocacy for funding?
* Absent a large plan for funding requests (such as revitalizing PAHR), do we want to repeat a similar ask this year, or change it?
  + In the past, 10 million has been asked for but not appropriated -- even the 10 million is a fairly limited amount
    - There are many states in which NHPRC funding has gone only to the state archives, not beyond the state archives -- this can make it difficult to ask SAA members to make the ask for NHPRC
      * Is that because archivists beyond state archives aren’t applying for NHPRC grants?
        + Quite a bit of work to apply for NHPRC grants
        + The grants may be smaller than NEH or IMLS grants
      * We don’t have many examples to point to to show how NHPRC has been of value beyond the funding that’s gone to state archives or large institutions
      * Small archives do get funding from NHPRC via SHRABs, but the SHRAB funding may not always be recognized as coming from NHPRC
  + Appropriations is being chaired by someone who, in the past, has been supportive of funding
  + National Coalition for History has advocated for level funding for NHPRC in the last few years
* Action item: Sarah will pitch federal funding as an agenda item for the Joint Working Group meeting in February

4. Pre-conference workshop updates

* Sam submitted the proposal to the SAA Committee on Education: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q21Hinv0LqfyIxyuZoUrLaamdzRrveK1FG2mZTlh8Zc/edit?usp=sharing>
* Proposals are being reviewed in the next week or so
* Bryan is listed as our contact; he’ll keep us all updated
* Education Committee may want to work on some back and forth revisions

5. February meeting updates

* Sarah attended a workshop last week and learned about an organization of facilitators in the southeast -- she’s working on identifying a facilitator for our meeting
* Hopefully the government will be functioning by the time of our meeting, and the Atlanta airport will be fully staffed -- potential delays
* Action item: Sarah will send a logistics email about in-person meeting
* Action item: Felicia will re-send Bryan’s hotel reservation email

6. Other business

* Eira is interested in writing a recap of our in-person meeting for the Records Management Section
  + Maybe time this for after Sarah has updated Council on what was discussed
  + Framing would be, this is why records managers should care about CoPP’s work
  + Sarah would like at least minutes from the business meeting portion to go up on the CoPP page (could also be shared on the Leaders List)
  + The work product from the in-person meeting is something that would be going to Council pretty quickly after the in-person meeting
* Is a joint Google Hangout planned by CoPP and Records Management Section about federal records something we still want to pursue?
  + Action item: Eira will keep thinking about Google Hangout possibilities
* Traveling to Atlanta by car is fine for reimbursement
* Response to Statement on government shutdown is positive