

**Committee on Public Policy**  
**Monthly Conference Call**  
**Agenda**  
**November 18, 2019**

**Present:** Sarah, Virginia, Sam, Eira, Kathleen, Bryan, Audra, Krista

**Absent:** Nancy Beaumont, Logan Lazalde

**1. Volunteer to take notes:**

**2. [2020 Candidate Questions](#)**

-Sam and Eira met on November 8. Started looking at how other orgs structure questions.

-Aware of nonprofit status will affect how we can construct questions. Sam / Eira would like to pursue model of direct questions, but might skirt nonprofit status.

-Kathleen: Advocacy causes issues (asking for votes), but asking opinion or gathering information will not be a problem. Nonprofits can inform and raise awareness, but can't say "vote for this."

-Eira: Likes AAPD questions, because they include fact-based statements.

-Goal: State SAA's positions and elicit meaningful answers to questions.

-A caution: Amnesty 2020 shows boilerplate responses, hopefully this will not be the case for all responses.

-Approach: Formed 6 broad categories from legislative agenda (see italics): *Federal Funding for Archives, Network Neutrality, Intellectual Property Law and Regulations, Open Government Data, Classification of Federal Records, Management of Federal Records, Freedom of Information Act*

- Need to formulate specific questions after discussion with COPP - do we agree on six broad categories?

-Kathleen: Need to focus on the one question we really want to be answered and have it lead the question list. Most critical issues should be stated first. Management of Federal Records could be priority.

-Question: Is there anything we can take out? Is IP Law and Regulations too complicated? What about Net Neutrality? Will candidates be in a position to make changes?

-Hesitant to remove priorities at this point. Efforts have been made to make sure we don't duplicate questions (research into museum, library communities...).

- Some overlap with arts, science orgs.

-This might be the only chance we have to raise these issues with candidates.

-Possible priorities: Management of Federal Records

-How can we get detailed answers to questions about federal funding? Possible deflection: states should fund records management.

-Audra: Should the doc be shared at Exec meeting? YES. Not too premature to share. Timeline includes quick turnaround. Beneficial to have input from Nancy on how to frame / present certain questions.

-Always good to get the candidates on record stating love for history!

Timeline:

- Iowa Caucus: February 3. Goal to have responses by this date.
- Atlanta debate: this week?

-GOAL: Distribution to candidates by mid-December.

Question: what do you need from committee? Questions will need to go through council.

- Can Audra ask whether timeline is realistic?
- Nancy can provide guidance on process by tomorrow. Does this need to be an item of discussion? What is the deadline? What is protocol?
- Can list of who gets questions remain flexible? What if new candidates emerge?
- Question for group: Who should get the list? Starting point: Dems, Republicans, Green, Libertarian
- One approach: Focus on finding contact information for top candidates. Send questions to generic list. Who comes first?
- We do have names of main candidates, pulled from existing lists.

Confirming: SAA will contact campaigns directly.

Next steps:

- Sam & Eira will meet ASAP.
- Nancy / Audra will circle back with info about exec council feedback.

### **3. [Annual Report](#)**

- No substantive changes / feedback.

### **4. [Standard Operating Procedures draft](#)**

- Committee: Please take a look and make edits / changes by the end of week.

### **5. Congressional Records Brief**

- Complete doodle poll.

### **6. Archives on the Hill Assessment**

- Draft document has been completed and passed around.
- Goal is to share by early December before next phone call.

### **7. Briefs/statements Assessment**

- Spreadsheet of briefs and statements has been shared.
- Goal is to create categories / general observations. For example, lots of statements about copyright.

- Further thinking about how statements should be formatted and presented.
- Initial feedback requested, esp. on categories and general thoughts about what to do with page.
- Krista / Brad will review based on feedback.
  - Big picture question: What should be included? What statements are most referenced?
  - Page autopopulates, so it pulls everything. There are also benefits to having everything on page so it allows for reference across years.

## **8. Local Government Records Section Webinar**

- Interest in join webinar between Local Gov't Records & COPP, so that LGR section members can understand more about what COPP does.
- Interest in repurposing brown bag for webinar with goal of sharing information and seeing how we could work together. Eira / Sam: it is okay to reuse material!
- Anyone in section can join.
- Brad: This might be of interest to you as you work with local government records.

## **9. Updates from Other Groups**

### **a. DLF Government Records and Transparency conference call**

- Group seems interested in what COPP is doing. Worthwhile to follow up and get on agenda for info-sharing session. Eira will follow up.

### **b. SAA/COSA/NAGARA/RAAC Joint Working Group:**

- i. Jim C./Sarah K. speaking to Robin in Senator Sullivan's office regarding Sullivan introducing the NHPRC reauthorization bill at \$10 million. She was out of the country at the time of our conference call. Barbara T. will try to follow up with Robin at the NHPRC Commission meeting.
- ii. November 21 is the end of the current continuing resolution funding the federal government. We suspect another continuing resolution, which will keep NARA and NHPRC budgets at last year's levels.

### **c. Joint Advocacy Call (CoPP, CoPA, I&A, RAAC)**

- i. Joanna Black (I&A chair) discussed upcoming outreach initiatives for social media and blogs. I&A is currently reviewing and distributing the results of the temp labor survey conducted last summer. They are also working with RAAC on joint advocacy initiatives.
- ii. CoPA shared highlights about their 2019 storytelling workshop and the "finding aid to my soul" event, Ask an Archivist Day 2019, and the 2019-2020 Workplan, and ideas for 2020 pop-up sessions.
- iii. RAAC is surveying their membership to revise 2019-2021 strategic plans. They aim to host 3 (advocacy themed?) webinars before SAA 2020.
- iv. The group is adding regular email check-ins to supplement biannual meetings

### **d. Council**

e. COPA