

Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC)
Annual Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2017
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.

- I. Introductions
 - Due to small turnout and late start, there were no introductions.
- II. Incoming and outgoing Steering Committee
 - Co-chairs Kristen Chinery and Jennifer McGillan thanked outgoing Steering Committee members and introduced the incoming members that were present.
- III. NCH Representative report
 - Introduction of RAAC's Representative to the National Coalition for History Policy Board, Jan Zastrow.
 - Jan provided a brief summary of NCH activities this past year, including information about FY 18 federal funding for history, archival, and educational programs.
- IV. Subcommittee reports
 - Subcommittees provided brief summaries of activities this past year (please see Steering Committee meeting minutes for full descriptions of subcommittee activities).
- V. Breakout groups – subcommittee goals
 - Advocacy
 - Discussion led by Mary Rubin, Society of Florida Archivists.
 - Participants included Philip, Association of St. Louis Area Archivists; Sarah Milligan, outgoing member from Oklahoma Archivists Association; Drew Davis, Chicago Area Archivists; Barbara Teague, Council of State Archivists.
 - Talked about the use of a survey/form to determine landscape of regional advocacy methods.
 - Will need to work with Education to make sure no overlap in survey distribution.
 - Talked about the use of Dropbox for obtaining files about regional advocacy methods.
 - Barbara Teague discussed the Advocacy Hill Day; RAAC is participating. Taking place during SAA 2018 in Washington, DC.
 - Discussed work that was done to gather materials demonstrating viability, avoiding burnout, managing turnover, and how best to use recruitment.
 - Discussed work that was done to develop message to engage local level legislators and how that would be most effective.
 - Disaster
 - Discussion led by Jamie Seemiller, Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists.

- Participants included Jennifer Day, Society of Southwest Archivists; Mark Wolfe, New York Archives Conference; Michael Connors, Seattle Area Archivists; Liz Francis, New England Archivists.
- Rebecca Elder, Society of Southwest Archivists, is the new chair.
- Review of past activities:
 - Narratives from people who survived disasters and using narratives to build website.
 - Survey/environmental scan of members.
 - Interfacing Project ARCC (climate change).
 - SAA statement about climate change.
- Goals for Year 2:
 - Resource sharing most important.
 - Share survey results.
 - Share survey data on RAAC microsite.
 - Outlook article about RAAC survey results?
 - Formulate ways to increase disaster-planning efforts organized by regionals.
 - SSA has funds available for members for disaster.
 - Oral histories can be resource heavy, time consuming.
 - Michael Connors can share information photogrammetry.
 - Noted gap in digital preservation disaster planning on resource list.
 - Resources can be outside archival world.
 - Ask regionals what they need re: disaster education.
- Education
 - Discussion led by Vin Novaro, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference.
 - Education Subcommittee members never received any communications from the previous Education chair.
 - The Subcommittee might not be reaching the right people.
 - Plan for the Subcommittee:
 - Resubmit the survey (be sure to emphasize context, and focus on unique offerings, and that it should be passed along to whomever coordinates the educational offerings).
 - Identify the omissions and/or strengths (if someone is doing an exemplary job, we could bring that).
 - Perhaps inform a “Train the Trainer” based on existing models to then disseminate to the other regionals.
 - Propose a program.
 - Determine event format for SAA 2018/2019 and content.
- Grants
 - Discussion led by Kristen Chinery, Michigan Archival Association.
 - Participants included Gavin Strassel, Metro Detroit Archivists League; Suzanne Noruschat, Yale University; Kyna Herzinger, Kentucky Council on Archives.
 - Reviewed work done this past year on advocacy related to federal funding for granting agencies and discussed where things presently stand.
 - Given the cuts to federal funds, could take a closer look at grant opportunities within regionals. Focus on geography.

- Resource sharing is just as important as dollars.
- Partnerships, like hosting digital content for smaller institutions.
- Membership
 - Discussion leader present (Gavin Strassel, Metro Detroit Archivists League), but no other members of Membership present so he joined the Grants discussion.
- Public Awareness
 - Discussion led by Jennifer McGillan, Society of Mississippi Archivists.
 - Discussed strategies for assisting Education Subcommittee with preparing for the symposium in 2018/2019 and for getting a session of interest to regionals at SAA.
 - Briefly discussed Archives Month and recommitting to the idea of developing a kind of Outreach Toolkit for smaller organizations.

VI. Speaker: Barbara Teague, Council of State Archivists

- Barbara Teague is a Program Consultant for the Council of State Archivists. She participates in a number of advocacy initiatives and currently serves as a member of the Joint Task Force on Information and Awareness. Barbara discussed the importance of advocacy work and shared tips for how to do it effectively.