

**Society of American Archivists  
Committee on Public Awareness (COPA)  
Conference Call – September 16, 2019**

**MINUTES**

Participating: Nick Pavlik (chair), Kate Barbera, Chris Burns, Lynn Cowles, Sami Norling, Rachel Seale, Anna Trammell, Racheal Woody, Sarah Quigley (COPP), Brenda Gunn (Council liaison), SAA staff Nancy Beaumont and Teresa Brinati.

Unable to participate: Vince Lee.

Pavlik welcomed new committee members Barbera and Cowles to service on COPA.

**Meeting Minutes**

TO DO #1 (All): Please review the August 2019 [Meeting Minutes](#) and let Pavlik know if there are any changes by Sept. 20.

**Annual Report**

TO DO #2 (All): Please review the [2018-2019 Annual Report](#) and let Pavlik know if there are any changes by Sept. 27.

**Work Plan**

Pavlik is working with Lee to compile the 2019-2020 Work Plan and will distribute via the list for feedback. There will be discussion about it on the next conference call.

TO DO #3 (Pavlik and Lee): Compile work plan and add to agenda for October conference call.

**Ask an Archivist Day** is Wednesday, October 2, 2019.

- Promotion on social media ahead of time via memes sent on personal twitter accounts and SAA's account. Start with light promos on Sept. 25 and do more intensive promo beginning Sept. 30.

TO DO #4: Pavlik will be in touch offline with Cowles and Barbera to acquaint them with the meme tradition.

- Have COPA members do shifts on the SAA Twitter account. Woody will coordinate the shifts.

TO DO #5 (All): Contact Woody regarding your availability to do a one-hour shift using the SAA Twitter handle on Ask An Archivist Day.

- A blogpost on ArchivesAWARE has been typically generated by the chair. It's usually a refresher of the content used the previous year.

TO DO #6: Pavlik to draft a blogpost by Sept. 23 and share with Seale.

- Woody would like to do a retrospective on American Archives Month as a blogpost. Another post on a list of resources/toolkits on discussing the value of archives. There are many resources on the SAA website related to AAM and also an early partner in CoSA.

**TO DO #7: Woody to coordinate with Seale on the AAM blogposts.**

- How can we reach out to NCPH and go beyond “archivists talking to other archivists.” Is it too late for this year since the day is two weeks away? Barbera would be willing to reach out next year.
- Need to go out with the date soon after this year’s event. Although it has been traditionally held the first Wednesday of October, be specific about what that date is.
- What about moving it to toward the end of the month and using American Archives Month to build up to the event. What about moving it from the first toward the fourth Wednesday of October for 2020? Let revisit after this year’s event.

**TO DO #8: Add to November conference call agenda and assessment of Ask An Archivist Day.**

**ArchivesAware! Blog**

Seale reported that the remainder of September and October are wide open. She’ll add the Pavlik and Woody proposed posts to the [Calendar](#).

**ARCHIVES/RECORDS 2019 Recap**

- COPA meeting on August 3 was productive (see [minutes](#) from the meeting).
- COPA session, “Are you ArchivesAware? Teaming up with SAA’s Committee on Public Awareness to Create a Stronger Archives Community,” on August 4 had 31 attendees. Good blog ideas and contacts for authoring posts were made.
- The two-hour storytelling workshop facilitated by Micaela Blei on August 2 was awesome. It was at capacity with 60 attendees. Would be good to discuss possibly expanding the workshop for the 2020 annual meeting.

**TO DO #9: Brinati to share feedback on the Storytelling Workshop.**

- “A Finding Aid to My Soul” storytelling event on August 4 has 10 storytellers and more than 100 folks in the audience. A polished and entertaining production thanks to Micaela Blei who did a great job as emcee of the event. New this year: rather than judges, Blei had three teams of audience volunteers who suggested titles for each of the stories and each storyteller picked out the one they liked best. Change for next year: Consider round table set up than theatre style.

**TO DO #10: Burns to pursue converting the audio recording of the event into episodes for the podcast Archives in Context.**

- Registration area table:
  1. Elevator speech jigsaw puzzle: COMPLETED AGAIN!
  2. Kitchen Sisters – great to have them receive this year’s [J. Franklin Jameson Archival Advocacy Award award](#), which COPA nominated them for. The Sisters were well received at the table. They also offer [workshops that focus on the interview process and podcasting](#).

3. Burns and Trammell recorded 20 elevator speeches for the podcast Archives in Context; next steps is edit them into a podcast episode. Same goes for the StoryCorps content, which Burns is continuing to work on.

### **SAA 2020 Annual Meeting**

COPA session proposal? The consensus is to pursue a particular element of COPA's work so that there are tips to share with attendees on communicating the value of archives.

**TO DO #11: Pavlik will send out an email regarding putting together a proposal.**

### **Joint Working Groups**

- CoSA/NAGARA/SAA: The conference call was September 10. The SAA Executive Committee has approved the proposed changes to the [Joint Statement on Conducting Public Business in Non-Government Email Accounts](#). Will be posted later today (Sept. 16).
- COPP/COPA/RAAC/I&A (Lee): No update at this time. Last conference call was June.
- Council: Gunn reported that the next conference call is Oct. 14. Agenda items needed by the end of today. In person meeting is Dec. 3-5. Those agenda items are need by Nov. 5. (The annual report will be considered for the Dec. meeting).
- COPP: Quigley reported that at its conference call last Friday, the group reviewed the work plan for the fall. Moving forward with collaboration with Congressional Papers Section to revise section on Congressional papers. And also putting together list of archives questions for 2020 presidential candidates.

### **Calendar of 2019-2020 Conference Calls**

Pavlik thanked everyone for filling out the Doodle Poll. He's working on a monthly conference call schedule based on responses, but not everyone can make the call at a standing day/time.

### **Conference Call Minutes**

It was agreed to rotate the minutes-taking alphabetically. Chris Burns up next!