

Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC) Steering Committee Conference Call
February 1, 2016

Minutes by Jennifer Brannock, Society of Mississippi Archivists

In Attendance:

Jennifer Brannock, Society of Mississippi Archivists
Rachel Chatalbash, Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc.
Kristen Chinery, Michigan Archival Association
Daria Labinsky, Midwest Archives Conference
Emily Vinson, Archivists of the Houston Area

Absent:

Amanda Focke, Society of Southwest Archivists

Minutes:

1. Symposium update (10 minutes)

Planning for the symposium is ongoing. The schedule for the event will be finalized in the coming weeks. Once the schedule is complete, attendance and invitations will be addressed. There are some delays

2. Daniel Alonzo, Public Awareness Subcommittee

We received notice that Daniel Alonzo resigned from his position as chair of the Public Awareness Subcommittee and on the RAAC steering committee. Rachel is working on filling the position and moving ahead with his committee responsibilities. Rachel has stepped in to work on the symposium session for his subcommittee. With Daniel's departure, the website is not being updated. The subcommittee continues to maintain the Facebook page.

3. Discussion of long-term sustainability of RAAC (10-15 minutes)

The committee discussed ways to sustain the organization and receive nominations for membership. There's a need for a stable steering committee with membership who are engaged in their subcommittees.

Members need more committee buy-in through activities and projects.

The committee discussed how to best define RAAC's relationship to SAA, which is still confusing to members. This needs to be addressed in the future.

4. Move up date for elections/start obtaining nominations now? (5 minutes)

RAAC's 3-year plan ends in 2016. The committee thought that it was appropriate for the incoming chairs to write the plan to determine future projects. For an easy transition, Emily will work on elections this spring with information provided by Rachel. Having the elections early will allow the incoming officers and members an opportunity to work on goals and other issues before taking office in August.

5. National Coalition for History (10 minutes)

NCH has nominated us to join their board starting in 2017. Their group watches and engages with policy in Washington relating to history/archives. SAA, COSA, and other groups are on the board. . In order to sit on the board, we need \$4000 a year for two years. RAAC does not have a budget, so money to join would have to come from the regional organizations. The concern is that we may not be able to acquire the money to join and/or managing donations would be extremely difficult and time consuming.

In order to become a member, many logistical issues would need to be determined. The main task would be to solicit, acquire, and manage donations from the regionals. The committee discussed if this should be a priority for the organization. Everyone agreed that there are benefits with membership. Rachel will send an email to RAAC membership to gauge interest.

6. Updates from subcommittees (20 minutes)

a. Advocacy (Chatalbash)

Rachel emailed Nancy Beaumont about an SAA/RAAC MOU and is waiting for a response. Each subcommittee member has a project and all are making progress towards his/her goal. One subcommittee member is collaborating with the SAA Issues and Advocacy Roundtable on an online advocacy toolkit. Rachel is going to participate in a conference call with other advocacy groups to share projects in progress.

b. Education (Brannock)

Jennifer is working on planning the RAAC symposium. Once all submissions are received, she'll address the other subcommittee goals.

c. Membership (Vinson)

Emily has almost finished updating the Directory of Regional Organizations. Once she receives the remaining information, the updates will be complete. For the symposium, Emily has an email out to potential keynote speakers and hopes to hear something soon.

d. Grants Development Subcommittee (Chinery)

The subcommittee is making progress on annual goals. Members are looking into fostering collaborative grant writing projects and planning the symposium panel. In addition, the subcommittee is exploring workflow options to updating information to the grant resource guide.

e. Disaster Planning and Response Subcommittee (Labinsky)

The subcommittee has updated the disaster planning and response resources page. They are compiling a list of resources about climate change to include on the webpage. They have a new committee member who has been integrated into the group. Committee member Mark Wolfe has been working with Project ARCC (Archivists Responding to Climate Change) and attended the committee's virtual meeting on December 16.