

COSTEP MA Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 10, 2022

10:00am-11:00am

Zoom meeting

Attendance

Alejandra Moutenot, Evan Knight, Mikayla Criger, Kristin Collins, Ben Haavik, Stephanie Garafolo, Becky Geller, Molly Ogrodnik, Catherine Perreault, Ben Hiltunen, Lori Foley, Elizabeth Morse, Matthew Kearney, Jessica Bitely

Communications updates: blog posts, website, and social media

Evan reported that there were 2 posts about climate resiliency published to the blog since the January meeting: a post on an upcoming virtual symposium at the JFK Library and a post about a recent podcast episode featuring Rodney Rowland, who has presented for COSTEP in the past. Over the past month, the website received 350 sessions, which was twice the amount of traffic the site typically receives. The average site visit time was 1.5 minutes. The group hypothesized that the increased traffic could be in part due to severe weather in January. 2 email weather alerts and 1 newsletter report were sent out in the past month. The email blast received 2,000 opens and the weather alerts received a 60% open rate. The email list grew by 7 new subscribers. The Twitter account received over 4,000 impressions.

REopening Archives, Libraries, and Museums (REALM) project update

Ben Haavik reported that the COSTEP/REALM proposal for the upcoming American Alliance of Museums conference was not selected. REALM has initiated national forums to prepare for future pandemics. The forums aim to pull together resources and best practices for archives, libraries, and museums.

Outreach updates

Evan reported that the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC) was moving forward with a grant proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities to organize and host a regional training in New England and that COSTEP has been asked to sponsor the training and select a host institution. The group brainstormed a few options for host institutions. Evan will reach out to those contacts.

Task Force updates

The group provided feedback on the draft language for widely publicizing and sharing the GIS mapping project. Evan will integrate the comments into a final draft for outreach. Alejandra reported that the form is ready to publish and she will reach back out to Desiree Kocis at MEMA to discuss next steps for going live with the project.

Lori Foley reported that she will be working to convene a summit for all of the various mapping initiatives that are happening nationwide in order to enable states and disaster response networks to share their resources and mitigate duplication of effort. Representatives from COSTEP will be invited to the meeting.

Alejandra also provided an update on COSTEP's co-sponsored webinar series with the Boston Green Ribbon Commission (GRC). The GRC has finalized its slate of presenters for the second webinar and will be in touch about when the webinar will be scheduled (most likely in the next few months).

Other business

Alejandra asked for suggestions for a potential conference session on climate resiliency at the upcoming Mass History Conference in June. The group suggested ideas for panelists. Alejandra will follow-up with those contacts.

Alejandra reported on a recent major water leak at a state agency. Jessica Bitely reported on an object requiring immediate conservation treatment at the Boston Public Library.

Next meeting

March 10, 2022 at 10am ET via Zoom