

COSTEP MA Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 2022

10:00am-11:00am

Zoom meeting

Attendance

Andrew Raddant, Evan Knight, Ben Haavik, Ben Hiltunen, Becky Geller, Molly Ogradnik, Stephanie Garafolo, Kristin Collins, Diane Lazinsky, Catherine Perrault, Elizabeth Morse, Jessica Bitely, Lori Foley, Priscilla Anderson

Communications updates: blog posts, website and social media

Evan reported that there were 3 posts published to the blog since the March meeting, including posts on a Practical Disaster Resources webinar offered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners in collaboration with the Massachusetts Library System, and a post on promoting free Health and Safety OSHA consultations for Museum, Conservation, and Cultural Heritage workers. The average site time spent on the COSTEP MA website for visitors was over a minute. 1 email weather alert and 3 email newsletter blasts were sent out in the past month. The email blasts received 1,300, 1,000, and 1,000 opens, respectively. The COSTEP email list received 5 new subscribers. The Twitter account received over 1,200 impressions, 700 profile visits, and 5 new subscribers. The group suggested promoting content related to MayDay, Preservation Week, and the Atlantic Hurricane Season on social media.

Outreach updates

Evan and Alejandra provided a recap of a recent meeting between representatives from FAIC and NEDCC regarding their emergency collections advice hotlines. The group suggested that a blog post be created that explains the differences between the two hotlines and the benefits of using both. Evan provided an update on the proposed regional training in partnership with FAIC and the JFK Library (anticipated for Fall 2023): the host institutions, the Massachusetts Archives and the JFK Library, have been confirmed and both institutions have contributed letters of support to the grant. Evan and Alejandra will draft the letter of commitment on behalf of COSTEP MA and will submit it to FAIC as part of the grant proposal. Alejandra reported that she and Evan were invited to represent COSTEP at an upcoming virtual OCLC REALM COVID-19 forum on networking that is scheduled for April 27th. Representatives from disaster preparedness and COVID-19 emergency networks from across the country will be in attendance.

Task Force updates

The group discussed next steps for the COSTEP/MEMA GIS mapping project, including doing another promotional push to get more organizations to participate and contribute data. Lori suggested calling out specific regions in Massachusetts using a simple message – “Let’s get your pin on the map!” which would include a screenshot of the map. Future promotional messages will include this content.

Alejandra introduced a new task force to update COSTEP’s resources on climate resiliency. The group will initially focus on building out the Climate Resiliency page on the COSTEP Website in order to keep it up-to-date and to add in more information that will be useful to cultural heritage sites. Lori suggested keeping the page focused on Massachusetts, since there are other national initiatives working on similar projects. The Climate Resiliency Task Force members are: Jessica Bitely, Ben Haavik, Kristin Collins, Stephanie Garafolo, Priscilla Anderson, and Alejandra Moutenot. Alejandra will send out an email to the group with next steps for getting started.

Other business

The deadline for a second round of Alliance for Response Microgrants awarded from FAIC is April 29th. The group discussed possible projects for a Microgrant proposal, including hiring an intern to facilitate the GIS mapping project (work would involve assistance in QCing data, conducting additional outreach, etc.). The Intern could be hired from Mass Maritime Academy. Alejandra will send out an email to the group about finalizing proposal ideas with the aim of submitting an application by the deadline.

Next meeting

May 12, 2022 at 10am ET via Zoom