

COSTEP MA Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 11, 2022

10:00am-10:45am

Zoom meeting

Attendance

Evan Knight, Alejandra Moutenot, Diane Lazinsky, Molly Ogrodnik, Ben Haavik, Kristin Collins, Becky Geller, Elizabeth Morse, Priscilla Anderson, Andrew Raddant

Communications updates: blog posts, website and social media

Evan reported that there was 1 new post published to the blog since the July meeting, which covered a case study of a historic home adapting to consequences and hazards posed by climate change. The COSTEP MA website received 200 sessions with an average site time of 1 minute. 4 email weather alerts were sent out in the past month, which sustained a 50-60% open rate. The Twitter account received 500 impressions and 500 profile visits. Evan will highlight a Fire and Flooding webinar hosted by FAIC and an upcoming Historic Preservation Conference in Salem on the blog and in the next newsletter.

Outreach updates

Evan and Alejandra provided an update on the statewide process of updating and administering the Massachusetts Climate Assessment and the State Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan. Alejandra will attend an upcoming SHMCAP planning meeting in which the project leaders will solicit feedback on the 39 impacts identified through the Climate Assessment, of which damage to cultural resources is one. Alejandra will provide feedback on that impact's urgency score ranking. The Climate Assessment will solicit another round of public comments in the Fall.

Task Force updates

Alejandra provided an update on the GIS mapping project: Catherine will be connecting with a Boston-area archives discussion group, which includes archivists from the Boston Public Library and Northeastern University, to explore ways in which the COSTEP GIS map might integrate with a database they are building of archival repositories in the Metro Boston area.

Alejandra provided an update on the Climate Resiliency Task Force: the Task Force submitted their comments to the Google Doc on updates to the COSTEP MA webpage on climate resiliency. Alejandra will incorporate those changes over the next week and update the website.

Other business

Evan updated the group on the latest steps for the COSTEP MA microgrant that was awarded from FAIC: Evan will convene a task force to finalize the requirements for applicants to enter into the drawing for disaster supply kits. All applicants will be assigned a random number in order to be randomly drawn for the awards. The group decided on publishing the outreach and announcement for the awards by the beginning of September.

The group also discussed the recent impacts from the extreme heat and statewide drought. Becky will look into resources on water usage and impacts to the living environment to share to the COSTEP website.

Next meeting

September 8, 2022 at 10am ET via Zoom