

COSTEP MA Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 8, 2022

10:00am-10:45am

Zoom meeting

Attendance

Alejandra Moutenot, Catherine Perreault, Stephanie Garafolo, Molly Ogradnik, Elizabeth Morse, Becky Geller, Ben Haavik, Ben Hiltunen, Diane Lazinsky, Andrew Raddant, Kristin Collins, Priscilla Anderson

Communications updates: blog posts, website and social media

Alejandra reported that there were 3 new posts published to the blog since the August meeting: a post promoting an upcoming Climate Risk webinar hosted by the Boston Green Ribbon Commission, a post promoting an upcoming conference on climate change that will be held in Salem, and a post aggregating resources to mitigate the effects of drought to cultural resources. The COSTEP MA website received 282 sessions with an average site time of 1.5 minutes. 1 email weather alert and 1 email blast were sent out in the past month. Molly continues to post about new blog entries or extreme weather events on the COSTEP Twitter account, which has been seeing more engagement in the past month through likes and retweets.

Outreach updates

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 recapped the urgency score for cultural resources and the group discussed the impact's drafted assessment plan. The group felt that the plan focused too much on flood risk and suggested including more discussion about climate control in heatwaves, droughts, etc. The group also discussed unconventional risk factors such as budget and the responsibility of institutions not to contribute to resource consumption. Alejandra will incorporate the group's feedback into her response to the Climate Assessment Project Working Group. The Climate Assessment will solicit another round of public comments in the Fall.

Alejandra and Ben Haavik reported out on the OCLC REALM virtual symposium that took place from August 30th to August 31st. Alejandra gave a short presentation during the symposium on the COSTEP MA network and how COSTEP responded to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ben reported that OCLC has published a [Public Health Crisis Playbook](#), which supports organizations in planning for future public health crises and pandemics.

Ben Hiltunen mentioned that the Western Mass Historical Commission Coalition (WMHCC) has invited Evan and Alejandra to present on COSTEP and the ongoing GIS mapping initiative at their upcoming meeting in September. The meeting topic is Resiliency and Historic Preservation and it is tentatively scheduled for September 20th.

Task Force updates

Alejandra provided an update on the Cultural Heritage Facilities Survey/GIS mapping project: the group will plan for another outreach push this Fall to increase participation in the project, especially through activities related to the AFR micro-grant Disaster Kit giveaway (which will ask participants to put their pin on the map). Alejandra will check in with Ben Hiltunen and Desiree Kocis about QCing the submitted data points.

Alejandra provided an update on the Climate Resiliency Task Force: the Task Force provided additional linked resources on climate resiliency for the website, which are now live. The Task Force will work on annotating the resources with 1-2 sentences per link in order to provide further context and to specify helpful information, such as intended audience.

Other business

Updates on the COSTEP MA micro-grant progress will be provided at the October meeting. Alejandra will be taking maternity leave from December 2022 to April 2023. During this time, Evan will run the Executive Committee meetings and Catherine will take meeting minutes.

Next meeting

October 13, 2022 at 10am ET via Zoom