

COSTEP MA Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 8, 2022

10:00am – 11:00am

Zoom meeting

Attendance

Evan Knight, Ben Hiltunen, Catherine Perreault, Mikayla Criger, Elizabeth Morse, Diane Lazinsky, Priscilla Anderson, Molly Ogradnik, Jon Patton, Becky Geller, Ben Haavik, Stephanie Garafolo, Conor Snow

Conor Snow is a new member of the executive committee. He is the new Processing Archivist at the Massachusetts Archives.

Communications updates: blog posts, website and social media

One new blog post this month highlighting a wet-salvage recovery training video from the Library of Congress. Site traffic was 250 impressions; the homepage and tabletop exercise page were still the top views. Two weather alerts and one newsletter sent out with 45-50% open rates. Ten new subscribers signed for the newsletter. The newsletter highlighted the Disaster Kit Giveaway, two NEH grants for climate change community resilience, and tips for winter prep at institutions.

Ben Haavik says Historic New England is working on an application for the NEH grants to bolster their existing climate change response program. Recently hired a two-year term staff person to work on the project.

Group discussed whether or not to continue the COSTEP twitter account or

Outreach updates

The executive committee did the drawing for the Disaster Kit Giveaway. Nine institutions met the four requirements for entry and Evan Knight drew their names at random from a box on video for the committee. The order in which the institutes were drawn is as follows:

1. Erving Public Library
2. Peabody Historical Society Museum
3. Fairbanks House Museum
4. Holbrook Public Library
5. Scituate Historical Society
6. Museum of African American History
7. Linfield Public Library
8. Shrewsbury Public Library

Our deepest regrets to Wistariahurst, City of Holyoke, which was the one institution that did not receive a kit. Evan will let us know when he schedules his visits to deliver the kit and his disaster prep seminar to each institution. These will happen in a few months. Each institution's blog posts will be shared over the coming months

Task Force updates

No task force updates this month

Other business

AFR is holding a national wide meeting on January 26, Evan will be attending to represent COSTEP and will share the link to the group so that others can attend as representatives.

The Newport Restoration Foundation's next conference in its [Keeping History Above Water series](#) will be happening in Portsmouth, New Hampshire on May 7-9, 2023. The call for papers is open until December 10. Ben Haavik will be attending on behalf of Historic New England.

Mass Cultural Council accepting applications for their [Cultural Facilities Fund](#) until February 2, 2023 for both planning and implementation grants. Mass Cultural hopes to fund projects that are forward looking, resiliency building, and carbon neutral. They have updated their policy and institutions can now apply for both a planning and implementation grant.

Jon Patton from DCR informed the group that they have been coordinating with the Army Corp of Engineers to plan/build physical infrastructure to combat sea level rise in the Boston Metro Area. He will keep COSTEP updated on this project so that institutions impacted by this work can have a part in the conversation.

Next meeting

January 12, 2022 at 10am ET via Zoom