**NJLA History & Preservation Committee**

**General Meeting Minutes**

**6/1/2023**

**Held at Harrah’s during the NJLA Conference**

Present: Beth Zak-Cohen, Ken Kaufman, Jackie Oshman, John Beekman, Gary Saretzky, Juber Ayala, Kathlyn Kelly, Tom Ankner, Sarah Hull, E. Kim Adams, Jessica Myers, Laura Poll, Frederick Pachman, Heather Perez, Zach Brackett, Danny Klein, Gabrielle Caprari, Kristen DeMeo, Teresa Bayles, Katrina Zwaff, Tim Corlis, James Cox, Eric Schwarz

Meeting opened at 12:04pm by Beth Zak-Cohen

**Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes from last General Meeting by Fred, Seconded by Gary. Approved.

**Bylaws Update – Ken**

* Updates were published in a recent Chronicle newsletter and sent through the listserve.
* Minor updates include:
  + Rephrasing “Archives Committee” with “Archivist”
  + Adding verbage to the meetings section to allow virtual meetings.
* All voting in favor of the updates

**President’s Report - Beth**

* A Schedule of H&P sponsored sessions is available at the table located in the Exhibits Hall
* Take lots of photos during the conference and take a ribbon for your nametag.
* Introduction of new officers:
  + President: John Beekman
    - He will try to have at least one meeting in person this year. Also, start thinking of program ideas for next year’s conference.
  + Vice President: Juber Ayala
    - He feels privileged to join the e-board
  + Secretary: Jackie Oshman
  + Chronicle: Kathlyn Kelly
  + Web/Social Media: Jackie Silver-Morillo
  + New Exec Board Member: Sarah Hull
  + Past President: Beth Zak-Cohen
* Encourage people at NJLA who are interested in History to join the section.

**Anniversary Celebration - Fred**

* Fred started by reminding everyone to promote the H&P section while at conference.
* Everyone should wear a ribbon on their nametag and extras were given to the H&P Archivist (Sarah)
* He then gave a history of the sections that came before H&P and how they merged.
* Articles on the history of H&P and the Swartzburg Award were handed out to everyone.
* He asked that photos be taken of the 2022 and 2023 Executive Board.
* NJLA Executives including incoming Vice President Jeff Cupo are very interested in the history of NJLA and will support the Archives. Fred is very proud of the accomplishments made so far.
* He announced that Lois Densky-Wolff was the winner of the Swartzburg Award and he ran down the list of past winners that he has reached out to and tried to get to come the conference. The following past winners were in the meeting and took a photo: John Beekman, Tom Ankner, Sarah Hull, Fred Pachman, Tim Corlis, Gary Saretzky.

**Member Updates:**

Beth – Thanked all of the “long term” members of the H&P section (Gary, Sara, Tim, Elsalynn, Bob Stewart)

Tom – Newark Public Library received Congressional Appropriation to digitize the Newark Daily News. They hope to begin the project before the end of 2023.

Kim A. – New Brunswick Free Public Library has received 8 boxes full of Hall Mills Murder paperwork from the prime suspect’s lawyer. That will be inventoried and scanned soon. Our intern Zach, is currently looking through small collections and odds and ends to pull together a Military/War collection. Two programs will take place in the fall – in late September, Gary will be discussing glass plate negatives and Tim will be hosting a Box Making workshop at East Jersey Old Towne.

Zach – currently an intern at New Brunswick Free Public Library and first time attendee at H&P.

Jackie – New Brunswick Free Public Library will be hosting three Introduction to Genealogy workshops at the library. They will be June 6th, July 11th and August 1st.

Kathlyn – the next edition of the Chronicle will be published in mid August. The deadline to submit articles or events is the 3rd week of July. She thanked Fred and Elsalynn for their recent articles on the history of the section, and thanked all members for their articles and communications with her.

Heather – Stockton University will be migrating their digital content from OCLC to Preservica on June 30th. They received a $19 million bond for renovations. Their interns are currently working on an exhibit that will document the past, present and future of the library.

Ken – Somerset County (Bridgewater). He is enjoying all of the genealogy and local history questions he has been fielding lately. He discussed the digitization lab available at the Montgomery branch that is available for public usage.

John – Jersey City PL received a grant to digitize City Plans and include scholarly introductions to them. These are already available via the Internet Archive. There is a larger state grant that was awarded with their partner the Jersey City Museum for an oral history program.

Teresa – Somerset County Library is the co-chair of their local history group to organize and assess the collections held at all of the branches. She added that the digitization lab at Montgomery just received a large format scanner and staff is currently being trained in the lab to help patrons.

Katrina – Somerset County Library (ditto to Teresa) added that Montgomery has a collection of Yearbooks.

Gary – Told everyone the story about Susan Swartzburg’s “salons” at her apartment in New Brunswick & later Princeton, where she would invite students and international Archivists. The meetings became so popular that they were moved to Rider University and eventually became the Princeton Preservation Group. He encouraged everyone to join (dues are only $5 annually) and mentioned they will be having a discussion on Mold on paper. On June 10th, they will be having a Members Only Garden Party. Although he is retired, he is currently working on photography, CAPES evaluations, articles and talks on the history of photography, and workshops such as the Glass Plate Negatives at New Brunswick,

Laura – Trenton Public Library hired a project Archivist for the city archives. The project is projected to take 1 year starting in August. She will be manning the table for creating your own Zines in the exhibits hall during the conference, and created a Pocket Guide to NJLA zine for our table.

Tim – Started by commenting on how attendance at the Princeton Preservation Group has benefited from meeting on Zoom. He also stated that the name (PPG) is misleading since it had international roots. He has retired from Rutgers and continues his membership in Retiree-friendly associations such as NJLA and MARAC.

Fred – Monmouth Medical Center celebrated Hospital Week and Nurses Week in May with a presentation about the history of the hospital that had been digitized from 16mm film. He recently researched a question about a pool that used to be at the hospital (was a rehab pool for patients).

Juber - The New Jersey Hispanic Research and Information Center (NJHRIC) has hired 5 summer interns. He mentioned that he began his career as an intern there in 2012.

Kristen- Atlantic Co. Library and Margate Historical Society – She is cataloging materials at the Historical Society and starting a Facebook page. At ACLS, she is providing adult programming and taking an inventory of the Archive.

Jessica – She is currently retired and stated that we have a fantastic H&P group. She also gave a nod to joining the PPG and congratulated the winners of the Swartzburg winners in the room.

Eric – Works full time at NJ Dept. of Transportation where he is digitizing print and video materials in partnership with the Internet Archive. He also works part time at Clarence Dillon Public Library

Danny – Jersey City Free Public Library – he agreed with everything John stated and said he is also answering a lot of genealogy questions.

Sarah – Plainfield Public Library and H&P Archivist. They are currently digitizing their yearbooks and local police logs with the assistance of the Internet Archive. They will be collaborating with Queen City Film Festival on monthly showings through October when the Festival occurs. They also received a grant through the Cultural and Heritage Commission to have a display of photographs featuring NJ Black cowboys/cowgirls.

Gabrielle – Student at San Jose State focusing on Archives.

James Cox - Hoboken Public Library – He is the first Archivist for the library and is currently digitizing 19th Century materials.

Beth – Newark Public Library is hosting an exhibit on the Passaic River.

Meeting adjourned after photos were taken by Fred.