**NJLA History & Preservation Committee and MARAC**

**Joint Meeting Minutes**

**1/09/2023**

**Held via Zoom**

Present: Beth Zak-Cohen, Jackie Oshman, John Beekman, Gary Saretzky, Juber Ayala, Kathlyn Kelly, Laura Poll, Kathlyn Kelly, Tom Ankner, Vanessa Castaldo, Nancy Madacsi, Elsalyn Palmisano, Fred Pachman, Tara Maharjan, Colleen Goode, Christie Lutz, Robert Stewart, Teresa Bayles, Evelyn Frangakis, Mary Ellen Rogan, E. Kim Adams, Katrina Zwaaf, Sally Weiner, Caryn Radick, Sarah Hull, Jacqueline Silver-Morillo, Jessica Myers

Meeting opened at 10:05am by Beth Zak-Cohen

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

**President’s Report – Beth Zak-Cohen**

* Introduced herself as President of H&P to MARAC members. (Tara M. had microphone issue so introduced later)
* The 2023 NJLA Conference will be May 31-June 2nd. John will have programming updates.
* Beth presented Ken’s Committee Reports
	+ **Awards Committee**: The nomination deadline for the Susan Swartzburg Award is Friday, March 31, 2023.  Details can be found at this link: <https://www.njla.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=51:susan-swartzburg-award&catid=31:honors-and-awards&Itemid=170>
	+ **Bylaws Committee**:  Ken will be reaching out to members in the next few weeks to begin the bylaws review process.
* A list of Swartzburg Award Winners is available on the H&P website. Elsalyn and Fred will be writing a special article for the Chronicle celebrating the anniversary and will include a call to past winners to reach out in regards to attending either NJLA or a special celebration.

**Programming – Vice President – John Beekman**

* H&P submitted 7 sessions for consideration to the NJLA Conference including one double session.
	+ “Mining the Archives: Preserving NJLA’s History” - Tom Ankner
	+ “Inside Out – Perspectives from the Formative Stage of Books” (edited works) – Laura Poll
	+ Documenting the Non-Traditional Author – the Factsheet Five Archive Project - Laura Poll
	+ How to Create and Process an Oral History Collection – Juber Ayala
	+ Starting a Library Archive: Administration and Preservation (double session/two stand alone sessions) – E. Kim Adams and Jackie Oshman
	+ Scarlet & Black: Increasing Digital Access to NJ African American History Sources – John Beekman
	+ The NJ/DE Hub of the DPLA- Expanding Access to Digital Collections in New Jersey and Delaware – John Beekman
* Approved programs should be notified this month (January).
* Laura Poll would like to have a “make your own zine” type casual program in the vendor hall
* John has asked NJLA to schedule us in the same meeting room as last year for our lunchtime meeting. We are still determining if that is when we will have special recognition for the anniversaries and past award winners or if we would all prefer to meet outside of the conference schedule (a dinner at the casino? A date and time outside of the conference?).
	+ Lunch programs are only 50 minute sessions so speeches and celebrations would be limited.
	+ If anyone has any ideas or suggestions on the best way to celebrate, please let John know.

**MARAC** **– Tara Maharjan**

* Tara introduced herself as the Electronic Records Archivist at the New Jersey State Archives and the NJ Caucus Representative for MARAC.
* MARAC will have their Virtual Conference April 26-28 with the theme “Keeping Archives Relevant”. Cost is $25 for members, $50 for non-members and free for students.
* Thanked providers of Virtual Archive Tours for participating
	+ John commented that he is looking for MARAC organizations to volunteer to join the virtual tour collection. If members are aware of a unique or interesting Archive that may not be possible to tour in person, let John know the contact information for that archive.
* Virtual workshops will be provided in summer 2023.
* Records of CAPES have been moved from Monmouth County Archives to the NJSA. They will be performing light processing and then determine where they should be kept permanently. (NJSA already keeps one copy of all CAPES Surveys so we don’t want both copies kept in the same repository).
	+ Gary asked if the records would be digitized and Tara confirmed that she will digitize any that are currently asked for and will continue while she is Caucus Rep. Further digitization will be up to the future Caucus Rep.
	+ Elsalyn mentioned that the copies transferred have all administrative records as well as the surveys, which the copies sent to NJSA and the organization having the survey done would not have.
	+ Fred commented that access to old surveys are to vital to organizations who may not be aware that they had a prior study done decades ago.

**NJLA Archives Committee - Fred Pachman**

* The Committee has been meeting monthly for the past 6 months.
* The Archive currently consists of about 11 filing cabinets in the NJ Talking Book & Braille Center. There is a letter of agreement with the Braille Center through October 2023. Discussions are taking place on the future location of the Archive.
* NJLA has earmarked $80,000 for the History and Archives Committee. Some of that money will be used to process the collection and follow CAPES guidance, as well as create a new Archival space to collect and preserve information from all NJLA committees.
* Also mentioned that he and Elsalyn will be writing the special article for the Chronicle.

**Chronicle – Kathlyn Kelly**

* Submission deadline for the winter edition is February 3rd, 2023.

**Member Updates:**

Sarah Hull – Plainfield Public Library will be hosting History Day (In Person!) on May 6th, 2023.

John Beekman – Jersey City Public Library received a grant to digitize city plans and create scholarly intros and programming around that project. He is hoping to have them up on the Internet Archive when complete. The Museum of Jersey City History also received a grant and that is for an oral history project that will focus on neighborhoods and the ethnic communities of the city.

Kathlyn Kelly – Somerset County Library will be hosting two programs in April – Gardens of Liberty Hall on April 4th and Why Old Places Matter on April 12th. The Deadline for the Winter edition of the Chronicle is February 3rd.

Tom Ankner – Newark Public Library will host a Black History Month exhibit featuring photographer Bill May’s black and white photos of Newark Musicians (opening 2/2). There is also a Martin Luther King Jr. lecture this Saturday, 1/14.

Christie Lutz – Rutgers Special Collections and Univ. Archives is still handling the move of their collection. They are starting to work with Architects to redesign the damaged facility but expect to continue to be in Alexander Library in the future. The sub-basement will no longer be used for any Archival Storage. Some personnel changes: SPCOL misses Tara, Fernanda Perrone and Christie Lutz are acting co-heads of Special Collections, and Erika Gorder is the new University Archivist.

E. Kim Adams – New Brunswick Free Public Library will be hosting a program by Rick Geffkin on 2/4 about his book “Stories of Slavery in New Jersey”. They are also trying to organize new donations and existing materials into a military collection.

Juber Ayala – The Hispanic Research and Information Center has a new intern. They have also digitized over 700 images out of a 15,000 image collection.

Jacqueline Silver-Morillo - On 12/25, Atlantic City Library had a sprinkler malfunction that caused the Maintenance Room, offices and part of the Archive to get wet. She is currently drying books and freezing the ones that had mold growth. If anyone has any information to be posted to social media, contact her at jmorillo@acfpl.org

Robert Stewart – Bob Santelli has been named executive director of the Bruce Springsteen Archives and Center for American Music at Monmouth University\* (from APP.com. Construction at NBFPL prevented me from hearing the full updates)

Evelyn Frangakis – Princeton Theological Seminary installed its new President on 1/1 (first African American) and renamed it’s library after the first African American student to graduate. They have received funding to renovate their exhibit cases in the lobby so they are preservation friendly. They are also posting for a professional position later this month.

Nancy Madacsi – Sparta closed their duck decoy exhibit that had been on loan from Stockton University. They had over 900 visitors to the exhibit. In the spring, they will have an exhibit on Sparta artists and a veterans program with reenactors, and in the fall, the best of Sussex County. They will be hosting a statewide meeting of the NJ Association of Museums. She mentioned that Arts Garage in Atlantic City has a large exhibit/meeting space.

Gary Saretzky – Princeton Preservation Groups Campbell Soup Archive program was recorded and is on the website. In the spring, they will have how-to programming on Oral history and exhibits.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55am