

**Seattle Heritage Emergency Response Network  
SHERN**

**Date:** June 9, 2017

**Time:** 9:30-11:30

**Location:** Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle

**Present:** Cory Gooch, Diane Wells, Peter Schmid, Loretta Greene, Joshua Zimmerman, Jennifer Martin, Susan Lewandowski, Brian J. Carter, Betsy Bruemmer, Melanie Cole, Stephanie Lamson, Laura Phillips, Andrew Harbison, Barbara Engstrom, Jennifer Winkler.

**Agenda**

- Acceptance of minutes from March 31, 2017 meeting
- Welcome to guests and new member
- Treasurer's report
- Container report
- Equipment/Supply Committee report
- Website updates
- GIS Map for emergency responders
- Upcoming meetings
- New business

**Acceptance of minutes from March 31, 2017 meeting**

Approved.

**Welcome to guests and new member**

Cory welcomed guests Melanie Cole, outreach & training specialist, Seattle Office of Emergency Management (OEM), and Brian J. Carter, heritage lead at 4Culture. She noted that SHERN by-laws allow for "consultant" members (such as Gary Menges), and that Melanie could join our group under that designation. Cory also welcomed Barbara Engstrom, who began as director of the Public Law Library of King County in 2016. The library has been a member of SHERN since 2010, but did not have a representative during a change of leadership. Members present introduced themselves.

**Melanie Cole, OEM**

Melanie gave a brief presentation on the work of the OEM and particularly her outreach work.

She noted that the City has emergency managers who are imbedded in the various departments (e.g., Seattle City Light, Transportation) who serve as subject experts for those departments; those staff work exclusively on disaster management/mitigation and work as much at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as they do in their assigned departments.

Melanie said the EOC has the ability to activate for both large-scale disasters and isolated incidents such as a tanker truck overturning on I-5. The OEM also works as a liaison with other agencies (e.g., the Aurora Bridge "ducks" tour bus crash involved contact with consulates since it involved international students).

Members were very interested to learn that Melanie has an arts background but began working in her current field working with the American Red Cross in Tacoma, and later was the disaster program coordinator in New Orleans. She noted that protecting cultural institutions was key to preserving any city ("cultural resilience").

### **Brian J. Carter**

Brian applauded the work of SHERN and noted that 4Culture is particularly keen on funding not just individual institutions but also collective efforts such as SHERN's which can have a broad impact across King County. Later in the meeting Brian asked whether we were applying for a collections care grant in the current cycle – applications are due June 28. All present agreed that we couldn't get an application together that quickly, and that it was more important at this point to spend down the current grant. Cory asked about repurposing the current grant, and Brian encouraged us to apply for a "Phase II" grant next year which would explain the success of the first grant and request more funding for additional equipment. He said that cultural equipment grant applications are due in May.

Later in the meeting, Brian mentioned that 4Culture is thinking about creating a kind of "Craigslist" for cultural institutions where available shelving, display cases, or other equipment could be posted. All agreed that this was a fantastic idea.

### **Treasurer's report**

Savings: \$25.00

Checking: \$834.11

Available money from 4Culture stands at \$2019.13 (out of the original \$2700 awarded)

### **Equipment/Supply Committee report**

Diane reported that she purchased \$624.02 worth of equipment for our container(s) which can be reimbursed from the 4Culture grant. She provided a list of the equipment to members (see attached), and noted that stacking bins and rescubers were on order.

Brian asked whether we had purchased a generator, and also about how we would replenish supplies when they were used by a member institution.

### **Container Report**

Cory summarized the disaster supplies container efforts for our guests/new member, and passed around pictures of the March 31 "painting party". She also noted that we need to organize another work party to get the shelving which the Museum of Flight is donating into the container. Several members volunteered to help and Cory will coordinate with Allison at MOF to confirm a date of either June 30<sup>th</sup> or July 7<sup>th</sup>. Later, Diane mentioned that we should label items in the container, and Cory noted that the shelving needs to be secured to the container, and will ask Allison about the best method. We also need a checklist in the container.

### **Website updates**

Peter said that everything is up to date on the site. Cory noted that container equipment/supply lists should be added to the secure area of the site once we have the materials placed in the MOF container. A map showing the precise location of the container will also be added to that part of the site.

### **GIS map for emergency responders**

Melanie said that EOM refers to this tool as the **key community locations map**. It's a GIS map located on a platform called WebEOC, which can be accessed by emergency responders and department representatives in the city, as well as county and state officials. She described it as a big message board which can serve as a rolling log of an incident. Requests for mutual aid can also be made through the program. The mapping function includes various layers which allow EOC to measure impact of events (situational awareness) across the city. A damage assessment overlay allows one to see what an impact would be to, say, cultural institutions. The addresses we provided will be entered into the map, but Melanie cautioned that no prioritization can be guaranteed and that life is of course always the first priority. She

said that if the EOC is forewarned of an event which could affect one of our storage areas, the EOC can contact us with information. She said that any updates should be emailed to herself or Debbie Goetz at EOC.

### **Incidents at the Burke Museum and Suzzalo Library**

Laura described a water leak incident in basement storage at the Burke, and noted that the "cham-wows" were extremely useful and that "water socks" would have been helpful. Cory mentioned that there are water blowers which can aid in relocating water as well.

Stephanie then described a situation at the Suzzalo Library at the UW, where a new Starbucks is being built. Holes had been drilled in concrete and not properly filled, so concrete slurry leaked down onto government documents stacks. She said about 700 items were affected, and about 10 or 20 needed to be replaced. She also described a situation where some special collections material was leaked on from a janitorial closet. Staff laid affected material out in the conservation department. She said that rubber boots would have been helpful.

### **Upcoming meetings**

Barbara noted that she does not have a conference room which can accommodate our group; however, it was suggested that we could meet at, say, EOC and then walk up to the courthouse for a tour of the King County Law Library.

Melanie offered that another meeting at EOC is possible, and Cory suggested hearing directly from a first responder would be very helpful, especially in learning the best way to contact our local first responders. She also noted that each institution should have a detailed interior map which shows the locations of collections which can be given to a first responder.

August 4: Frye Art Museum

October 6: EOC?

December 1: TBA

### **New business**

There being no further business, we proceeded with a tour of the Henry's study center, collections storage areas and exhibition preparation workshop.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Schmid, Secretary