

**Seattle Heritage Emergency Response Network
SHERN**

Date: October 5, 2018

Time: 9:30-11:30

Location: University of Washington Libraries, Suzzallo Library, 5th East Conference Room

Present: Emily Cabaniss (Seattle Opera), Nicole Davis (The Museum of Flight), Nick Dorman (Seattle Art Museum), Sarah Frederick (The Museum of Flight), Cory Gooch (Frye Art Museum), Geneva Griswold (Seattle Art Museum), Julie Irick (Seattle Municipal Archives), Jonathan King (NW Kidney Centers Museum & Archives), Stephanie Lamson (University of Washington Libraries), Kate Leonard (University of Washington Libraries), Jennifer Martin (City of Lake Forest Park), and Kayla Trail (Frye Art Museum).

Approval of minutes

Minutes of the August 3 meeting were approved, with corrections from Emily Cabaniss, Stephanie Lamson, Jennifer Martin, and Diane Wells.

Member introductions

All present introduced themselves.

Treasurer's report

Chair Stephanie Lamson reported on behalf of Treasurer Diane Wells that SHERN's accounts currently have:

Savings: \$25.00

Checking: \$1,502.22

This reflects an expenditure of \$310.23 for emergency supplies.

Updates & discussion

SHERN cache subcommittee update (Kayla, Geneva, and Stephanie on behalf of Diane)

“Go bags” for the supply cache have been purchased and Diane, Kayla, and Geneva will find a time to divide up the supplies and take them to the Joboxes and container. Geneva noted that there are fewer complete pairs of boots than anticipated – currently 4 pairs.

SHERN at SAA (Nicole and Stephanie on behalf of Diane)

Nicole Davis reported that the presentation that she and Diane Welles provided on SHERN to the SAA Preservation Section meeting at the Society of American Archivists annual meeting was well attended. About 70 people were present and most were not part of a network. Diane spoke with Layce Johnson, Collections Archivist at the Idaho State Historical Society, both at the meeting and more recently and Layce and a few others in her area are interested in setting up an emergency network. Diane told her we'd help any way we could.

SHERN PReP plan updates (Stephanie)

We quickly reviewed the information on the PReP plan here: <https://shernseattle.wordpress.com/membership/> (password protected) and several corrections/additions were shared at the meeting.

Please continue to review both the PReP plan, member, and email contact lists available at the website above. Please send corrections to Stephanie, Carol, and Diane as soon as possible.

Recap of last meeting with Belfor

- Those who attended the last meeting, indicated that there was some conflation between the two sites when they were discussed.
- The discussion of how staff could help step-by-step made it easier to know what to expect and how to assist by having one point of contact, financial decision-making, and an onsite visit.
- Inventory is not something Belfor will do unless asked since it will delay processing/freezing.
- Members appreciated them coming. Felt they had a better understanding to head off future difficulties.
- Everyone on SHERN was said to be part of their “Red Alert” system.

Share Seattle Heritage Responders information and/or recap webinars

- Textile webinar had a lot of detail – some felt too much for an initial response. Others felt it might depend on the content of our collections and expertise.
- From book and paper webinar: wondered if we should add hollytex or pellon to the supply cache.
- Thanksgiving dinner exercise at SHR training helpful in understanding incident command system in more depth. Photograph webinar helpful in explaining when you can/can’t freeze glass plates. In general, lots of tips for supplies.
- Webinar on psychology of disaster response was helpful in knowing what to expect, including resources provided. Geneva mentioned she had downloaded the app.
- Geneva and Nick shared information about a presentation at a recent Western Association for Art Conservation meeting that discussed disaster response for the fires and mudslides in northern California. The presenter was working as an individual volunteer with first responders and took away the following from the experience:
 - Learned always to have a counselor on hand when giving back materials to people as it was a moment that could be accompanied by strong emotions.
 - Would have a shared agreement between leader and volunteers (e.g. not call the press, agree to AIC code of ethics, etc.).
 - Tension between privacy and wanting to use press/social media for fundraising.
- Cory discussed a presentation she attended at another occasion from an eastern Oregon museum that had several disasters in a row (death of a colleague in the building, fires, etc.) and the director reported that it was too much for some people and they could not come back to work after so many events.

Share disaster planning & response resources

The following resources were mentioned:

- <https://www.aam-us.org/programs/resource-library/disaster-preparedness-response-resources/> -- Cory shared this in an earlier email
- Betty Walsh/WAAC’s Salvage at a Glance: http://cool.conservation-us.org/waac/ttl/wn27-3-salvage_at_a_glance.pdf -- Nick
- UW Libraries Preservation Research Guide – Disaster Preparedness and Response section: <http://guides.lib.uw.edu/c.php?g=342245&p=2305085> – Stephanie
- Geneva recently attended the Global Climate Summit in San Francisco (see climateheritage.org) which is an attempt to form a global network to map the impact of climate change on cultural heritage organizations and to lobby for funding (e.g. historic sites in Scotland, wildfires in California, etc.). Cory added that with the poor air conditions and ash in Seattle from wildfires in the area for the second year, is this a new norm we have to prepare for similar to the changes being recognized by the Global Climate Summit.

Future agenda items

The group brainstormed some future agenda items including the following:

- Invite another vendor like Polygon to discuss how disaster response services would work with them?
- Ask someone from the Aberdeen Museum to talk about their experience?
- Share more information about Seattle Heritage Responders when the group completes the second workshop.
- Review Washington Dept. Natural Resources and other city and county maps that illustrate different disaster scenarios and consider the impact of these scenarios on our institutions.
- Share strategies for disaster response/recovery of digital files, including hardware, etc.
- Ask MIPOPS staff regarding disaster response/recovery of video and film.

Welcome

- We belatedly welcomed Jonathan King and the NW Kidney Centers Museum & Archive to their first SHERN meeting.

Action Items

- Stephanie will ask Belfor how SHERN is part of their “Red Alert” system and how that differs from those of us who have signed individual pre-contracts.
- Stephanie will also ask if we should give them our SHERN PReP plan or if they would rather work with us as individual clients.
- Stephanie will provide the PReP plan corrections/updates to Carol and encourage everyone to verify their information once completed.
- NW Kidney Centers and/or Seattle Municipal Archives will check their calendars regarding hosting the upcoming February 1 and April 5 meeting.
- Diane, Geneva, and Kayla will arrange at time to distribute newly purchased supplies to Joboxes and container.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 11am.

Corrections: Updated checking account balance to \$1,502.22 from \$502.22 (per treasurer, Diane Wells).