

SEATTLE HERITAGE EMERGENCY RESPONSE NETWORK (SHERN)

Date: December 2nd, 2022 9:30am-11:30am

Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom) <https://washington.zoom.us/j/97411200729>

Present via Zoom: Erik Bauer (Diocese of Olympia), Zulma Brennan (Bellevue Arts Museum), Danielle Coyle (King County Archives), Camille Davidson (Archdiocese of Seattle Archives), Nicole Davis (Museum of Flight), Cory Gooch (Frye Art Museum), Loretta Greene (Providence Archives), Geneva Griswold (SAM), Kate Leonard (UW Libraries), Julie Irick (SMA), Siri Linz (Burke Museum), Gary Menges (UW Libraries, Retired; WESTPAS), Nives Mestrovic (Frye Art Museum), Laura Phillips (Burke Museum, Ann Poulson (Henry Art Gallery), Stephen Seely (King County Law Library), Peter Schmid (Providence Archives), Kaia Wahmanholm (Nordic Museum), Jennifer Winkler (City of Seattle)

Guests: Janae Huber (ArtsWA), Lisa Labovitch (Everett Public Library)

AGENDA

- **Approve October minutes (available on our Dropbox site)**

Minutes approved with two changes: Pierce County Network Meeting was held at the Tacoma Historical Society, not Washington State Museum and Nives Mestrovic's name is misspelled.

Introduction of Janae Huber, ArtsWA, Collections Manager. 5,000 artworks throughout Washington State. Trying to learn more about the emergency response eco-system throughout the state. Interested in remote response options.

- **Secretary's report**
 - No report
- **Treasurer's report (Kaia)**
 - Finalizing dues for the year, a few outstanding for the year (three orgs) but in process of being resolved
 - Current balances:
 - Checking \$3912.20
 - Savings \$25.00
- **Supply subcommittee (Nicole)**
 - Survey was sent out a few weeks ago, only 6 responses so far. Hoping to have all results in by the end of the year, and a report out in January
- **Outreach/Website subcommittee**
 - No update
- **Guest: Janae Huber ArtsWA (Siri)**

- ArtsWA does not have a current disaster plan. Artworks in 36 WA counties, at 1,300 individual sites. 135 works at UW. 1/3 of the collections lives in King County and Pierce County alone. Janae very interested in learning more about SHERN's efforts. Has already connected with Cory regarding local conservators
- History of SHERN presented by Gary and Laura
- Orgs hosting ArtsWA pieces are interested in continuing the conversations around response plans related to the artworks
- Janae has been able to attend military agency disaster trainings, which are not focused around protecting state assets necessarily.
- Question about responsibilities of host orgs during disaster response. Not quite covered in the ArtsWA host agreements, day-to-day maintenance and conservation are included the agreement, but nothing specific about disaster response. Host orgs should be aware of hosted artworks, and do the best they can while still protecting their collections.
- Discussion on how sites are identified, expectations related to location, state risk assessment, general ArtsWA processes and concerns that align with SHERN's work.
- Will be sure to invite ArtsWA to an upcoming meeting with OEM
- **Snohomish Network (Lisa/Gary)**
 - Introduction of Lisa L. of Everett Public Library. Interested in forming response network in Snohomish County. Existing network of heritage groups in the area, and recent wildfires have raised awareness for orgs in Snohomish County. Background in disaster planning in previous positions.
 - Lisa has been in contact with Gary, and has a contact at the Museum of Flight who shared MoF's response experience involving SHERN.
 - Waiting for the official go ahead from library leadership, but would be interested in making more contacts in Snohomish County once things are moving ahead.
 - Spread of heritage and arts orgs in county may be a challenge.
- **Pierce County Network Update (Gary)**
 - Tacoma/Pierce County group held second meeting in November, with 8 members
 - Memo of Understanding in place, hoping to have finalized by the end of the year
 - Shared document resource established, list of 18 potential member groups has been established
 - Update from Spokane: Still working, but no real update at this time
- **National Heritage Responder Deployment (Siri)**
 - Geneva and Siri both new National Heritage Responders. Siri recently deployed to Kentucky for flood response and developed a short presentation on the experience to share with the group.
 - Team of three, other responders from Texas and New York. Responded to help Appalshop, Whitesburg KY, preserves music of Appalachia, clean 4000 open reel audio films – dirty, molding
 - Water level exceeded 6 feet, breeched collection storage areas, distributed materials throughout town

- No disaster plan in place, NHR responded about three months after initial disaster
- At end, able to clean about 500 reels, but were also able to train Appalshop staff to continue process
 - Pec Pads, isopropyl alcohol, micro-spatulas, Nisflisk HEPA vacuum were some of the most useful supplies for this response
 - Assessed other material types in need of treatment before leaving
- NHR provide final report with suggestions for next steps, to be used in grant proposals and other asks.
- NH Responders had to sign liability waiver before responding. Recommended similar process to Appalshop for their volunteers. Discussion about SHERN's policies around this.
- SHERN training was useful during Siri's response experience. NHR will be deploying again in February and April.
- **Webinar reports / other learning opportunities**
 - ARCS online conference next week, sustainability theme. Staff from the Frye will be attending
- **Updates from members**
 - Quinault Tribe just awarded federal money for relocation, along with tribes in Alaska. Historic village site located at sea level and are being actively threatened by climate change/sea level change. The Quinault were part of the recent Western Museum Associations conference presentation.
 - Colorado US Fish and Wildlife reached out Julie for cache inventory lists and table top exercise templates. Do we have exercise templates to share?
 - UW Libraries may have something to share. Will check with Stephanie. Some examples also on SHERN website
- **Next meetings:**
 - February 3rd (Zoom)
 - April 7th

Meeting adjourned