

Meeting Notes

COSTEP-CT met Nov. 5, 2012, at the State Library's Van Block Facility, Hartford, CT

Present:

Paul Baran, Conn. State Library (CSL)

Kathy Craughwell-Varda, Conservation
ConneCTion

Jane Cullinane, CSL

Mark Jones, CSL

Tara Kennedy, Yale Univ.

Paul O'Pecko, Mystic Seaport

Lizette Pelletier, CSL

Liz Shapiro, Conn. League of History Orgs.

Note taker: Jane.

HURRICANE/SUPERSTORM SANDY

Kathy Craughwell-Varda called and emailed cultural heritage organizations after the storm hit on Oct. 29th. Many are shocked at how little damage they received. The worst damage reported was at the Custom House in New London which had 2 feet of water in the basement which held mechanical systems and administrative records. There was no damage to collections but Kathy is worried that there might be a mold outbreak in the building.

Jane Cullinane suggested we might hold a forum where a representative from the Barnum Museum and the Shore Line Trolley Museum discuss their experience after a disaster.

Unlike last year, many libraries had no power and so could not serve the public for internet connections or to power their cell phones. In a report from the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC), she saw that at least one town's EOC had no Wi-Fi for internet. Paul O'Pecko said that some internet service providers lost infrastructure.

Kathy saw that members of the public were posting conservation advice. She suggests we do a press release of advice for personal treasures. Tara Kennedy and Kathy will work on this. We'll send it to our various listservs and will ask Ken Wiggin, State Librarian to send it to the media as a press release.

COSTEP ORGANIZATION PLAN

Kathy will work on the grant application for the Peer Advisory Network to get a consultant to help COSTEP-CT.

NEXT MEETINGS

December 11 at Van Block

January 18th, tentatively at Van Block