**NJLA History & Preservation Committee**

**General Meeting Minutes**

**4/3/2023**

**Held via Zoom**

Present: Beth Zak-Cohen, Ken Kaufman, Jackie Oshman, John Beekman, Gary Saretzky, Juber Ayala, Kathlyn Kelly, Tom Ankner, Vanessa Castaldo, Tara Maharjan, Colleen Goode, Christie Lutz, Robert Stewart, Sarah Hull, E. Kim Adams, Debra Schiff, Brett Bonfield (NJLA), Randall Marsola, Jessica Myers, Alan Delozier

Meeting opened at 10am by Beth Zak-Cohen

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

**President’s Report - Beth**

* July marks a new year for officers. They are as follows:
* President: John Beekman
* Vice President: Juber Ayala
* Secretary: Jackie Oshman
* Chronicle: Kathlyn Kelly
* Web/Social Media: Jackie Silver-Morillo
* New Exec Board Member: Sarah Hull
* Past President: Beth Zak-Cohen
* NJLA Conference at Harrah’s Atlantic City will be May 31-June 2. Our annual meeting at the conference will be on Thursday, June 1st at 12pm. Lunch will be brown bag (either purchase a boxed lunch or bring your own). You can purchase a boxed lunch when you register for the conference.

**Programming – Vice President - John**

* NJLA Conference will be offering H&P sponsored and cosponsored programs on both days.
* Topics are NJLA Archives, Oral history, RU related African American History, NJDE Digital Public Library of America Hub, 2 programs on starting and running an Archive in a small library, Genealogy in urban libraries (See the schedule for more information: <https://njlaconference.info/schedule>
* We will share a table with the NJLA Archives Committee as well to spread the word about both organizations. A schedule for volunteers will be sent out later this month.
* handouts and a poster for the NJLA Archive may be available
* Laura Poll will be having a Zine table
* Beth looked into getting ribbons for honorees but she hasn’t heard back from NJLA yet

**Awards and Bylaws - Ken**

* Susan G. Swartzburg Preservation Award nominations are now being reviewed by the panel.
* The bylaw committee is currently reviewing changes to be made, especially in the section about in-person meetings now that Zoom is more prevalent.
* Gary S. added: The Swartzburg Award is presented at the NJLA Awards Ceremony which will be at 6pm on Thursday night. The NJLA H&P committee cosponsors the Roger McDonough Award with NJSAA. The deadline for those nominations is 8/1 and is awarded in the fall.
* John added that NJSAA is a good organization to sign up for. They offer scholarships, networking opportunities, book awards and other programming.

**NJLA Archives and History Committee Report – Fred (not present)**

* Gary mentioned that the CAPES report is finished and there will be a program at NJLA to discuss the Archives

**Social Media/Web** **– Jacqueline (not present)**

* Emailed everyone to say that the 1/31/23 Facebook post reached 22 people and the 2/25/23 post reached 37.
* If anyone has fliers for events, NJLA programs, etc., email her at either [jmorillo@acfpl.org](mailto:jmorillo@acfpl.org) or [jacquelinesilver@gmail.com](mailto:jacquelinesilver@gmail.com)

**Newsletter – Kathlyn**

* Chronicle deadline 5/1/23
* She thanked everyone who submitted articles and events in the last issue
* This edition will feature events from July through September, but feel free to add events you know of in fall
* Elsalynn and Fred cowrote a very nice history article in the Spring edition
* Email her at [kkelly@sclibnj.org](mailto:kkelly@sclibnj.org)

**Other Business** - none

**Member Updates:**

John – Jersey City PL received a grant to digitize City Plans and include scholarly introductions to them. This will be a large contribution to Internet Archive program. Thanked Robert Stewart for his Springsteen article in the last Chronicle.

Alan – Seton Hall – MARAC Conference is coming up soon and registration is open. He is on the editorial board of the Journal of Archival Organization.

Christie – Rutgers is awaiting word on whether faculty and staff will be on strike.

Colleen – Ocean Co. Library – they will be celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2025 and are starting to organize plans for programming and events across their branches. If anyone has experience with planning anniversary events for large libraries, please reach out to her.

Deb – TCNJ is working on their IMLS Saving America’s Treasures grant. They are looking for a Part time Archivist to assist with this project. They are also working with the Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies fellowship with digitizing their collections. They are inventorying the oldest parts of the collection and determining what to deaccession or rehouse. She also mentioned that MARAC registration is now open and they are currently doing practice sessions to ensure the virtual event goes smoothly.

E. Kim Adams – She is the point person for the 2 Archival programs being presented at NJLA (many H&P members on the panels). She and Tom Ankner have put together a questionnaire to be used at NJLA to get an idea on what type of workshops people are interested in. Jackie O. will be presenting Genealogy presentations at New Brunswick. On Sept 23rd, Gary S. will be presenting a lecture in coordination with NBFPL’s newly digitized glass plate negative collection exhibit (233 scans).

Juber – The Puerto Rican Community Archives (PRCA) just recorded a virtual tour to be shown at MARAC. (Beth mentioned that the NJ Room at Newark also made a video).

Kathlyn – Somerset County will hold a virtual program on April 12th called Why Old Places Matter. It will be from 7-8pm.

Tara – MARAC will be held virtually from 4/26-4/28. The NJ Caucus will then hold an In Person meet up on 4/30 at 1pm at Flounder’s Brewing. The Innovated Archives Award and the Teaching Award (for outstanding teaching of NJ History) deadlines are both 4/15. The next meeting of the NJSAA will be 4/13 at 3pm. She discussed some of the awards and scholarships they offer.

Ken – Somerset County added more digitized collections including photos and plans the Architect of Bridgewater branch provided from the opening of the library. He also did Lakewood Public Library and donated those as well.

Sarah – Tri County History Fair at Plainfield PL will be in person again this year. It is very informal and not too many are registered yet. It will be from 11-2:30 on Saturday May 6th. They will have two speakers and a non-alcoholic tasting sample. Lunch is included with registration.

Tom – Newark PL received a Congressional Directed Spending Grant from Senator Cory Booker’s office that will be used to complete the digitization of the Newark Evening News from 1931-1972. They will also have an exhibit opening on May 18th about the Passaic River that Keegan Fletcher and Beth curated.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50am.