

History and Preservation Section Meeting
New Jersey Library Association Annual Conference
Harrah's Conference Center
June 2, 2022

Attendance: Fred Pachman, Elsalyn Palmisano, John Beekman, Beth Zak-Cohen, Z. Way, Kathlyn Kelly, Katrina Zwaaf, Teresa Bayles, Tara Schaberg, E. Kim Adams, Kristen De Meo, Mary Boykoff, Jacquelyn Oshman, Sally Weiner, Laura Poll, Stephen Felle, Heather Perez, Tara Maharjan, Ken Kaufman, Jessica Myers

The Meeting was opened at 12:06 by Beth Zak-Cohen.

Minutes: Motion to approve the Minutes from the last general meeting, April 4, 2022, was made by Fred Pachman and seconded by Elsalyn Palmisano. All in favor and the minutes were approved.

President's Report – Beth Zak-Cohen

- The two morning programs at NJLA that were sponsored by the H&P section went very well. One was “Who’s Out There? Information on Various Professional Historical Associations” and the other was “NJ Authors Speak”.
- The Zines program that was held on Wednesday night at NJLA was also well received and attended.
- The Ukraine program in early May went very well
- 2023 will mark the Silver Anniversary (25 years) of the History and Preservation Section since the merger with the Bibliographic Section, and the 40th anniversary of the Preservation Section
 - Celebration Ideas are welcome
 - Create committee to plan events
 - Have a special program at NJLA 2023?
 - Fred handed out copies of the 2013 Chronicle titled “Historical Vignettes of the History and Preservation Section From the Archives”
- There is one more session hosted by the H&P section at NJLA this afternoon titled “Now More Than Ever” with John Beekman.

Awards – Ken Kaufman

- The Honors and Awards Ceremony was going to take place at 6:00 that night, June 2nd.
- This year’s winner of the Susan Swartzburg Award is John Beekman of Jersey City Public Library.
- The deadline for the McDonough Librarianship Award is August 1st. This is the 20th anniversary of the award.

Archives & History Committee – Fred Pachman

- There is an information brochure and poster located at the H&P table near the entrance of the Conference Center
- NJLA and President Kate Jagers approved the new committee to maintain the history of NJLA.
- The Records Retention Task Force is now becoming a formal committee as of July 1st. There is an article in the Spring Chronicle.
- There are approximately 300 boxes and 45 drawers of historical information pertaining to NJLA located somewhere in the Talking Book & Braille Center.
 - Stephen Felle is employed at the TB&BC and will look into their location.
- A new CAPES study at the NJLA Headquarters will take place with Gary Saretzky on June 17th. The previous study was done in 1996
- Tara Maharjan interjected:
 - Possibly interest in MARAC institutional membership
 - Do we still have Past President historical information?
 - Fred mentioned that Kate Jagers has already been approached and asked to submit information to resume the Past President memoirs. The last information currently is from 1990.
- The History and Preservation Section Archives are located at Plainfield Public Library
- The Technical Services and Collection Development Section Archives also has a box following their past presidents.

Newsletter – Kathlyn Kelly

- Colleen has published her final edition of the Chronicle. Thanks to her great work.
- Beginning with the next issue, Kathlyn Kelly from SCLSNJ will be the newsletter editor for the Chronicle. Feel free to send content to her at kkelly@sclibnj.org. Also, if you have any photos from the NJLA conference that you would like to share for the next issue, please send them along.

Web/Social Media Report – Kathlyn Kelly

- Our Facebook page currently has 210 likes and 231 Followers
- There have been 19 posts since April 4th including 11 H&P announcements
- Posts – if you send something to be posted, please send a photo instead of just a link.
 - Photos tend to receive double the exposure to followers.
 - Photos can be sent to Kathlyn (email for number).
- NJLA programs had two of the most popular May posts
- Estimated number of people reached (since the beginning of the page) is between 709 and 762 (based on Facebook Events Category statistics)
- The posts with the most reach were CAPES (434) and the Ukraine program (362).
- 66% of the page followers are women
- Peak viewtime for posts is now between 5 and 6pm. (last time was 4pm)
- Page views have gone down from 92 to 83.
- Laura Poll interjected:

- Does the section have any other social media accounts other than Facebook?
 - Kathlyn said she would look into Twitter and Instagram but Jacqueline Silver-Morillo would be taking over Social media in July
- If there any announcements or event information that you would like to post to our Facebook page OR our Section web page on the NJLA website please send them to Kathlyn at kkelly@sclibnj.org. Please include images or flyers when you can. Kindly include attribution for any photos so we can credit the image owner.

Member Updates (included introductions of new participants)

Ken Kaufman – Somerset County is creating a Local History Committee comprised of staff from across the branches. They are also in the process of digitizing.

Elsalyn Palmisano – good to see everyone in person, including new faces. She also commented that Monmouth County History and Archives Day will be October 1, 2022.

John Beekman (Vice President) - Jersey City Free Public Library NJ room is open. He also spoke about the Museum of Jersey City History opening.

Beth Zak-Cohen (President) – The New Jersey Room at Newark is hiring and will soon be shifting to summer hours. There is an exhibit up now celebrating the 70th anniversary of the NJ Room.

Jessica Myers – is has volunteered at the Bloomfield Public Library

Kathlyn Kelly – Bound Brook branch of the Somerset County Library is having an event on June 11th titled “[When the Cock Crowed: - Pathé and the French in Bound Brook in the 20th Century](#)”. Kathlyn will also be taking over the Chronicle newsletter and continuing as Social Media manager until July.

Katrina Zwaaf and Teresa Bayles – Both work in Technical Services at Somerset County Library System. They have been cataloging and digitizing. Teresa is a member of the Archives Committee. Somerset will be opening a new branch at Montgomery that will include a Digitization Lab. The soft opening in June 16th.

- Fred Pachman and E. Kim Adams commented that NJLA should begin publicizing new library openings as they have in the past so they could be celebrated.

Tara Shaberg – Tara is the new local history Librarian at Sussex County Library and is basically starting from scratch with the collection. She is doing preliminary conservation, digitization and finding aids to organize the collection.

E. Kim Adams – Kim is currently the Archivist at New Brunswick Free Public Library, a Librarian at Princeton Theological Seminary and a Processing Archivist for Middlesex County. She spoke about upcoming programs at NBFPL including the current New Sweden exhibit, a

Transportation in New Brunswick exhibit in October, an evening with author Joe Pompeo (author of “Blood and Ink” which goes into the unsolved Halls-Mills Murder), and a Black History month program in February with Rick Geffken.

Kristen De Meo – works at both Atlantic County Library System and Margate City Museum and Historical Society. She is currently inventorying old files and articles that were collected and never organized at the library, and cataloging at the museum.

Mary Boykoff – was previously at Maplewood Library. She now works at a college library in Pennsylvania.

Jacquelyn Oshman (Secretary) – Local history Librarian at New Brunswick Free Public Library and works with E. Kim Adams on digitizing donations we have been receiving.

Sally Weiner (CAPES Consultant) – Sally is the Archivist at Plainfield Public Library. The library offers genealogy programming two Saturdays a month. They also added their program on Caring for Family Treasures on Youtube. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MqNDyPXz3zY>)

Laura Poll (CAPES Consultant) – works at the Trenton Public Library and provided History Zine examples for the H&P table. She reported that the HVAC unit at Trenton is still not working after nearly a year. Some good news – she has recently been allowed to get an assistant from the Rutgers Archival concentration program.

Stephen Felle – works at the Talking Book and Braille Center in Trenton. The center provides resources to the entire state for patrons who are blind, low vision, handicap, arthritic (can’t hold up a book), etc. They are celebrating their 55th anniversary and will have a webinar in September. Institutional Accounts to the center are available for all libraries in New Jersey for FREE! (https://www.njstatelib.org/talking-book-braille-center/apply_for_service/)

- E. Kim Adams asked if the center had incorporated the collection from the Recordings for Blind and Dyslexic organization – Stephen said he would look into that

Heather Perez – Stockton University is celebrating their 50th Anniversary. They are transferring their digital collection from ContentDM to Preservica Starter Plus (<https://tc611c1896e7518a3.starter1ua.preservica.com/>)

Tara Maharjan – Rutgers University Special Collections and University Archives have completed their collection move to an offsite location after flooding. The Reading Room is now open at Alexander Library, but only by appointment and at limited capacity. Tara is the NJ Representative for MARAC and announced that their next meeting will be in College Park, Maryland in October (their 50th Anniversary). Programs will be in the fall. Also, the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance (NJSAA) has ended their meetings until October.

