

**Southeastern NY Library Resources Council
Digital Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 3, 2011**

Attending members: Jim Cosgrove, Chair; Merribeth Advocate; Laura Streett; Clif Patrick; Helen McLallen; Susan Stessin-Cohn; Morgan Gwenwald; Jerry Henry; Helene Tieger; Elaine McConnell

Attending SENYLRC Staff: Tessa Killian; Jennifer Palmentiero; John Shaloiko; Zack Spalding

Excused: Sally Pellegrini; Chris Pryslopski; Bob Clark;

Meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m.

Reports/Discussions

- Welcome and introductions.
- Minutes. Clif Patrick made a motion to approve the Minutes from February 22, 2011, Helen McLallen seconded and the motion carried.

Updates and Announcements concerning SENYLRC and HRVH initiatives

- John Shaloiko reported on the loss of 25% of state funding and the reorganization of the Resource Council staff and operations as a result. The Council mission and the Advisory Committee structure will remain as it is.
- Vassar Miscellany News (from 1914-2000) is available in news.hrvh.org.
- New HRVH Collections:
 - Chatham Public Library (class photos);
 - Historical Society of the Town of Warwick (studio portrait glass plate negatives – focus on fashion);
 - Time and the Valleys Museum (church records);
 - Sound and Story Project of the Hudson Valley (1-2 minute audio stories produced from oral histories);
 - Ulster County Historical Society (mix of materials focusing on Kingston and the Ashokan Reservoir). This collection was developed by Jason Cookingham, SENYLRC intern.
 - Newburgh Heritage Center – aprx. 35 documents (Village/Town minutes and records, Alms House records, Church records, Slave registry). This collection is not yet publicly available.
- In March SENYLRC hosted an Omeka orientation for HRVH participants interested in creating online exhibits. There are now three Omeka exhibits available via hrvh.org (and one currently being created).
- In April Bob Clark and Laura Streett led an HRVH Users Group on the basics of archives. It was well attended, well presented, and well received by the attendees.

- Tessa worked with Sara Chauncey from the Rockland BOCES on a conference program for *Teaching the Hudson Valley 2011*. She showed attendees 6 or 7 ways for students and teachers to use the HRVH site. Tessa has a link which she will share. Tessa is also helping with work on a grant for using the HRVH and American Memory as a teaching tool. She also has a pending IMLS grant.
- The Historical Society of Sleepy Hollow & Tarrytown is working with excavated items from tenants in an historic structure. They plan to digitize and catalogue the photos of the dig and will include digital images of textual documentation of the dig. The society plans to partner with HRVH to mount a digital display. They have applied for an NEH grant to help fund the effort.
- Zack reported that the technical issue (index corruption) they were having with the software this past June has been resolved. ContentDM6 still has some bugs, and Zack is waiting a bit before loading 6.1 to allow the OCLC/Content developers time to work out some of the bugs. With 6 the project client stays the same; the majority of the changes are for the user interface.
- HRVH has licensing for up to 50,000 images. There are currently @30,000 images mounted. Annual accretion is @5,000 so the license should be sufficient for a few more years. The cost of upgrading to an unlimited license is @ \$30,000
- HVVACC purchased a new server as part of a three year grant. They are housing it in the SENYLRC offices and will be using a multi site searcher that can tie up to five sites together. The rent SENYLRC realizes from HVVACC will pay for SENYLRC's share of the multi site searcher.

PROMOTION of HRVH with little or no money.

- The group held a brainstorming session and came up with the following suggestions:
 - Find a brochure spot at county fairs, street fairs, and local historical societies
 - Networking—mention HRVH
 - Promote to county historians and local historical societies
 - Try to get placement on radio spots
 - Creation of apps for iphones and droids. Helene reported that RPI students are working with Bard on this technology. Helene will get more information to Tessa & Zack.
 - Pod casts
 - E-mail & distro lists
 - Streaming video
 - Tessa is planning on creating Wikipedia pages for SENYLRC and HRVH
 - Look into "Google Grants"
 - Add a "donate now" button to the HRVH page
 - News spot tied in with a story "i.e. they have found 100 ancient African beads on Huguenot Street (a story will appear in the Poughkeepsie Journal)

Announcements from committee members:

- Clif Patrick: Chester Historical Society is holding a tea in conjunction with an exhibit of 19th century hats (and a few gloves & shoes)

- Helen McLallen announced that Wildenstein is open Thursday-Sunday from noon until 4 p.m. through October.
- Helene Tieger worked on Bard Core oral history project; She conducted 20 interviews over the reunion weekend and has wave and mp3 files. She will be placing them on the Bard digital commons.
- Susan Stessin-Cohn of Historic Huguenot Street announced that Peter Rose will be on the street on September 10th with an historical cooking program, "From Farm to Table". Although she did not get the NEH grant the diary project is going forward, look for an upcoming Omeka exhibit.
- Laura Streett said that Vassar is expanding its newspaper project to include the entire run of the school paper. They will be adding more publications and are in the process of digitizing 32 diaries from 1869-1920. They have hired a digital initiatives project librarian who is working on an institutional repository which will include senior thesis, faculty publications and born digital Vassar publications.
- Jerry Henry of Newburgh reported that they have digitized the Newburgh Telegraph from 1838.
- Jim Cosgrove of Marlboro said that Acadia publishing has contacted them about publishing a local history book. His board has approved the project.

New Business

- Jim Cosgrove has agreed to serve as DAC Chair for the upcoming year.

Clif Patrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Jerry Henry. Jim Cosgrove closed the meeting at 4:00

Minutes recorded by: Elaine McConnell