

Meeting Notes

COSTEP-CT met June 25, 2013, at the State Library's Van Block Facility, Hartford, CT

Present:

Jane Cullinane, Conn. State Library (CSL)
Dan Forrest, State Historic Preservation Office
Tara Kennedy, Yale University

Rob Novak, consultant
Lizette Pelletier, CSL

Note taker: Jane

STEERING COMMITTEE LIST

Jane Cullinane is seeking corrections to the website's list of Steering Committee members <http://costep.cslib.org/>. She has already made some changes and welcomes further corrections.

COSTEP ORGANIZATION PLAN

Kathy Craughwell-Varda reported via email that Sarah Griswold is available to be our Peer Advisory Network advisor. We agree that her experience as a museum director and museum consultant is a good match for us. We'll ask Kathy to try to organize a meeting on Sept. 17th (to be confirmed via email).

STATE NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES TASK FORCE

Daniel Forrest, the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, is Co-Chair of the newly formed Natural and Cultural Resources Task Force, part of Connecticut's Long Term Recovery Committee. Lizette Pelletier will be a member, too. The Task Force will work to increase the resiliency of Natural, Cultural and Historic (NCH) resources in order to aid the recovery of the whole community after a disaster.

The Task Force goals include raising awareness of emergency planners of the importance of NCH resources and in providing assistance in storm recovery efforts. This ties in closely with COSTEP-CT's goals. (Select "Goals" in the right column at http://costep.cslib.org/?page_id=34.)

DISASTER PLAN REPOSITORY

Dan asked if we had a central repository that would let the Disaster Preparedness Plans of all NCH resources in the state be accessed by 1st responders during an emergency. COSTEP-CT does not have a repository but we like the idea. Perhaps the State Library could store these files. Jane pointed out that organizations will want to be assured of the security of sensitive information, such as the location of the most valuable materials.

COSTEP-CT TIP SHEETS

Jane got further input from Dana Conover and Gemma Fabris of the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security regarding the Working with FEMA tip sheets. Tara Kennedy and Dan will take a few days to review it, and then Jane expects it will be ready to put on the website in final form.

Jane began work on a tip sheet on disaster recovery and asked for input on how to condense such a big topic into a few tips. Tara will take a look at this.

PA13-275 (HB6374)

The state legislature has passed a bill that would create the Connecticut Coordinated Assistance and Recovery Endowment (CT CARE). The Endowment will accept private donations to be distributed to victims of an emergency, such as the funds contributed to Newtown. A board will distribute the funds to

individuals, municipalities, nonprofit organizations and other eligible recipients. The next step is for the bill to move to the Governor and then to become a law. It seems unlikely that he will veto it.

http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=HB06374

NEXT MEETINGS

Sept. 17, 10:00 (to be confirmed), at the State Library's Van Block Facility, from 9:00-12:00

If any business needs to be conducted during the summer hiatus, we will communicate by email.