

**Southeastern NY Library Resources Council
Digital Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 5, 2009**

Attending Members: Jim Cosgrove; Laura Finkel; Morgan Gwenwald; Jerry Henry; Tina Kiernan; Bruce MacMillan; Clifton Patrick; Sally Pellegrini; Susan Stessin-Cohn; & Helene Tieger, Chair.

Attending SENLYRC Staff: Tessa Killian & Jennifer Palmentiero

Excused: Bob Clark; Chris Pryslopski; John Shaloiko; Laurie Shedrick; Zack Spalding

Meeting commenced at 9:35 A.M.

Reports/Discussion:

- **Updates and announcements concerning HRVH**
 - **New York State Aid to SENYLRC** -Tessa reported that the Governor is proposing a 18% reduction in state aid to libraries for 2008-09. That would translate into a \$25,000 reduction in RBDB funds and a \$100,000 reduction in general operating funds. Both have implications for HRVH. Mini-grants, the newspaper project, and new initiatives could be in jeopardy. SENYLRC has a fund reserve that can be drawn from to offset some of the decrease in funding for the general operating fund. Tessa mentioned that the NYLA website has a template for sending letters to state legislators and that committee members will soon receive a link to the template via email and are encouraged to write a letter of support for libraries.
 - **HRVH Usage Statistics** – HRVH usage statistics have tripled in the past year. Tessa mentioned that showing stats is a good way for HRVH contributors to maintain BOT support for digital initiatives. Clifton Patrick reported that he has seen an increase in his stats since HRVH collections have been included in the NY Heritage portal.
 - **Registering HRVH Collections in WorldCat** – Jen reported that she is working with OCLC staff to register HRVH collections in WorldCat. Currently OCLC is assigning symbols for HRVH participants so that registration can occur. OCLC is also developing a software feature for CONTENTdm that will mostly automate the conversion of Dublin Core records to MARC. HRVH will pilot the new software feature this spring.
 - **WAMC tagline for HRVH** – Tessa played the HRVH tagline for the committee and informed them that a special tagline featuring the Missing Chapter exhibit will be airing in February for Black History Month. The committee suggested adding “HRVH” to the beginning of the spot.
 - **Sound & Story** - The Sound & Story project manager received 137/900 completed oral history surveys. 53% of the respondents have oral histories in their collections in various formats. The survey will remain open past the initial deadline date in hopes of getting more. Focus groups will be formed to determine

reformatting, preservation, and access needs. The Sound & Story team hope to receive additional grant money for the next step in the project.

- **Mini-grants** – Awardees have been trained and received partial funding to begin their projects. One of the four projects has been completed; the other three are in progress.
- **Historical Newspapers** - Tessa provided a demo of the HRVH Historical Newspaper web site. SENYLRC plans to digitize a ten year run of the Kingston Daily Freeman (1903-1912) with the remaining grant money. Approximately six months worth will be digitized from paper; the rest from microfilm. The committee was asked about title indexing, specifically how to handle the issue of title changes for a specific paper. They suggested indexing each title separately and providing cross-references preceding and succeeding titles. They also recommend grouping various titles together in a title list under one main heading (the latest title digitized was suggested). They would like users to have the ability to search and browse one individual title or all preceding and succeeding titles together.
- **HRVH Digital Imaging Guidelines** – Jen discussed the new version of BCR CDP's Digital Imaging Best Practices. A small portion of the previous version of this document was extracted and adapted as the basis for HRVH's digital imaging guidelines. The committee approved adopting the current version of BCR CDP's document in its entirety for use by HRVH contributors.
- **CONTENTdm migration to version 5.0** – Jen highlighted some of the new features of CONTENTdm 5.0. SENYLRC plans to migrate to the new version early this summer. Training sessions on the new version will be offered to current HRVH contributors at that time.
- **Announcements of personal projects by committee members:**
 - Jim (Marlboro Free Library) reported that his HRVH grant-funded project to digitize items related to the 1909 Hudson-Fulton celebration has been completed.
 - Clif (Chester Historical Society) reported that an exhibit of old radios, called Radio Days, will be on display in Chester.
 - Helene (Bard College) reported on a new project/web site called Bard Makes Noise highlighting Bard College bands over the years.
 - Susan (Historic Huguenot Street) reported that she has been working on several online exhibits in HRVH. She also will be working on a grant-funded project to digitize the collection of local photographer, Erma DeWitt, for the Elting Library in New Paltz that will result in a collection and exhibit in HRVH. She also showed the homepage for the historic atlases exhibit she has created. The committee provided suggestions for linking from the homepage to the atlases in HRVH.
 - The New City Library received an art grant for school children to design titles that will result in a mosaic for the Hudson Fulton Quadricentennial celebration.

Next Meeting date: April 2nd, 9:30 A.M.
Meeting Adjourned 12:05 P.M.