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Past President's Report

Annie Epperson

16 March 2016

An Ad Hoc committee consisting of Stephen Boss, Dan Chaney, Dan Ireton, Judy Zelenski, Diana Weaver, Mary Ann Thompson, Roy Degler, Kris Johnson, and Annie Epperson (convener) met via Zoom on 9 February to discuss the transition from a print-based or analog world to a digital world, specifically how should the records of MPLA be preserved? This turns out to be a multi-faceted topic, including:

- The work of the executive secretary, as an archive of yearly activity. This information is needed for liability and fiscal legal needs, as well as to prepare a possible future successor for the executive secretary; these should not be accessible by the general public
- Preserving and making available documents for internal use, such as Board Reports created by Committee Chairs
- Preserving and making available documents for external use, such as conference handouts, the Manual of Procedure and Bylaws, etc.
- Preservation of documents, records, and ephemera of the Association freely available to the public (for the archivist of 50+ years from now)

A smaller group (Stephen Boss, Dan Chaney, Roy Degler, Eric Stroshane) examined options for cloud storage to address the majority need – that of a “place” to put digital files for either internal, or external, access. This group compiled a matrix of features and, after some discussion, determined that the *Google for Non-profits* option is optimal for our needs and budget.

Upon meeting with the entire Ad Hoc committee, it was agreed that this option should be pursued to meet the first three needs on the list. Stephen Boss has also offered space on the server at Wyoming; he will draft a Memorandum of Understanding to make these arrangements appropriately for all entities concerned. Dan Ireton determined that no changes are needed in the Bylaws, however some small revisions will be needed to the language in the Manual of Procedure.

The fourth and final need, of continuing to collect, preserve, and make available ephemera, as well as some way to connect a new digital archive/repository currently at Denver Public Library, necessitates an alternative solution. Conversations about answering this need will be held in the coming months.

My gratitude to the members of the Ad Hoc committee for their time and dedication to this process!

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Epperson, Past President