



Steering Committee Meeting Notes

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

November 27, 2023

These will be abbreviated since I'm typing them up weeks after we met. Apologies!

Present: Katelynn Averyt, Michele Bailey, Taiga Christie, Carrie Cleveland, Eileen Corcoran, Amy Cunningham, Christopher Kaufman Ilstrup, Rachel Onuf, Paddy Reagan, Ben Rose, Laura Trieschmann, Joseph Watson.

Debrief on the Lake House meeting- Rachel

This was a great day. Thanks to all who participated and to Michele for taking notes. In time, Rachel will develop more formal documentation of the flood response and recovery and will pull out potential action steps to improve preparedness from the discussions that day.

Update on flood relief funding – Christopher

Final decisions were made week before Thanksgiving. Katherine Sims did amazing work. The final list of impacted organizations did differ from what VACDaRN had been able to compile. There were 42 applicants and 38 were funded. The awards total \$400K; \$200K from the NEH and a less restricted \$200K that VHC raised. Six contracts are being held while the applicants await determination if they are eligible for FEMA Public Assistance. No announcement of the award has been made because of their uncertain status.

VACDaRN long term recovery priorities- Amy

- Funding for disaster planning and continuity of operations planning (COOP) – 40 \$10K grants?
- Bolstering existing grant programs and prioritizing climate resilient projects – Christopher and Rachel to apply for the NEH [Climate Smart Humanities Organizations](#)
- Professional development, especially climate responsiveness – Michele's work with UMass on [Culture for Climate Action Workshop Series](#)

Overview of the Historic and Cultural Restoration Task Force status- Laura

Working with FEMA on a Recovery Needs Assessment (RNA). Laura can share that draft and related PowerPoint.

A fall convening- next steps- form a planning team?

Paddy is up for organizing and Joseph and Amy volunteered to help. We discussed scheduling for early October rather than September.