



**TIMELINES, ARCHIVES, AND CURRICULA SUBCOMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

Boston City Hall Boston, MA, 02201

*Held virtually via Zoom*

**FEBRUARY 6, 2025**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Joe Bagley, Giordana Mecagni, Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai, Kristen Lafferty, Dory Klein, Joan Ilacqua, Bob Allison

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Liza Stearns, Collin Knight, Kimberly Barzola, David Leonard, Tatiana Cruz, Cedric Woods, Carolyn Goldstein, Angela Hedley-Mitchell

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kayla Skillin, Archivist for Collections Management

A full recording of the meeting is available on [boston.gov/commemoration-commission](https://boston.gov/commemoration-commission)

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**SESSION BEGINS - 2:00 PM**

**I. WELCOME**

- a. Chair Joe Bagley welcomed attendees.

**II. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- a. Meeting minutes were approved.

**III. WORKING SESSION**

- a. The commissioners had a discussion on what would be the best project to focus on during this subcommittee meeting.
  - i. Commissioner Giordana Mecagni discussed how teachers want highly curated resources, which is outside of the subcommittee's scope. She added that a better resource might be the Digital Public Library of America since there are curricula posted on their website.
  - ii. Genesis Pimentel stated that the focus could be on traveling trunks being discussed.
  - iii. Chair Bob Allison stated organizations can take ownership of this project separately.
- b. Commissioner Dory Klein proposed using this time to look over the Archives spreadsheet.



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- i. Chair Joe Bagley expressed concern that primary source sets are primary document sets, so he would like the group to expand the approach to historic records, so that other ways of knowing are not excluded.
  - ii. Commissioner Klein suggested combining probates into one resource, to remove broken links, to make sure emails are general contact emails, and asked if trails should be included as a history holder.
    - 1. Chair Bagley stated that the probates could have physical addresses included and a link to FamilySearch with a note.
    - 2. Kayla Skillin added that it is good to consolidate probates, but it depends on what is being researched.
  - iii. Commissioner Mecagni asked if paywalled resources were included.
  - iv. Commissioner Kristen Lafferty added that mass.gov is also a useful tool for current and historic court information.
  - v. Genesis Pimentel asked about sorting by theme or subject tag.
    - 1. Commissioner Mecagni stated that there might not be a need for themes or topics, and that we should focus on cleaning up this sheet as the main resource.
    - 2. Commissioner Klein added that there could be a section for the organizations to write up a quick mission statement or description of themselves.
    - 3. Chair Bagley asked how to ensure that organizations say exactly what content they provide in terms of neighborhood, community, time period, etc.
    - 4. Commissioner Mecagni suggested that the form that was previously discussed be the tool to ensure this.
  - vi. Broken links will be updated as Google Form information comes in, and links will be removed if no update on new websites are provided.
  - vii. Chair Bagley asked if an organization is defunct, should the spreadsheet link to the local libraries closest to it. He also asked if branch libraries are able to field inquiries.
    - 1. Commissioner Klein stated that it depends on the library.
    - 2. Kayla Skillin added that if an organization does not have a website, that is not a good indicator to not include them since they might be a non-traditional source.
- IV. Commissioner Mecagni said that she would love to include established trails in this archives resource and then see the response.
- V. Commissioner Klein suggested that there be a neighborhood column in the spreadsheet.

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- VI. Commissioner Mecagni suggested mapping these institutions.
- VII. There was a quick discussion about traveling trunks.
  - a. Commissioner Mecagni suggested digital trunks.
  - b. Chair Allison stated that tactile trunks are much cooler since everything is digital now.
  - c. Commissioner Mecagni suggested preservation facsimiles, which is something being done in the Hacking the Archives Project.
- VIII. Action Items:
  - a. Commissioner Klein will check for any BPL branch-based archives.
  - b. Pimentel will use the column titles to update the form Skillin created and add neighborhoods in a column drop down.
  - c. Trails will be added to the main Archives sheet.
- IX. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
  - a. There was no public comment.
- X. **ADJOURNMENT - 3:15 PM**
  - a. The meeting was adjourned.