

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND
Monday, June 18, 2007
MINUTES

Members Present: Chair, Mark McKenney, Alice Barrows, Regina Connor, Mary Cummings, Peter Deekle, Donna Good, Jay Litman, Leslie McDonough, and Ruth Sullivan

Members Absent: William Allen, Cristina Martins Amedeo, Joan Ress Reeves, Tovah Reis, Rose Ellen Reynolds, and Joshua Teverow

Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS): Howard Boksenbaum, Debbie Cullerton, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor, and Beth Perry

Observers: Phyllis Humphrey, Shirley Long, and Dale Thompson

Reporting: Debbie Cullerton

Materials Distributed:

1. Draft Agenda
2. Final 5-Year Plan

The meeting convened at 4:20 p.m.

I. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the May 21, 2007 meeting were unanimously approved subject to the correction of 2 minor spelling changes.

II. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mr. McKenney asked Howard Boksenbaum to report on the news of appointments to the Library Board and the progress thereof. Mr. Boksenbaum stated that we now have 6 appointments that have been officially made by the governor. They are all subject to advice and consent by the senate.

Four were reappointments to the Board. Reappointments were Regina Connor, Leslie McDonough, Joan Ress Reeves, and Rose Ellen Reynolds.

The two new appointments are Shirley Long representing Medium/Large Public Libraries, and Phyllis Humphrey representing School Libraries.

Mr. Boksenbaum stated that by law an orientation session must be held for new members within 6 months, OLIS (Office of Library & Information Services) will be looking into setting that up.

Mr. McKenney stated we should seek to insure that for the next round of appointments, we are well ahead of the curve, so it won't take so long to get action. We will keep everyone informed as to the status.

The Chair stated that there was good news from Providence Public Library.

There does appear to be an agreement. We seem to be moving forward. It certainly has been a long haul. Having peace and stability will be good in a many ways.

III. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT

Appointments

Dave Maslyn, who has been the acting dean of libraries at the University of Rhode Island, will officially hold that title starting June 24th.

OLIS Budget

The Library Commission was looking for 1.6 million dollars so we could buy some statewide database licenses, however it has not made it into the budget. No state monies were appropriated.

OLIS's budget and the Grant-In-Aid Budget are the same numbers. It doesn't look like we have to worry about the legislators side of that.

There will be a lot of pressure in the near future as the Governor gears up to slash the workforce. Although today, OLIS did get permission to post Sheila Carlson's position that was vacated by her retirement. Mr. Boksenbaum stated that he remains optimistic.

Library Legislation

Beth Perry reported on Legislative Updates. The budget is being heard tomorrow from the senate.

Ms. Perry advised the Board to check the OLIS website for all updates.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

V. LSTA Five-Year Plan – Vote by Library Board

The Board was given a copy of the LSTA – Five Year Plan that was prepared. Howard Boksenbaum and Donna DiMichele gave an overview of all steps and stakeholders sessions that went into the plan. Upon the Board's Approval, it will be sent to IMLS.

It was presented to the Library Board for a vote.

A motion was made to approve the LSTA Five Year Plan.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

Mark McKenney noted a job well done. Howard Boksenbaum thanked staff and the stakeholders group for their assistance.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Board is tentatively scheduled for September 17, 2007 in the DOA building.

A proposed meeting schedule for 2007-2008 will be prepared for the Library Board to review at that meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.