

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND
Monday, April 26, 2010
Draft Minutes

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on April 26, 2010 at 4:20 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, Second Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Present: Chair, Mark McKenney, Regina Connor, Ed Garcia, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Shirley Long, Alison Peirce, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Mary Ann Slocomb, Carol Terry, Ruth Sullivan, and Tom Viall

Members Absent: Kristen Chin, and Ken Findlay

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

Observers: Al Arsenault, and Dale Thompson, Director of the Providence Public Library

Reporting: Debbie Cullerton

Materials Distributed:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes of March 15, 2010

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting convened at 4:20 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the March 15, 2010 meeting were accepted as submitted.
Motion made Phyllis Humphrey – Seconded by Rose Ellen Reynolds
Unanimously approved.

III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – MARK MCKENNEY

The Chair noted that the last meeting of the CCCC ad hoc group was very successful in moving along in their efforts to come up with the documents to help further explain the importance of keeping the level of support as we go forward.

IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM

Report on Flood Damage

Donna DiMichele reported that even though the state offices were closed she was able to get information up on the OLIS website with the help from Karen Mellor. OLIS was the first state agency web site to have anything up on the internet about the flood for more than half a day.

Information was posted with where to get help, where to find information on our website and important telephone numbers. Follow up was done by email to all

library directors the next day regarding the status of all libraries and who had damage. A total of 7 libraries had some damage with Tiverton and East Greenwich libraries having the only damage to collections which was minimized. Mr. Boksenbaum gave kudos to his staff for work well done.

It was also noted that OLIS received a call from the Department of Labor and Training and OLIS was able to set up 10 sessions for their counselors to go out and meet with people who were unemployed because of the flood and help people through the special process.

AskRI.gov

Karen Mellor showed the Board the new website of AskRI. After working with some vendors and talking with our partners at the Providence Public Library – Statewide Reference Resource Center new databases have been added. Reference USA – research of US Businesses, Learning Express – nearly 800 Practice tests and tutorials and Mango Languages – Learning a Language – 12 languages are available with more languages becoming available this summer.

National Library Advocay Day

Plans are now being made and appointments are being set up with our legislators. This year the event will be held on June 29th. Please let Debbie Cullerton know if you are interested in attending.

Disaster and Preservation

Donna DiMichele reported that our flooding history made the IMLS headlines when they announced the 2010 Award of Connecting to Collection Grant. In the press release it was announced that OLIS was awarded \$250,000 for an Implementation Grant following up on our planning grant.

The Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services in partnership with the Archives, Preserve RI, the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission, the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, the State Risk Manager, and representatives of library, museum, and heritage institutions groups will build on the achievements of the planning period by continuing to equip individual cultural and heritage collections institutions throughout the state with the tools to create a disaster plan and with training in its use. The steering committee will establish relationships among the various cohorts, foster regional networks, and build strategic alliances between state and federal emergency authorities and collections holders.

Public Library Funding

It doesn't look like it is going to go well for a lot of communities regarding budgets. He has been asked by several directors that if they don't receive the funding needed will they be able to get waivers in terms of Maintenance of Effort. OLIS is not inclined to entertain any request for waivers but has the authority granted by law to do so. Communities not meeting Maintenance of Effort will not be eligible to receive grant-in-aid. Before that happens, OLIS would like to have a policy and procedure in place. Mr. Boksenbaum asked the Board for volunteers to form a committee to come up with a presentation in June. Bart Hollingsworth, Ken Findlay, Joan Retsinas, Kristen Chin, Shirley Long along with Mark McKenney and Catherine McMahon (OLIS's financial accountant) all volunteered to work with Howard Boksenbaum in this effort.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislation

There has been no meeting of the Legislation Committee as noted by Rose Ellen Reynolds, however Mr. Boksenbaum reported on the progress of the bill to clarify language and change outmoded titles concerning OLIS.

Public Relations

Ed Garcia noted that Public Relations has been working on helping the CCCC Ad hoc Committee come up with the documents needed showing the need for level support.

CCCC

The committee met just before the regular Library Board meeting started. Joan Ress Reeves reported that the CCCC is working on two documents. One is a longer one that we can refer to with lots of facts. The other document will be a shorter version. One that is jazzy with good graphics and bullet points.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Update from the Ad Hoc Logistics Committee

Tom Viall noted that the committee was continuing their work.

A list of goals was put together at the last meeting which will be distributed for feedback.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A Motion was made to establish an ad hoc committee to look at forming a policy and procedure for waive of criteria as mentioned by Howard Boksenbaum earlier. Motion made by Rose Ellen Reynolds – Seconded by Shirley Long
Unanimously approved.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IX. FUTURE MEETINGS

Next meeting of the Board will be held on May 17, 2010.

X. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.