

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND
Monday, March 21, 2011
Minutes

**The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held
on March 21, 2011 at 4:15 p.m.
at the Department of Administration,
Conference Room B, Second Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908**

Members Present: Tom Viall, Chair, Kristen Chin, Ed Garcia, Shirley Long, Mary Ann Slocomb, Carol Terry, and Ruth Sullivan.

Members Absent: Regina Connor, Kenneth Findlay, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Phyllis Lynch, Mark McKenney, Alison Peirce, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas and Rose Ellen Reynolds.

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

Observers: Cathy McMahon, Department of Administration, Central Business Office Dale Thompson, Providence Public Library

Reporting: Debbie Cullerton

Materials Distributed:

- Message from Representative Mike Chippendale to Kristen Chin
- OLIS Monthly Report for February 2011
- OLIS Monthly Report for March 2011
- 2010 IMLS Reauthorization
- Final draft of short document from Joan Ress Reeves and the Adhoc Committee
- Don Bousquet – Quahog Picture
- Policy on Appropriated but not awarded G-I-A Funds

Chair Tom Viall convened the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Tom Viall welcomed all Board Members.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the February 28, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved with some minor typographical errors.

Moved: Shirley Long

Seconded: Kristen Chin

unanimously adopted

III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Tom Viall

Tom reported on his meeting with Susan Bernstein, a Policy Advisor to Governor Chafee on March 9. Howard, Rose Ellen Reynolds and Joan Ress Reeves accompanied Tom. Tom thanked the Governor on behalf of the Board for his appearance at COLA's annual meeting and spoke on the importance of OLIS and our fiscal concerns. Susan Bernstein expressed a willingness to support our efforts. She asked to be notified of upcoming events that the

governor might want to participate in, asking in particular that OLIS contact the Governor's scheduler (and to make sure that she is copied) regarding KRARI. She also said she would help with nominations to the Library Board. Tom referred to Howard, who assured the Board that OLIS had made contact on both those items.

Tom also reported on a meeting at Providence Public Library where he had the opportunity to sit down with Bill Simmons, Chair and Dale Thompson, Director. Tom found it to be an educational experience and he has come to better understand the Providence Public Library. Dale Thompson did an excellent job of presenting Tom with background and history and where Providence Public Library stands on the friction that sometimes between the library and the city. There followed discussion of the legislation (H5118 and its Senate companions) regarding the funding for the Statewide Resource Center.

IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM

Announcements and Distribution of Reports

Howard acclaimed the return of Karen Mellor and Mary Ann Slocomb both of whom had been out on medical leave.

Howard distributed the OLIS monthly reports for February and March and asked the Board to notify him if there is anything else that ought to be included.

LSTA

Donna and Howard were in Baltimore on March 14 – 16 attending IMLS meetings about the changes to LSTA from re authorization and what states will have to do for the 5 year evaluation (due March 31, 2012) and the next 5 year plan (due June 30, 2012).

Donna distributed a short document from IMLS that organizes the new LSTA priorities under themes.

Howard mentioned that an emphasis in the new IMLS is the collaborating with other agencies. OLIS has been following this principal already, collaborating with the Department of Labor and Training for example, on providing information to the unemployed.

As for the 5 year LSTA evaluation, OLIS is participating in a 7 states RFP, for consulting help.

State Budget

The state grants-in-aid grants are level funded but erroneous numbers were published in the Budget book. The correct numbers can be found on the OLIS website <http://www.olis.ri.gov>.

OLIS has an approximately 6% increase in the governor's proposal

Municipal Budgets

Some of the municipalities on the other hand, are in dire straits. Howard has been hearing from Central Falls, Pawtucket, and West Warwick in particular. We may have some places this fall where it is difficult to justify a waiver from the maintenance of effort.

OSL

OLIS awarded Ocean State Libraries a LORI grant to do some organizational development planning Howard reported that his experience with Ruth Metts, who is the consultant that

OSL hired to do the job, has been very positive. She is extremely perceptive and has gained the trust of OLS members.

Regarding Broadband, most of the BTOP equipment is here and most of it has been installed. The negotiations are proceeding with the BDDP grant with the Economic Development Corporation.

Project Compass

Karen Mellor reported that on May 2nd, OLIS will continue Project Compass, an IMLS and Gates Foundation grant to the North Carolina State Library to develop library capacity in assistance in jobseekers. Because Rhode Island has such a high level of unemployment OLIS has been invited to take part in Round 2 of Project Compass. Trainers from the national project will hold a session for RI librarians.

21st Century Skills

Karen Mellor reported that 21st Century Skills are those that are necessary to bring schools, libraries, museums and people into the current century. IMLS has produced a guide to 21st century skills and made their promulgations a priority. OLIS presented RI's first library 21st century skill continuing education session on March 2, called "3 D libraries, online, inside, and on the move". Speakers from the Arlington, Virginia public library spent the morning addressing approximately 80 RI librarians in how their library has integrated a vast array of social media into their ongoing day-to-day activities. A moderated discussion completed the session along with a discussion on what attendees could commit to do to improve their 21st century skills aptitude. More information on 21st Century Skills can be found on the OLIS website <http://www.olis.ri.gov> OLIS will be posting resources, presentations and discussions.

Message of support from Representative Mike Chippendale to Kristen Chin

Howard distributed copies of a message that Kristen Chin and the Libraries of Foster had received from Representative Mike Chippendale.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislation

Rose Ellen was not in attendance. Howard gave a brief run through of some of the legislation concerning libraries that is pending and directed the Library Board to the OLIS Legislation Tracker page on the OLIS website.

<http://www.olis.ri.gov/news/legislation/index.php>

Public Relations

Ed Garcia explained that the Public Relations Committee will meet and work on projects as a needed and will not have a report at every meeting. Ed is planning to update their resource the Committee had prepared last year for tracking state representatives and senators and which libraries they relate to.

Ad hoc CCCC

Tom Viall received an email from Joan Ress Reeves with an updated copy from the Ad hoc CCCC committee of the short document. Copies were distributed to the Board. Joan had also asked Howard to express thanks to the committee for all their work.

Howard had been asked at the February Board meeting to contact Don Bousquet and ask him if he would help us with artwork. Howard has been in touch with Don Bousquet who has authorized use of the quahog artwork and offered to create more if needed. Discussion

followed as to whether it should go to an outside source for quality printing. Consensus of the Board was to get a professional designer to make it into a brochure. Howard was asked to explore state contracts to see what was available via MPA.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Reaffirming the policy on unallotted funds

In 2003, Howard and then chair Mark McKenney developed a policy on the use of appropriated but not awarded G-I-A Funds. Howard distributed a copy of that policy to the Board and requested the current Board reaffirm it.. Discussion followed.

The chair asked the Board to reaffirm the policy and called for a motion.

Motion to reaffirm the current policy

Moved: Ruth Sullivan
Seconded: Mary Ann Slocomb

unanimously approved.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Ann Slocomb thanked the Library Board for the get well card. She it really perked up the day when she got it in the mail. Her knee replacement surgery went well and she is in physical therapy and on the road to recovery.

Ms. Slocomb also updated the Board on the Health Information Outreach to Seniors Program that was partly funded by OLIS. The project has received a second grant from the NN/LM New England Regional Medical Library for \$5,000. Several classes have been set up and are going to run in April. Mary Ann and staff Keiran Ayton will be presenting the project at a poster session at the Medical Library Association annual conference in May in Minneapolis.

IX. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Board will be held on April 25, 2011 at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B.

XI. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m