

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
September 24, 2012,
at the Department of Administration,
Conference Room B - Second Floor,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908.

Members Present: Tom Viall, Chair; Kristen Chin, Kenneth Findlay, Ed Garcia, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Shirley Long, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Mary Ann Slocomb and Carol Terry.

Members Absent: Regina Connor, Phyllis Lynch, Mark McKenney, Alison Peirce, Joan Retsinas, and Ruth Sullivan

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

Reporting: Debbie Cullerton

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

Materials Distributed:

OLIS Monthly Report for September 2012.
School Librarians of Rhode Island Invitation for Annual Dinner
ALA Reference Guide
Protecting the Past Emergency Kit Checklist
Proclamation from Governor Chafee – Declaring October Literacy Month

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed Library Board members and OLIS staff.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 21 MEETING

The minutes from the June 18, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved with minor changes.

Moved by: Rose Ellen Reynolds

Seconded by: Mary Ann Slocomb

III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Tom Viall

The year ahead should prove to be a busy one for the Library Board

- Tom reported on the Proclamation from Governor Chafee naming October as Information Literacy Month.
- He also announced to the Board a reception to honor Jack Reed sponsored by RILA and other library organizations in RI. Senator Reed was honored in Washington with Honorary Life membership, the American Library Association's highest honor, and a Crystal Apple Award from The American Association of School Librarians. The local reception will recognize those honors and Senator

Reed's enormous contribution to libraries across the nation on October 21 at the RISD Fleet Library from 4 – 6 p.m.

- The Library Board will be revising the Minimum Standards for Rhode Island Public Libraries.
- As the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training has had to reduce staffing and even close one of the One-Stop offices because of reductions in federal funding, OLIS has been working with them to expand the role of public libraries in serving the public's need to connect to unemployment insurance and job hunting resources. Tom cited the press coverage to date and his hope that future PR efforts will include the library component.
- OLIS will be facing budget problems in 2014 and beyond. Consequently, there will again be no LORI grants this year.
- In the coming year, Bart Hollingsworth's committee will be working on an approach to 21st Century Skills.
- Tom encouraged Board Members to get involved between meetings on committees, sub-committees or just spreading the word about our efforts.
- Tom and Howard have invited two new Board Members. Louise Bright will replace Mark McKenney and Monica Dzialo will replace Regina Connor. OLIS is still looking for someone to replace the seat that Alison Peirce vacated.

IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT – Howard Boksenbaum

LSTA Plan – Donna DiMichele

IMLS has rejected OLIS' Five Year Plan for mostly technical reasons; the plan will have to be corrected and resubmitted. The primary requirement is that the goals be related in the plan to IMLS' LSTA Priorities. IMLS has also required that OLIS remove all mention of advocacy from the plan, as advocacy is not a legitimate expenditure of LSTA funds. Donna is making the necessary changes and OLIS will be resubmitting the plan by the end of the month.

OLIS Budget

The state budget office has not yet submitted the budget to the governor. Howard expressed optimism that OLIS will be able to continue all current services.

OLIS is on the move again

Department of Administration's Director Richard Licht is expanding the Director's Suite to include the Chief Digital Officer and administration of the new Office of Management and Budget. Consequently, OLIS is going to have to move. No decision has been made yet about where OLIS will move to. Donna, Karen and Howard have been drawing up diagrams of possibilities for the future. Discussion followed.

Rose Ellen Reynolds made a motion that the Board indicate in writing to the Director of Administration, Richard Licht, that the Library Board is concerned about the library move and the displacement of OLIS staff. The Board would draft a letter to Director Licht officially protesting the potential move and relocation of OLIS and keeping it intact.

Motion Made: Rose Ellen Reynolds

Seconded: Joan Ress Reeves

It was unanimously approved by the Library Board.

Annual Report

The Annual Report cycle has just finished. OLIS is happy to announce that we only have 3 libraries with problems with Maintenance of Effort. That is South Kingstown, Providence, and New Shoreham. Howard is optimistic that a resolution will be found for all of them. Howard has had visits from the state commissioner who is taking over the budget in Woonsocket and from the commissioner in East Providence, both of whom are putting a lot of pressure on those communities, leaving the library budget threatened.

Directors' Meeting

OLIS convened its quarterly meeting of library directors last week. Renee Hobbs was invited to discuss her plans for the new Harrington School of Communication, which includes the Graduate School Of Library and Information Studies. Also on the agenda was Brian C. Jones of the Rhode Island Library Report, which is exploring "Public Journalism" through news of Rhode Island's libraries. Stuart Frieman from Economic Development was on hand with an update on BBRI and the Digital Literacy Project. Finally, staff of the new Statewide Reference Resource Center were invited to speak to their plans. Over 40 library directors attended from public, school and academic libraries. The discussion was lively and rich. Reports are on the web at www.rilibraryreport.org and www.olis.ri.gov.

Digital Literacy – Donna DiMichele

The ALA Office of Information Technology and Policy's Digital Literacy Task Force has released a draft of their report. A comment period is open from September 19th to October 19th. Renee Hobbs serves on this committee. Links to the report are on the OLIS website. Donna encouraged comments from Rhode Island.

Protecting the Past – RI – Donna DiMichele

Protecting the Past continues with collaboration with Rhode Island Emergency Management. Preserve Rhode Island one of the PtP partners, has hired a project assistant to work at the direction of the project manager collecting data about libraries, archives, and historical societies and entering them into RIEMA's Emergency Operations Center database.

PtP is planning whole community COSTEP meetings: one for the central region of the state at Johnson & Wales Culinary Arts Museum on October 10th (several members of the Board are included in that region including Mary Ann Slocomb, Ed Garcia, Carol Terry, and Ruth Sullivan) and another at Linden Place in Bristol on October 22 for the East Bay region.

Rhode Island Emergency Management has received a grant to create a customized personal emergency preparation checklist. The Executive Director of RI Emergency Management has asked OLIS to distribute them through libraries.

Statewide Reference Resource Center – Karen Mellor

The transition from the Providence Public Library to the Providence Community Library took place on July 1st. OLIS is happy with the cooperation from the Providence Public Library to the Providence Community Library to make sure that the website moved seamlessly from one server to the other. There was no down time from the online services

for AskRI. The online features are up and running and we are excited about this new transition because it will actually be available on mobile devices.

Department of Labor and Training Update – Karen Mellor

The collaborative of OLIS, RILA and DLT has to date put 16 unemployment insurance computer workstations into 14 libraries across the state.

Summer Reading Program

Howard asked the Board to go to the OLIS website to see the great coverage of the Summer Reading Program at McCoy Stadium.

Lead the Change – Ed Garcia

Ed attended Library Journal's Lead the Change workshop in Darien, CT. The workshop focused on how to identify organizational strengths and weaknesses. In one session, it was asserted that you don't have to have a title to be a leader; others addressed how to empower library staff to become leaders in their organizations.

OLIS Monthly Report – Howard Boksenbaum

Howard distributed the September OLIS Monthly Report to the Board.

The report of the Chief Library Officer was unanimously accepted

Moved by: Ed Garcia
Seconded by: Rose Ellen Reynolds

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislation Committee - Rose Ellen Reynolds

We are anxiously waiting the elections to see what develops and to see what the House of Representatives looks like.

21st Century Committee – Bart Hollingsworth

The survey will be going out this week. Bart hopes that when the Board meets next, he will have some things to say about what they have learned from the results.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Draft Standards: Standards Committee

Howard presented a draft of revised Minimum Standards for Rhode Island Public Libraries with the intention of having the Board pass it on to a Standards Revision Committee for review. At the May meeting, when the plan for revising the Standards had been accepted by the Board, Joan Ress Reeves and Ed Garcia had volunteered to be on the Standards Revision Committee. The Committee will have until January for the Board to solicit input, to hold meetings and amend the draft. Howard has asked Donna DiMichele to be the logistics manager for the committee. Discussion followed.

The Board asked for additional volunteers and asked the committee to return to the October Board meeting with a draft charge.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IX. FUTURE MEETINGS

The schedule for Future Meetings for the 2012 - 2013 had been distributed by email.

There is a change for next month's meeting. Instead of October 15th the next Board meeting will be held on October 22, 2012, at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B. There was another change on the January meeting, from the 28th to the 14th.

X. ADJOURN - Motion made to adjourn.

Moved by: Mary Ann Slocomb
Seconded by: Kristen Chin

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.