

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
January 14, 2013,
at the Department of Administration,
Conference Room B - Second Floor,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Kristen Chin, Ken Findlay, Phyllis Humphrey, Shirley Long, Phyllis Lynch, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Carol Terry, Joan Retsinas, Tom Viall

Members absent: Regina Connor, Ed Garcia, Bart Hollingsworth, Mark McKenney, Mary Ann Slocomb

Attending for OLIS: Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor

Guests: Eileen Dyer, President, Rhode Island Library Association (RILA)

Reporting: Donna DiMichele

Chair Tom Viall called the meeting to order at 4:17 p.m.

Materials Distributed:

OLIS Monthly Report for December 2012, AskRI statistics

I. WELCOME

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE December 17, 2012, MEETING

The minutes from the December 17, 2012, meeting were unanimously approved with corrections.

Moved by: Joan Ress Reeves
Seconded by: Rose Ellen Reynolds

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR:

Howard Boksenbaum, Chief Library Officer, is on schedule to return from medical leave to work on Monday, February 4, 2013. The LBRI sent a fruit basket to Howard's home; Rose Ellen Reynolds facilitated.

The RILA Library Legislative Awareness Day is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6, from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. at the State House. OLIS will be represented with a tabletop exhibit, information and staff.

Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA)

The annual COLA Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2013, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the State House. Renee Hobbs was invited to speak.

National Library Legislative Day (NLLD)

The 2013 NLLD is scheduled for May 7 and 8, 2013, in Washington, D.C. The Chair encourages members of the Board to participate.

IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT

Karen Mellor presented the Chief Library Officer's report on behalf of Howard Boksenbaum.

OLIS.ri.gov

Using a template from RI.gov, OLIS released its updated website on Wednesday, January 6. OLIS staff worked on the project for several months, updating website content and customizing the template for OLIS' needs. The website is more accessible to all users and is compatible with mobile devices.

Grant in Aid

New Shoreham (Island Free Library) is resolving its maintenance of effort problem. No budget reduction to the Grants is expected when the Governor releases his budget.

OLIS move

OLIS does not have a timeline for when phase two of its move will take place. It hinges on the movement of other units in the Department of Administration (DOA) building. All the Iacono Library books that URI agreed to accept were transferred to the Carothers Library on the Kingston campus in early January. A small Iacono Library is now in a room on the fourth floor of the DOA.

Upcoming Conferences

The HELIN Conference is scheduled for January 16. Karen Mellor, Donna DiMichele, and Chaichin Chen will attend. Karen will attend "Convergence and Community Conference: Preparing future Workers for a New Knowledge Network of Libraries, Newsrooms, Studios and Agencies" at the Harrington School of Communication and Media on January 17. The meeting is a summit bringing together practitioners from the various disciplines that are now under the umbrella of the Harrington School (Library and Information Studies, Communication Studies, Film Media, Journalism, Public Relations, and Writing and Rhetoric).

National Library Legislative Day, May 7-8, 2013

Information about registration for the program and the program hotel were distributed. Those planning to participate were asked to make their own program and hotel reservations. Donna DiMichele offered to assist anyone that would like help with registration.

OLIS Staffing

The Human Resources Personnel Action Request Form is in the system; once approved, OLIS can move forward with hiring an Assistant Administrative Officer.

AskRI

Statistics on AskRI use were distributed and a sample new bookmark for promoting AskRI was presented. Shirley Long commented that the new EBSCO product interface on AskRI looked good and was an improvement from the previous interface. AskRI is working on a bus sign advertising campaign, an updated website, and other marketing.

RILA Liaison

RILA is planning its annual legislative day at the State House on February 6, 2013. OLIS will have an information table and staff to share information with legislators.

The report of the Chief Library Officer was unanimously accepted.

Motion to approve: Joan Ress Reeves

Seconded by: Ken Findlay

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standards Committee

A. Standards Review Committee

Tom Viall reported for the Committee. Work continues on a draft of the new Minimum Standards for RI Public Libraries. Once the Committee is satisfied with the draft, the Board will review them, and there will be opportunities for the library community to comment.

B. Legislative Committee

Rose Ellen Reynolds, Chair, reported. Linda Kushner, member of the Providence Community Library Board of Directors, and Ellen Schwartz, PCL Board Treasurer, met with Karen Mellor to gather data on grant-in-aid per R.I.G.L. 29.6.2 as a follow up to the December meeting. Ms. Kushner is working to introduce legislation that amends how grant-in-aid is distributed. Ms. Kushner later provided a table of possible grant-in-aid distribution eliminating endowment based grant-in-aid. All but four libraries would benefit from this proposed distribution.

From the ensuing discussion, emerged the explanation that libraries began receiving endowment based grant-in-aid (GIA) in 2004. In 2013, endowment based GIA totals \$732,268.00. It was the opinion of the assembled that any changes in the law that would eliminate endowment based GIA should be implemented over time so as to allow libraries to adjust to changes in funding and clarified that GIA was initially intended to support public (tax based) funding, not private funding such as would come from endowments.

C. 21st Century Committee

No report.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Eileen Dyer reported that the Rhode Island Library Association will watch RI library related legislation and take positions as warranted.

IX. FUTURE MEETINGS

Next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2013.

X. Adjournment

Moved by: Joan Ress Reeves

Seconded by: Ken Findlay

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15