

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
June 17, 2013
at the Department of Administration,
Conference Room B - Second Floor,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Louise Herrington-Bright, Kristen Chin, Regina Connor, Monica Dzialo, Ken Findlay, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Mary Ann Slocomb, Carol Terry, Tom Viall

Members absent: Ed Garcia, Shirley Long, Phyllis Lynch, Alison Pierce

Attending for OLIS: Howard Boksenbaum, Donna Longo DiMichele, Karen Mellor

Guests: John McDermott, Trustee, Willett Free Library

Reporting: Donna Longo DiMichele

Materials Distributed:

I. WELCOME

Chair Tom Viall called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the April 22, 2013, meeting

The minutes of meeting were unanimously approved.

Moved by: Joan Ress Reeves

Seconded by: Rose Ellen Reynolds

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the May 20, 2013, meeting

The minutes of meeting were unanimously approved.

Moved by: Joan Ress Reeves

Seconded by: Joan Retsinas

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR:

Tom Viall welcomed new LBRI members Louise Herrington-Bright and Monica Dzialo. They assumed seats previously held by Mark McKenney and Regina Connor respectively.

On behalf of the LBRI, a letter was written to Brigitte Hopkins, West Warwick Public Library, to thank her for chairing the Board Committee on Public Library Standards.

In an effort to help connect more job seekers with employment, U.S. Senators Jack Reed (D-RI) and Thad Cochran (R-MS) have introduced the Workforce Investments through Local Libraries Act (WILL) Act. On June 14, Senator Reed's held an event at the Cranston Public Library to discuss efforts to bolster support for public libraries with additional resources, technology, and funding. The Chair and Howard Boksenbaum attended the event where the Chief also made remarks. The WILL legislation would provide support to workforce development through public libraries, much the way OLIS and the RI DLT have collaborated with and through RI public libraries.

The RI Library Association awarded Howard Boksenbaum a Lifetime Achievement award at its annual conference on June 3, OLIS sponsored two RILA Conference sessions (one on advocacy and another on ereader technology for people with disabilities) and Cheryl Space, OLIS Youth Services Coordinator, co-presented a conference session with the RI After School Plus Alliance.

On behalf of the Board, Tom Viall presented the Chief Library Officer with a proclamation from the Governor heralding Howard's 34 years of service to the library community.

IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT

Chief Library Officer Howard Boksenbaum reported on OLIS projects and activities, and announced that this was his last meeting as Chief Library Officer.

OLIS Staffing

Karen Andrews was hired as OLIS' Assistant Administrative Officer and June 17 was her first day.

Legislature

The House introduced A JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO BE KNOWN AS THE "BROADBAND POLICY ADVISORY BOARD". The Resolution calls for the executive director of RILA to be a member. The Board needs to address the fact that 1) RILA does not have an executive director and 2) OLIS should have a seat on the Commission if it is established.

The grant-funded project, Protecting the Past RI, was granted an extension by IMLS, which will allow the work of the project to continue through early winter of 2014.

OLIS renewed the contract for the Statewide Reference Resource Center (known as AskRI.org) with Providence Community Library. Plans for the next year include a comprehensive advertising campaign to raise awareness of AskRI and its services.

Motion to approve: Rose Ellen Reynolds
Seconded by: Mary Ann Slocomb

The report of the Chief Library Officer was unanimously accepted.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative Committee

Rose Ellen Reynolds, Chair, reported that there were no substantive developments this past month on library legislation in the 2013 General Assembly. We are waiting for the Legislature's budget to be released to see if there are any items that need to be addressed.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Filling position of Chief of Library Services

A personnel action form was started but there is no posting for the position.

B. Proposed Minimum Standards and Regulations for Rhode Island Public Libraries (the Standards)

A Public Hearing was held on May 30, 2013, and presided over by Peter Dennehy, Department of Administration Legal Services. Two comments were received and noted during the hearing. DiMichele described the substance of the comments for the Board. Nothing in the comments was cited as necessary to create a change in the draft Standards approved by the LBRI in April. The Board voted to adopt the Standards as drafted. The Board voted to repeal the Standards adopted in 2000, contained in ERLID #462

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joan Ress Reeves announced that the ALA Committee on Legislation is seeking representatives from each state to support library legislation nationwide.

Carol Terry announced that the RI School of Design hosted "Materials, Education and Research in Art and Design: A New Role for Libraries", a national forum that is the first of its kind. This forum was funded by IMLS.

IX. FUTURE MEETINGS

Next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2013.

X. Adjournment

Moved by: Mary Ann Slocomb

Seconded by: Tom Viall

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.