

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

**The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
May 19, 2014
at the William Hall Library,
1825 Broad Street, Cranston, RI 02905**

Members Attending: Kenneth Findlay, Edward Garcia, Louise Herrington-Bright, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Mary Ann Slocomb, Carol Terry

Members absent: Kristen Chin, Shirley Long, Phyllis Lynch, Thomas Viall

Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS): Karen Andrews, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor

Guests: William Anger, Miriam Hospital, Association of Rhode Island Health Science Libraries

Reporting: Karen Andrews

Materials Distributed: Kids Reading Across Rhode Island bookmark

I. WELCOME

Rose Ellen Reynolds, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the April 28, 2014, meeting

The meeting minutes were unanimously approved with minor changes.

Moved by: Joan Ress Reeves

Seconded by: Edward Garcia

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

On behalf of Tom Viall, the Vice-Chair extends special thanks to Joan Ress Reeves, Jane Perry of School Libraries of Rhode Island (SLRI), and Karen Mellor, for a successful National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) in Washington D.C.

The Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) conference is June 2-3, 2014, at Salve Regina University.

The Chair sent a letter to Representatives Hearn and Finn about the LBRI's support for the creation of a legislative Broadband commission. The letter requested that the structure of the commission include the OLIS Chief of Library Services or designee. RILA supports adding the OLIS Chief of Library Services to the proposed Broadband commission.

Ed Garcia and Bart Hollingsworth have volunteered to serve on the Library of Rhode Island Standards Review Committee.

On May 15, 2014, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to release a proposal for network neutrality rules that allow 'fast lanes' on the Internet, with the result that some

content providers may pay for faster service and thus receive preferential treatment, making information access unequal.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. State Spending

Constrained spending rules are now in effect for all state agencies, as lower revenues and increased spending are projected for the upcoming budget year. Agencies are being asked to review spending and eliminate or delay any expenditure that is not absolutely critical for the remainder of FY2014 and for FY2015, including hiring.

B. NLLD 2014 (May 5-6, 2014)

The primary topic for discussion with legislators was level funding for LSTA at \$180,900,000. Any reduction will result in reductions to the Grants to State Library Agencies program. Additional issues discussed with legislators included:

i. E-Rate

The E-Rate program that provides discounted telecommunication rates to libraries and schools is being modernized by the FCC. The application process for E-Rate is complex and burdensome for libraries; library advocates are asking that the FCC simplify the process and provide more money for libraries.

ii. Net Neutrality (Open Internet)

On May 15, the FCC voted to release a proposal to reinstate network neutrality rules that include 'fast lanes'. Fast lanes allow Internet service providers (ISPs) to charge content producers a premium for faster service to push their content out; websites that cannot afford to pay will be relegated to slower service, diminishing the equity of access provided by an open Internet. The FCC ruling opened a 120 day period for public comment on the proposed rule changes before it takes a final vote. The comment forum is located at <http://www.fcc.gov/comments>.

iii. Workforce Investment Act

Reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act was passed by Congress in 2013 and includes provisions to recognize libraries as entities engaging in workforce development activities and authorizing them to serve as one-stop partners. The Senate version has not yet been voted on.

iv. Open Access: Fair Access to Science and Technology Research (FASTR)

The FASTR legislation opens access to research information funded by the US government. Currently there is a significant wait period for free access to taxpayer funded research; academic institutions now pay a premium to gain access to government, grant-funded research. Legislation would reduce the wait time for free access to taxpayer funded research.

v. USA Freedom Act

The USA Freedom Act will reign in provisions of the Patriot Act that allow for warrantless searches and warrantless surveillance of citizens.

vi. Electronic Communications Protection Act (ECPA)

The ECPA protects the electronic communications privacy rights of citizens. The 2013 update to the law provides protection for communications utilizing current technologies.

vii. Email Privacy Act

The Email Privacy Act prohibits service providers from knowingly divulging email communications to the government without a warrant.

C. LORI Grants

Libraries that received LORI Grants are working on their projects and funds are being disbursed for projects.

D. One Catalog

The \$63,200, One Catalog grant to Ocean State Libraries has not yet been approved by the state Budget Office.

E. LORI Update - RFP for Delivery Services (Donna DiMichele)

OLIS has convened a small committee with representatives of public, academic, and school libraries to review a draft of the RFP for delivery services. The three representatives were asked to seek input on the draft from the library sectors that they represent.

F. Protecting the Past (Donna DiMichele)

Protecting the Past, under the auspices of the Connecting to Collections implementation grant, will have its final Steering Committee meeting Wednesday, May 21, 2014. A proposal for continuing the work of Protecting the Past – RI will be discussed at the meeting. The final LSTA report on the grant is due August 31, 2014.

G. Talking Books Plus & Accessible Libraries

Talking Books Plus coordinated a continuing education session for Accessible Technology in Libraries that featured speakers from the Northeast ADA Center and the Governor's Commission on Disabilities.

H. Youth Services

i. Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)

CSLP is commissioning a study of the outcomes of summer reading, including statistical data and actual stories about the positive outcomes for those who engage in summer reading. Monica Nazareth-Dzialo recommended an individual who can offer training about how to effectively use data to support programs.

ii. Kids Reading Across RI (KRARI)

The KRARI summer program kick-off takes place on May 31, 2014, from 2-4 pm at the State House. Board members were encouraged to attend.

I. Edge Assessment and Impact Survey

The Edge Assessment and Impact Survey are gathering data and outcomes to bolster the argument about the value of libraries in people's lives, whether for their work, pleasure, or personal growth.

J. Statewide Reference Resource Center (SRRC)

Responses to the RFP are being evaluated.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislation

- i. Rose Ellen Reynolds has written to the new members of the RI House Finance committee requesting the restoration of \$122,000 that was removed from the OLIS budget.
- ii. Ed Garcia reported that Cranston Public Library has a bill in the legislature for a bond referendum for library renovations.
- iii. Karen Mellor reported that Pawtucket Public Library has a bill in the legislature for a bond referendum for library renovations.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Hiring a new Chief of Library Services

There was no update at this time.

B. Board Vacancies

Nominations have been submitted to the Governor's Office.

C. LORI Standards

The first meeting of the LORI Standards Review Committee will be May 28, 2014. The LORI Standards committee will have eleven members including a representative for special libraries. Ed Garcia and Bart Hollingsworth will represent the LBRI.

D. One Catalog

The One Catalog grant to Ocean State Libraries has not been approved by the Budget Office yet.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT and ANNOUNCEMENT

Louise Herrington-Bright shared an editorial letter praising eBooks and the Ocean State Libraries' E-Zone.

IX. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2014 at the William Hall Library in Cranston.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Moved by: Mary Ann Slocomb

Seconded by: Edward Garcia