

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
November 17, 2014
at the Department of Administration,
Conference Room B - Second Floor,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Kristen Chin, Louise Herrington-Bright, Rosita Hopper, Alison Davis Maxell, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Robert Sloan

Members absent: Cristina Amedeo, Kenneth Findlay, Edward Garcia, Phyllis Humphrey, Shirley Long, Phyllis Lynch, Joan Retsinas, Thomas Viall

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

Guests: Walter Dzialo

Reporting: Karen Andrews

Materials Distributed:

- The Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program, *Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envisioning Public Libraries* Booklet
- Glossary of Terms Commonly Used in Resource Sharing
- Library of Rhode Island Standards and Regulations Draft
- Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Interlibrary Loan Code

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:18 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the October 20, 2014, meeting

The meeting minutes were unanimously approved with minor changes.

Moved by: Rosita Hopper

Seconded by: Monica Nazareth-Dzialo

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

The LBRI Co-Chair, Rose Ellen Reynolds, presided over the meeting in Tom Viall's absence. Ms. Reynolds conveyed a report from Mr. Viall.

Mr. Viall extends his thanks and congratulations to the Rhode Island Library Association (RILA), the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), and OLIS, for the November 13 event held at Cranston Public Library. The event was well attended and was a good opportunity for networking, educating, and sharing.

The proposed revision to the LORI Standards will be discussed for approval at the December 15 LBRI meeting. All LBRI members are encouraged to attend the meeting.

Joan Ress Reeves and Ed Garcia will serve on a committee to revise the LBRI By-Laws and Vision Statement. Rosita Hopper volunteered to serve on the review committee. Board members who wish to serve on the committee should contact Tom Viall, Karen Mellor, or Karen Andrews.

The COLA annual meeting will be held on February 10, 2015, at the State House.

Mr. Viall wishes the Board a Happy Thanksgiving and extends his thanks for the opportunity to work with the LBRI, OLIS, and all the public libraries.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. State government transition

The newly elected officials for Rhode Island government will be taking office in January 2015. Department of Administration agencies are preparing transition documents for the new administration.

B. Newport World Heritage Commission

OLIS, specifically Karen Mellor, has been appointed to the Newport World Heritage Commission. This is a new appointment for the Chief of Library Services.

C. OLIS Youth Services Interviews

Interviews for the OLIS Youth Services position are in process at this time. Filling this position will bring the OLIS full-time employee status to twelve. OLIS currently has thirteen FTEs but funding in the budget for only twelve.

D. AskRI Transition and Survey

The AskRI transition to Providence Public Library (PPL) from Providence Community Library (PCL) is complete. PPL is conducting a survey of libraries seeking input on AskRI.

E. One Catalog

The One Catalog project to bridge the Ocean State Libraries (OSL) and HELIN catalogs will not be completed by December 2014 as originally planned. OSL is converting records at the beginning of December and this activity will delay the launch until the end of January 2015. Other than this delay, work is progressing smoothly, and OSL has agreed to adopt the same rules for materials lending that HELIN utilizes.

F. Continuing Education

i. OLIS-COLA-RILA Event, *Exploring the New Normal: Trends in Library Services*, November 13, 2014, at Cranston Public Library

Attendance at the event was close to 100 including attendees and presenters. It was a great opportunity to inform library trustees and friends groups about innovative programs in RI libraries; the sessions on gaming and learning lounges were of particular interest. OLIS and RILA agree that more could be done to educate trustees since they are the governing boards of libraries. A tentative

trustee institute is slated for Spring 2015. Karen Mellor extended her thanks to COLA and RILA for their collaboration and support for this event.

- ii. *Identifying and Managing Behavior Issues in the Library*, November 18, 2014, at Cranston Public Library

Donna DiMichele is coordinating this event for libraries to better understand how to interact with patrons who may have mental health issues or developmental disabilities. A staff member from the Providence Center will be speaking with attendees to discuss this sensitive topic. Libraries have requested training in this subject numerous times.

- iii. *Department of Labor and Training Workshops on changes affecting Unemployment Insurance recipients*

The on-going partnership between OLIS and the Department of Labor and Training (DLT) has resulted in a number of training sessions focused on the new requirement for unemployment compensation insurance recipients to post a resume on EmployRI. The two hands-on workshops and one lecture were attended by over 50 library staff. The requirement went into effect on September 01, 2014, and DLT has reported that 75% of those seeking unemployment benefits are complying with the mandate. DLT thanked OLIS for its assistance, and noted the valuable role that libraries are playing in assisting individuals seeking help with this process.

G. IMLS Grant, University of Rhode Island

The Media Smart Libraries grant awarded to the University of Rhode Island (URI) by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is moving forward, and OLIS will be involved as a grant partner, providing assistance through continuing education sessions. The goal of the grant is to provide media literacy training to librarians, especially in the area of films for young people. The Providence Children's Film Festival is also a partner in the grant.

H. Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA)

- i. October Meeting

More than forty chiefs of state library agencies from around the US were present for COSLA's annual Fall meeting, along with representatives from organizations that support and work with libraries, including the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the American Library Association (ALA), the National Library Service, and the Urban Libraries Council.

A representative for the Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) encouraged states to join this organization, which is a good resource for smaller libraries. Following discussion, OLIS will join the organization for the benefit of small libraries in Rhode Island. In 2016, the annual ARSL conference will be held in Manchester, NH.

ii. Continuing Education (CE)

COSLA is focusing on objectives from several national continuing education programs. COSLA is working on a program called the CE Connector to bring states together to share information about their CE programs and develop programs on a national level. There is also a national CE coalition to advance learning in libraries, archives, and museums.

iii. IMLS, Director

The current term of the IMLS Director, Susan Hildreth, will be expiring in January 2015. The next IMLS Director that the President of the United States appoints will be from the museum profession. The IMLS Directorship alternates between library and museum professionals.

iv. Gates Foundation

The Gates Foundation will be wrapping up its Global Libraries Program as they have, through funding and support, achieved their goal of assisting in the transformation of libraries to critical community assets for today's digital world.

v. E-Rate

The E-Rate program is an Federal Communication Commission (FCC) program that reimburses schools and libraries at varying percentages for wireless and telephone connectivity. The program is being revamped to focus support on broadband and wireless connectivity, and to revise 20 year old rules. ALA is working to ensure that libraries continue to benefit optimally under the new rules.

vi. E-Books

With the great demand for e-books, COSLA is reviewing how various libraries are handling the demand and navigating the ongoing changes in the publishing world. OLIS will work with OSL and other library consortia to evaluate solutions for meeting the demand for e-books and electronic media.

vii. Aspen Institute: Rising to the Challenge: Re-envisioning Public Libraries

The Aspen Institute, an educational and policy studies organization based in Washington D.C., received a grant from the Gates Foundation to examine the challenges and opportunities facing public libraries in the digital age. The resulting Dialogue on Public Libraries convened economic and government leaders as well as representatives from the library community. The report includes a new vision for public libraries and includes a series of action steps for libraries and their stakeholders. A brief video highlighting the booklet from the Aspen Institute was viewed by the membership.

Motion to approve: Cristina Amedeo

Seconded by: Rosita Hopper

The report of the Chief Library Officer was unanimously accepted.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislation

Representatives Tomasso and Finn, who have supported library legislation in the past, did not win re-election to the RI General Assembly in the November 4th election. Tom Evans, the State Librarian, will keep the LBRI legislative committee apprised of the membership of the various state committees.

B. LORI Standards - Donna DiMichele

The LORI standards have been revised and prepared in the format of the Public Library Standards and Regulations. Three documents were distributed to the LBRI for review, including a draft of the revised LORI Standards. The LBRI will review the proposed draft and provide recommendations at the December 15 meeting.

Once the recommendations are incorporated into the draft, opportunities will be scheduled for public libraries to provide feedback regarding the proposed changes. There will be two or three public stakeholder meetings and an online survey available for public libraries to supply input.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Hiring a new Chief of Library Services.

Interviews for the Chief of Library Services position were conducted at the end of October 2014.

B. Construction Regulations

Appendix F of the construction regulations requires revision as the price of construction has risen since the last revision of these regulations. Members are welcome to join the revision committee.

C. Review of LBRI By-Laws and Review of Committees

Joan Ress Reeves, Rosita Hopper, and Ed Garcia will serve on a committee to review the LBRI By-Laws and the LBRI Vision.

D. Review of Public Library Trustees Manual

OLIS will seek the advice and direction of the LBRI about the revision of the Public Library Trustees Manual, and will work with public libraries and trustees to affect changes to the manual.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT and ANNOUNCEMENT

There was no public comment.

IX. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2014, at the Department of Administration, in Conference Room B.

Karen Mellor suggested that beginning in January 2015, when the General Assembly starts its session, the remaining LBRI 2014-2015 meetings be moved to an alternate location, such as Cranston's William Hall Library. Members recommended that a variety of libraries be chosen as venues for meetings. The idea will be revisited at the December meeting.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Moved by: Monica Nazareth-Dzialo

Seconded by: Kristen Chin