

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
November 16, 2015
at the Department of Labor and Training,
Building 73, Room 73-1,
1511 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920

Members Attending: Cristina Amedeo, John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Ed Garcia, Phyllis Humphrey, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Joan Ress Reeves, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Louise Herrington-Bright, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Lynch, Alison Davis-Maxell, Rose Ellen Reynolds

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

Guests: None

Materials Distributed: American Library Association National Policy Agenda for Libraries; Library Board of Rhode Island Bylaws Final Draft 2015

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the October 26, 2015, meeting

The meeting minutes were approved without changes.

Moved by: Ms. Humphrey

Seconded by: Ms. Drnach

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Department of Labor and Training

Mr. Viall extended his thanks to the Department of Labor and Training for the use of room 73-1, for today's meeting.

B. Cornerstones of Democracy, November 12, 2015

The Chair attended the *Cornerstones of Democracy: Libraries, Intellectual Freedom and Privacy* program, co-sponsored by OLIS, the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), and the RI Library Association (RILA), held on Thursday, November 12, 2015, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Cumberland Public Library. The presenter was Nancy C. Kranich, Ph.D., President of the American Library Association (ALA) from 2000-2001. The program included a deliberative dialogue about patron privacy issues and confidentiality in libraries and a presentation by Dr. Kranich. Thirty-one people attended the event.

C. Cranston Public Library Adult Lifelong Learning (ALL)-Access Celebration Event

Today, November 11, 2015, from 3-6 p.m., Cranston Public Library (CPL) celebrated the conclusion of the two-year grant awarded to CPL and Providence Public Library (PPL) by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to provide opportunities for adult education in the area of digital literacy. Through this grant, PPL initiated a Learning Lounge for adults for peer-assisted computer literacy training. CPL created a C-Lab for adult learning on a one-to-one basis to assist adults with digital literacy.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. OLIS Activities

i. Staffing

The State Data Coordinator position has been posted. Karen Mellor has been fulfilling the duties of the State Data Coordinator while this position has been vacant.

ii. Lean Government Initiative

OLIS has delivered potential metrics for the agency's core business processes to the Department of Administration's Government Efficiency Team. OLIS' three core business processes include support for library services for all Rhode Island residents, facilitating access to and sharing of resources in all types of libraries, and provision of library services to disabled individuals. The DOA Government Efficiency Team will select metrics from those proposed by OLIS for inclusion in the state's Government Transparency Portal.

iii. Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) State Program Report

Ms. DiMichele and Ms. Mellor are working on the annual LSTA State Program report. The report process has been substantially revised, including a new software tool for data submission; additional time has been granted by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for report completion because of the late release of the reporting software. The report is officially due on January 29, 2016; however, the goal is to complete the report by December 31, 2015.

B. Statewide Reference Resource Center (SRRC)

The state is currently working on the FY17 budget. Ms. Mellor reported that the OLIS budget may be affected in the area of funding for the SRRC databases. Ms. Mellor will report more on this item to the LBRI as it is available.

C. Optima Delivery Visit

Ms. Mellor visited the Optima interlibrary loan delivery sort center on November 9 to review the facility where the sorting is done of library materials for the statewide delivery system. Optima moved into their permanent sort facility located on Houghton Street in Providence. OLIS is working with Optima to schedule open houses in the spring of 2016 to allow library staff and LBRI members an opportunity to view the delivery service operation.

D. OLIS and Department of Labor and Training (DLT) Collaboration

OLIS has been working with the Department of Labor and Training to provide training for librarians for using the EmployRI website to assist patrons with employment services. DLT, in partnership with OLIS and various public libraries, also holds employee training events at libraries to support workforce development services.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislation

Mr. Viall reported that there is no new library legislation at this time.

B. Library Construction Reimbursement Regulations Review

Mr. Bucci, Ms. Reynolds, and Ms. Feldman have offered to participate on the committee to review the construction reimbursement regulations. Ms. Mellor will convene the committee in January 2016 to review how other states manage library construction programs, complete a scan of the current RI construction regulations, and offer recommendations for revision to the regulations. LBRI members are requested to advise Ms. Mellor if they would like to be on the committee.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Ms. Amedeo

Libraries have greatly assisted Healthsource RI open enrollment events by providing enrollment service assistance during specific open enrollment periods.

B. Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo

The RI Department of Transportation (DOT) will provide an engineer to review the accessibility of sidewalks on state roads. Individuals concerned about safety and other conditions related to accessibility and safety of sidewalks and intersections near libraries may contact the DOT and an engineer will be dispatched to evaluate reported situations. The DOT is installing audio signals at intersections to assist citizens with vision impairment.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. LBRI Bylaws Revision

The Chair requested a motion to accept the revised LBRI Bylaws.

Moved by: Mr. Findlay

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

Mr. Bucci requested clarification about Article 3 with respect to a quorum as it pertains to business that must be moved off the agenda. Mr. Viall advised that no official movements can be made by the board without a quorum.

Ms. Reeves requested clarification about Article 4, Section 1 'Actions', as it pertains to indemnification against 'attorney' and 'fees' and the comma that separates these two items. "Each person ...shall be indemnified against expenses (*including attorneys, fees*), ...".

Mr. Viall recommended that an inquiry would be made into whether these are two separate items for which indemnification is necessary or if the comma is a typographical error that originated in the original version of the LBRI Bylaws documentation. Legal consultation should be initiated to make a determination in this matter. Mr. Viall proposed that the motion to approve the LBRI Bylaws be amended based on the outcome of the inquiry.

Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo request clarification about what constitutes a quorum. Ms. Mellor advised that a quorum is six members.

Ms. Drnach requested clarification about Article 3, Section 7, as it pertains to members of the public speaking at LBRI meetings. Mr. Viall advised that members of the public who want to speak at the LBRI meetings must contact the Chief of Library Services, Ms. Mellor, twenty-four (24) hours prior to the LBRI meeting for inclusion on the LBRI meeting agenda. Members of the public may also approach the LBRI Chairperson, Mr. Viall, for permission to address the board and request inclusion on the LBRI meeting agenda. This section of the LBRI Bylaws pertains to members of the public who wish to address the LBRI about a specific agenda item.

Mr. Findlay advised that the public comment section of the LBRI agenda as it pertains to the Open Meetings Law and LBRI action on items discussed during the public comments period are separate items. Mr. Viall agreed that the two items are separate items and reported that the LBRI will provide venues for both as required by RI General Law and the LBRI Bylaws.

The Chair requested an amended motion to accept the revised LBRI Bylaws.

Moved by: Mr. Findlay

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

The LBRI Bylaws were unanimously approved with grammatical changes as identified.

B. Library Services Strategic Plan: Environmental Scan

Ms. Mellor presented the American Library Association's (ALA) National Policy Agenda to the LBRI for discussion. ALA's goal in establishing a national policy agenda is to provide a common resource that will help shift public perception from the view that libraries are "nice to have" to an understanding that libraries are essential to the community. The ALA National Policy Agenda seeks to align library services with national priorities. Ms. Mellor welcomed input on how OLIS can utilize and adapt this framework to develop a new, comprehensive strategic plan for OLIS. This will be the basis for the new federal Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) Plan that must be submitted in 2017. Ms. Mellor asked for the assistance of the LBRI in gathering input from the constituencies they represent to develop an overview of the current library environment and priorities for service. OLIS will work with the LBRI to develop a process for gathering this input.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments or announcements.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2015, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Moved by: Ms. Drnach

Seconded by: Mr. Findlay