

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on

January 09, 2017

at the Department of Administration,

2nd Floor, Conference Room B,

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

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

Members Absent: Alison Davis-Maxell, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Humphrey, Phyllis Lynch, Rose Ellen Reynolds

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

Guests: Dr. Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- A Report of Recommended Alterations to the State Grant-in-Aid Formula
- Annual State Program Report 2016: Summary Overview
- OLIS Mission Statement

I. WELCOME

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

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the December 19, 2016 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Garcia

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Ocean State Innovate Initiative

Mr. Viall reported on the collaboration between Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design for the 'Ocean State Innovate' event., The initiative seeks to engage Rhode Islanders from all backgrounds to explore ways to improve quality of life through smart government, affordable housing, and public transportation. A one-and-a half day event will be held on March 11-12, at Brown University, and will be facilitated by the Medici Group.

Event registration is open until January 31.

Mr. Viall recommended that library advocates make an effort to join this important statewide initiative, and give libraries a seat at the collective table.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing: OLIS Staffing

The vacant Library Program Specialist position was re-posted by the RI Department of Human Resources to include the position's union affiliation. The successful search returned 45 applicants, and the position will be filled as soon as possible.

B. Continuing Education (CE)

OLIS will partner with the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) and Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) on a CE program specifically designed for library trustees and friends groups. The program will focus on community building and engagement, and the primary speaker will be Deb Hoadley of Hoadley Consulting. Ms. Hoadley is the past president of New England Library Association, and previously worked in the Massachusetts Library System. The program is scheduled for April 4 from 6-8 pm at North Kingstown Public Library. All LBRI members are welcome to attend and participate in the event.

The OLIS Continuing Education schedule for the upcoming season will be posted by January 23 on the OLIS website.

C. Legislation

The new session of the RI General Assembly began on January 3, 2017. OLIS has submitted recommendations to the RI Department of Administration for changes to Title 29 of the RI General Laws; recommendations include removing outdated language and policies, and inserting language to better reflect current library practice.

D. OLIS Evaluation and Strategic Plan

The evaluation report on the current OLIS Five-Year LSTA Plan is due to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) on March 31, and a new plan is due on June 30. OLIS is investigating hiring an external consultant to help craft a statewide environmental scan to address the entirety of OLIS' work, and excerpt from that a plan that aligns with the format established by IMLS.

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

Ms. Mellor and Ms. DiMichele completed the annual State Program Report and submitted it on December 30, 2016, to the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The report is filed annually and provides an accounting of the expenditure of federal funds in federal fiscal year 2016 on specific OLIS programs. Ms. Mellor presented a summary of the report to the LBRI.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislation

i. Federal & State Legislative Updates

No legislative updates were reported.

B. Policy Review Committee

The Policy Review Committee had no report.

C. Library Construction Regulations Review

The Library Construction Regulations Review Committee had no report.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Ms. Humphrey

Ms. Humphrey submitted a report via email for presentation in the January 09, 2017, LBRI meeting. Ms. Humphrey hosts the East Greenwich (EG) Interlibrary Loan (ILL) School Delivery Hub at Archie R. Cole Middle School Library and reported that the pilot project is proceeding very well. OLIS' ILL delivery vendor, Optima Shipping, delivers books for five EG school libraries to the EG school delivery hub.

The workload is minimal for Ms. Humphrey because Optima sorts books for the schools in the hub. Credit was given to Chaichin Chen, OLIS Network Services Coordinator, and Zach Berger, Member Services Librarian at Rhode Island Library Information Network for Kids (RILINK), for the thoroughness of their project planning on the school hub delivery project. Ms. Humphrey does not anticipate any unresolved issues after she meets with the EG school superintendent today.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. State Aid Formula Review Committee: Adoption of Report

The LBRI convened a committee to review the RI grant-in-aid (GIA) funding formula for public libraries; the committee issued a draft report of their findings to the LBRI. Ms. Mellor reported that the goal of the committee was to review the current funding formula, and, if necessary, make recommendations for revision to the formula.

Mr. Viall requested a motion to adopt the report of the State Aid-Formula Review Committee.

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Garcia

The report was approved for adoption.

B. State Aid Formula Review Committee: Dissemination of Findings

Mr. Viall reported that the data collected by the State Aid Formula Review Committee was intended to be shared with the library community, and requested suggestions on how the information should be disseminated. Clarification was requested on how the library will affect libraries and the timeline for any changes. Mr. Viall reiterated that the LBRI does not have the authority to make recommended changes to GIA funding, but that the RI General Assembly may enact changes to the current funding formula. He stated that the intent of

the report as a study of the library funding formula should be communicated with its dissemination.

Recommendations were made on the dissemination of the report and possible actions. It was recommended that the report be posted on the OLIS website and that a two-page summary be created by the committee for those who may not have time to read the full report. It was also recommended that the report be distributed to the library community and other interested organizations. Mr. Garcia reported that RILA would likely seek legislation to adopt the report recommendations for the 2018 RI State Budget.

Mr. Viall requested a motion to post the report of the State Aid-Formula Review Committee on the OLIS Website.

Moved by: Ms. Drnach

Seconded by: Mr. Garcia

The report was approved to be posted on the OLIS Website within a week.

Ms. Mellor stated that OLIS staff will post the LBRI State Aid Formula report and supporting data on the OLIS website, and embed associated charts into the report.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. OLIS Mission Statement: Discussion

Ms. Mellor reviewed the OLIS Mission Statement and requested input from the board to help develop a new statement. OLIS staff reviewed the current mission statement at a recent staff meeting, and offered some suggestions for improvement. Ms. Mellor explained that because OLIS will be creating a new strategic plan for submission to IMLS for 2017, this is an excellent time to review the mission statement to determine if it aligns with OLIS practices, policies and goals.

LBRI members suggested a variety of language changes and recommended that simplicity and brevity be considerations in the creation of a new statement.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2017, 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

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Mr. Findlay

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.