

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

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

June 12, 2017

at the Department of Administration,

2nd Floor, Conference Room B,

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Edward Garcia, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Humphrey, Doug Norris, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Louise Herrington-Bright, Alison Davis-Maxell, Phyllis Lynch, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Joan Ress Reeves, Robert Sloan

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

Guests: Ms. Eileen Dyer, Providence Community Library, Co-chair, Rhode Island Library Association Legislative Action Committee

Materials Distributed:

- OLIS Five-Year State Plan for Library Services and Technology (LSTA) Funding 2018-2022, Final Draft

I. WELCOME

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

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the May 15, 2017 meeting

Moved by: Ms. Reynolds

Seconded by: Mr. Garcia

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) Honorees

Mr. Viall extended his congratulations to Eileen Dyer of Providence Community Library and Ed Garcia, Director of Cranston Public Library, Co-chairs of the RILA Legislative Action Committee, and Eileen Socha, Director of East Providence Public Library, for honors they received at the RILA annual meeting on May 31-June 1. They were recognized for their advocacy efforts at the RI General Assembly to increase Grant-in-Aid funding for libraries.

B. Cranston Public Library Children's Room

Mr. Viall offered his congratulations to Mr. Garcia on the June 3 grand opening of the new children's room at the main branch of Cranston Public Library.

C. LBRI Appreciation

Mr. Viall thanked the LBRI for their participation and accomplishments during this legislative session, and for their support during his tenure as the Chair of the LBRI.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. LBRI Member Appointments

Ms. Mellor reported that recommendations for appointments to the LBRI have been forwarded to the Governor's office for approval. Ms. Mellor extended her gratitude to board members who have expressed a desire to have their LBRI appointments renewed.

B. Ongoing

i. OLIS Staffing, Library Program Manager

Interviews for the Library Program Manager are scheduled for June 14-16. The position was formerly held by Ms. Mellor, and has been vacant since July 1, 2013.

ii. Digital Equity

Ms. Mellor attended a convening on 'Digital Equity' that was coordinated by the RI Office of Innovation. This was part of the project known as 'ConnectRI', the RI iteration of the ['Everyone On'](#) non-profit campaign initiated to connect all people to the internet, and provide inexpensive broadband access to those who cannot afford it at regular rates. The library community, RI Housing Authority, and industry internet providers were represented at the meeting.

OLIS will support the project, specifically as it applies to digital literacy in libraries. Nicolette Baffoni, OLIS' Adult Services Coordinator, will monitor digital equity activities as they relate to digital literacy education efforts in libraries.

iii. Annual Survey

The annual public library data gathering process is under development. The survey will open on July 17 and close on September 15. The annual survey collects data for the federal government and OLIS, and certifies libraries for state Grant-in-Aid funding.

There are some changes to the circulation data that will be gathered this year. Some are based on a project that Lauren Plews, OLIS' State Data Coordinator, undertook with the University of RI (URI) Graduate School of Information and Library Studies (GSLIS). The survey is being updated to provide libraries with data that will be useful for developing programming. In addition, OLIS is preloading a substantial amount of circulation and collection data this year in cooperation with Ocean State Libraries, to ease the reporting burden for libraries.

C. Continuing Education

i. Futures Conference

OLIS is working with the New Jersey State Library, and eight other state library agencies, on a Futures Conference, to take place September 25-26, in Atlantic City, NJ. Ten years ago, the NJ State Library held a similar conference to look at information in general, and library science specifically, to determine how the future world will look, and how libraries will fit into that future.

Since OLIS is a sponsor of the event, eighteen staff members from RI libraries can attend the conference at a discounted rate. More information about the conference will be forthcoming in the summer and forwarded to the LBRI.

ii. Research Institute for Public Libraries

The Maine State Library will be hosting a regional Research Institute for Public Libraries (RIPL). The State Library of Colorado developed RIPL with a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Service (IMLS); several OLIS staff members attended earlier RIPL events in Colorado.

RIPL seeks to provide libraries with tools that will enable them to make better use of data and present data more effectively. OLIS is exploring the possibility of providing four scholarships to RI library staff to attend the RIPL.

D. Summer Reading Program Finale

The annual Summer Reading Program Finale is usually held at McCoy Stadium in Pawtucket in August, with sponsorship from Citizens Bank. The event included a pre-game ceremony that recognizes summer reading participants, a barbecue for youth services librarians, tickets for the baseball game for the children and their families, and a drawing for a grand prize trip to Disneyworld for a young reader and their family.

Citizens Bank has advised McCoy Stadium management that they will not be sponsoring the event this year. The PawSox have offered to continue the pre-game ceremony and will provide photography services, and a new grand prize of a 4-pack of tickets to a Boston Red Sox game and a VIP tour of Fenway Park. OLIS is seeking funding for game tickets for the children and their families, and for barbecue tickets for librarians. If an outside funding source is not identified, the event will not take place.

E. Strategic Plan

Upon approval by the LBRI, the OLIS Five-Year State Plan for Library Services and Technology (LSTA) Funding for 2018-2022 will be submitted to the Institute of Museum and Library Service (IMLS) to meet the June 30 deadline. Following review by the IMLS, and after any required revisions are made to the plan, it will be in effect October 1, 2017.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

There were no updates on RI legislative bills that affect libraries.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Dr. Hopper reported that the HELIN (Higher Education Library Information Network) consortium and CRIARL (Consortium of RI Academic and Research Libraries) have made, or will make, substantial contributions to the [RI Library Association \(RILA\) Advocacy Video Campaign](#).

Mr. Viall reminded members to view the RILA Advocacy Video online, and communicate the effort to library supporters.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. OLIS Five-Year State Plan for Library Services and Technology (LSTA) Funding 2018-2022 Discussion and Vote

On June 6, in preparation for today's meeting, LBRI members were issued a review draft of the OLIS Five-Year Plan for LSTA Funding 2018-2022. Mr. Viall requested a motion to approve the Plan, with non-substantive changes recommended by LBRI members.

Moved by: Dr. Hopper

Seconded by: Ms. Feldman

The OLIS Five-Year State Plan for LSTA funding 2018-2022 was unanimously approved by the LBRI.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for September 18, 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. Findlay

Seconded by: Ms. Reynolds

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.