

# **RI Colonial Charter 350th Anniversary Commission**

## **Charter Exhibition Committee**

**Minutes of the Meeting of February 22, 2013**

**Meeting held at the RI State Archives**

**337 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903**

**1. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 P.M. by Gwenn Stearn with the following members in attendance:**

**Gwenn Stearn, Co-chairperson, Jon Stevens, Co-chairperson, Ruth Taylor, Paul Caranci, C. Morgan Grefe, Steve Lubar. Also in attendance was staff member Jess Unger.**

**2. Upon a motion by Commissioner Caranci, second by Commissioner Taylor, the minutes of the September 5, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.**

**3. The members reviewed the list of possible materials for exhibition that was prepared by Chairperson Stearn. The list represents the offerings of several agencies including the RI Historical Society, the Newport Historical Society, the RI State Archives, the Redwood Library and the Providence City Archives. Together, the materials represent some of the most telling documents and artifacts available relating to the time of the Charter and early colony establishment. Commissioner Stevens noted that we should consider displaying reproductions where possible for security purposes. Commissioner**

**Taylor added that in order to have the documents available in time for the opening we should start with original documents and replace them as reproductions become available. Because we anticipate having an extremely secure facility, there should not be too much concern in this regard. Commissioner Grefe noted that some items, such as the Roger Williams wallet, cannot be reproduced.**

**There is a need to get the security specifications to the Department of Administration as soon as possible. Jim Hall will be asked to produce the specs before he leaves RI. Commissioners Stearn, Lubar and Taylor agreed that we need system compatibility with the current State House security system. If exhibit cases are alarmed and live security is several feet away it will meet most security needs.**

**Commissioners Stevens and Stearn will send a memo to Richard Licht explaining the security needs as well as the need to control lighting. The group will also meet with designer Brian Jones.**

**Commissioner Stevens reported that the staff would vacate the Charter Room by March 15th.**

**4. Commissioners proceeded to review materials as identified on the list and determined which should be recommended for inclusion in the Charter Room under the thematic headings of: Establishment of the Settlements, Daily Life, Toleration, and Getting the Charter.**

**5. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.**

**Approved April 15, 2013**