

Rhode Island Colonial Charter 350th Anniversary Commission

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

2:00 P.M.

Rhode Island State House, Providence – Room 111

1. Chairman Ted Sanderson called the meeting was called to order at 2:09 P.M. The meeting was attended by Jon Stevens, Betty Capozzi, Paul Caranci, Gwenn Stearn, Al Klyberg, Erik Hertfelder, Cameron Keith, Sue Ellen Kroll and Rosanna Gorham,

2. Commissioner Jon Stevens introduced a new summer intern, Ali Mays as well as three new members of the Executive Committee. They are Sue Ellen Kroll, Rosanne Gorham and C. Morgan Grefe (not in attendance.)

3. In order to better reflect committee goals and more closely align the committee structure of the Commission with grant opportunities a motion was made by Paul Caranci, seconded by Gwenn Stearn to allow the existing Committees to terminate and be replaced with new Committees as follows:

a. Charter Exhibition Committee replaces the Conservation & Preservation Committee

b. Public Engagement Committee replaces the Celebration & Planning Committee

c. Education Committee replaces the Education & Interpretation

Committee.

d. The following was discussed regarding the makeup of each new committee.

i. The Executive Committee membership will remain as it currently exists with the three new additions and will begin to meet on a monthly basis.

ii. The Exhibition Committee will remain in tact as it is already fully engaged.

iii. Other Committees will be reworked to ensure that the background of members best reflects the purpose of the Committee.

4. The Work Plan as drafted by Jon Stevens with input from other members of the Commission was considered for approval. Several key areas were reviewed and individual members will work to better refine it over the next few weeks. Key areas of discussion included the following points.

a. The Work Plan should be amended to identify event workers and funding sources for each action item.

b. The Public Engagement section should include recommendations for Committee assignments.

c. A project director should be named for each event.

i. Erik Hertfelder expressed interest in serving as the project director for the debates.

ii. Rosanna Gorham will review grant opportunities to determine which are a best fit for the Commission. Erik Hertfelder, Al Klyberg, and Sue Ellen Kroll expressed interest in helping to review grant opportunities and in preparing grant applications. Ruth Taylor will

also be asked to participate in this endeavor.

iii. Betty Capozzi will meet with Bob Palumbo of the Providence Journal to discuss publicity for events. She will also suggest appropriate sponsors for each event. Betty also reported that:

1. Judge Selya is going to invite US Supreme Court Justice Kagan to Providence while she is in Rhode Island.

2. She will engage local historical groups to determine what is important to them regarding the living history, living timeline event on June 23rd.

iv. Rosanna Gorham will work with RIDE to flesh out the John Carter Brown Library Proposal regarding the Website/Facebook/Social Networking outreach program.

v. Cameron Keith will send a statement regarding which school districts currently teach RI history at the local level. Sue Ellen Kroll and Rosanna Gorham will assist. C. Morgan Grefe should also be asked to assist in the education effort.

d. Al Klyberg stressed the importance of tying our events to the Charter so that we don't seem opportunistic to other historical groups. For example, there is already an event in Glocester each year commemorating the Dorr Rebellion.

e. Paul Caranci will arrange for Secretary A. Ralph Mollis (inviting the Senate President and House Speaker) to meet with Secretary of State William Galvin to view the MA Archives Charter Room.

f. The State House Restoration Commission will serve as a pass through agency for the Historical Preservation Grants.

g. National grants should be avoided because they are costly and

time consuming to initiate and we are unlikely to qualify because we have a short life as the Commission expires in 2016.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 P.M.