

**Meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Rhode Island Colonial Charter 350th Anniversary Commission
Monday, April 8, 2013**

1. The meeting was called to order by acting chairman Jonathan Stevens at 9:37 A.M. with the following people in attendance: Jonathan Stevens (Governor), Ruth Taylor (Newport Historical Society), Dr. C. Morgan Grefe (Rhode Island Historical Society), Al Klyberg (private citizen), Ted Sanderson (RI Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission), Eric Hertfelder (private citizen), Paul Caranci (Deputy Secretary of State), Betty Capozzi (State House Restoration Society), Roseanna Gorham (private citizen), Jess Unger, (Governor; Staff)

2. Upon a motion by Commissioner Hertfelder, second by Ted Sanderson, the minutes of the March 25, 2013 minutes were unanimously approved.

3. In Gwenn Stearn's absence, Jess Unger provided an update on the activities of the Exhibition Committee and reported that renovations in room 143 began and are on track for completion in the early part of June. The Committee will be meeting this week on Monday the 15th of April to discuss design elements. Jess Unger also reported on the status of the transfer of the Gorham Silver from the John Brown House to the State House, which is also moving along as planned. There was discussion of not transferring every piece (possibly

eliminating the candelabras from display) due to space considerations in the State House display case.

4. Commissioner Capozzi offered an update on the Gala. She reported that the caterer, bartender and the valet service are in place. The reception will be held in the Senate Lounge from 6-7:00 P.M. on June 22nd. Jess Unger reported that we have the following commitments for sponsorship of the event:

a. G-Tech = \$5,000

b. Fidelity = \$9,000

c. Alex & Ani = \$7,000 cash and \$3,000 in in-kind contributions (medallions) without restriction.

d. Twin River should respond this week

We will need a total of \$30,000 for the event and have commitments so far totaling \$21,000. There was a discussion of the number of free tickets that should be provided to sponsors. Jess Unger also noted that Gov. Chafee, Lieutenant Governor Roberts, and Secretary of State Mollis have agreed to serve as honorary hosts of the event. Jon Stevens noted that he is also working on sponsorship and Roseanna reached out to Textron but has yet to hear back. Commissioner Capozzi said that the Gala Committee is meeting again today at 11:00 am.

5. Commissioner Hertfelder reported on the Open House working group noting that he met with Jennifer Smith from Roger Williams National Memorial and they are at the point where they will be able to

produce a one-page announcement of the event. The activities at the Memorial will run from 1:00 to 6:00 P.M. They have had good discussion with the boy and girl scout organizations. Jess Unger added that she has begun the initial design work and is producing a two-sided map of State House and Roger Williams National Memorial.

6. Jess Unger confirmed details of the event at the Quaker Meeting House in Newport in conjunction with Commissioner Taylor. John Barry will attend this event and the topic will be, "Was America Founded as a Christian Nation?" It is tentatively planned for 5:00 P.M. but details of time are still being worked out to avoid conflicts. In the near future the Committee will address the fees that John Barry is requesting.

7. Roger Williams University wants to put together an event during their reading period at the University in May. Stan Lemons is on the Panel, and Commissioners Grefe and Conley are being asked to serve as panelist as well. The Executive Committee would like to co-brand this event that will be held on a weekday in the early evening. Commissioner Hertfelder has been working with Maya Farish about this. It was also noted that Roger Williams University will feature John Barry as the commencement speaker and award him an honorary degree.

8. Jess Unger reported that the Pembroke Choir will be in RI on July 12, 2013 and will perform. Newport is a good venue and while we had

looked at the Colony House for the concert and reception, Commissioner Hertfelder offered Salve Regina College as an alternative because the facility holds more attendees, has better parking and has dorm rooms to provide accommodations to the students. The Committee was in support of this proposal.

9. Jess Unger also reported that she has been working with RW Law School's Dean Logan's office and is hoping to hold the event at Trinity Rep. They have good action steps worked out and the Law School will be providing 140 students to attend.

10. Jess Unger provided an update on the education activities that have taken place. These are ongoing projects that we hope to have completed by Fall. Brown students have been working on the podcasts and have good content toward the final product. Progress has also been made on the posters being funded by the RI Foundation. It will depict the first leaf of the Charter. Chairman Sanderson suggested that while we have the chance we may want to scan the entire charter for future use. It was also suggested that the John Clarke copy that is held by the RI Historical Society might be used as a traveling display to Newport to help raise awareness of the programs of the 350th which may in turn help with fundraising efforts.

11. Jess Unger reported that RDW has a draft communications plan and it is a terrific work. It was suggested that we ask RDW to help us implement the plan. RI Monthly may also do an article on the Charter

or events.

12. Commissioner Stevens noted that Commissioner Capozzi has offered five display cases for use in the gift shop for which we are awaiting approval to accept. Commissioner Caranci noted that 3 of the 4 Gift Shop Board members have been appointed by the Secretary of State and that the Governor has made his appointment as well. We hope to have the final appointment in place sometime this week and target next week for the first meeting.

13. The next meeting of the Executive Committee was scheduled for 4/22/13 at 10:00 am at the Economic Development Corporation (315 Iron Horse Way).

14. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 A.M.