

Rhode Island Historical Records Advisory Board

Minutes of Meeting – January 7, 2009

Rhode Island State Archives

337 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903

Attending: Mark Brown, Allison Cywin, Donna DiMichele, Russell Franks, Marlene Lopes, Marilyn Massaro, and Gwenn Stearn, chair.

Not attending: Jane Civins, Jonathan Galli, Stephen Grimes, Michael Hebert, Peggy Long, David Maslyn.

Meeting called to order: 10:20 a.m.

I Minutes of meeting: September 3, 2008

DiMichele moved to approve the minutes. Franks seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

II 2009 Board appointments and meeting dates

Stearn has written to Governor Carcieri informing him that Lopes, Cywin, Brown and Hebert are willing to serve additional three year terms and Stearn, under the Code of Federal Regulation, a four year term. Regarding meeting dates and times, after discussion it was decided that members should be asked about standing meetings that

may conflict with attending Board meetings and also polled as to meeting on a different weekday and time, by order of preference. A question arose as to whether proxy voting is allowed under the Open Meetings Act when a quorum is not achieved.

III Update on projects:

· Protecting the Past – RI

DiMichele reported that the Steering Committee has been meeting approximately every three weeks. Some members have dropped out, though most continue to serve. dPlan had been divided into sections with assigned members working to adapt sections to RI circumstances. Jack Sullivan of FEMA Region 1 had attended a meeting to learn about the initiative and asked to be kept apprised of developments. In late spring there will be a series of approximately eight training sessions for constituent groups. NEDCC has also applied to IMLS for a grant to adapt dPlan for museums, widening the scope of what will be done under dPlan for RI. Upcoming scheduled presentations include: RI Town and City Clerks Association, RI Association of Health Science Libraries, RI Civic Tourism Committee. There will also be a panel presentation at the historical preservation annual conference to be held at URI in April.

· Intergovernmental Preparedness for Essential Records

(IPER)

Stearn provided an update on project developments. It is anticipated

that training modules being developed at the national level would be distributed to the states during the spring. These may be customized as needed to fit each state's circumstances by the state's committee. Rhode Island's committee presently consists of Rich Hite, State Records Coordinator at the State Archives/Public Records Administration, Michael Lombardi from the Department of Administration, Division of Information Technology, and Jim Baker, RIEMA Planning Coordinator. IPER will also address electronic records and this information will be shared with the Protecting the Past – RI group since dPlan does not cover electronic records issues well.

- Preserving the American Historical Record (PAHR)

Stearn reminded Board members of efforts that had been made last year with respect to passage of the PAHR legislation in Congress. The bill will be reintroduced this year and it is believed that with the new Congress and President, it may well stand a better chance of passage. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available. DiMichele points out that Senator Reid Reed might be worth approaching as an advocate.

IV NHPRC grant applications evaluations

Further to the recent Brown University and City of Warwick grant applications, a discussion begun at the Board's last meeting continued. A question arose as to whether other states have

instructional materials for use by their Board in evaluating grant applications. It was felt that it might be helpful for members to view these if they could be made available.

V News and announcements

DiMichele remarked on statewide databases that are available at local libraries. Among others these include genealogical and history resources, Proquest, EPSCO health & science databases. She will bring promotional material to the next Board meeting.

DiMichele reported on a recent Council of State Libraries meeting she had attended. This included a tour of a new Harrisburg, PA facility for rare materials.

DiMichele requested that Board members inform her if they would like to have their name removed from her Archives Interest Group e-mail list.

VI Adjournment

Brown moved to adjourn. Cywin seconded the motion. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Amended and adopted 4 March 2009