

Rhode Island Historical Records Advisory Board

Minutes of Meeting - March 4, 2009

Rhode Island State Archives

337 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903

Attending: Mark Brown, Jane Civins, Donna DiMichele, Russell Franks, Stephen Grimes, Michael Hébert, Marlene Lopes, Marilyn Massaro, Gwenn Stearn, chair.

Not attending: Allison Cywin, Jonathan Galli, Peggy Long, Dave Maslyn.

Meeting called to order: 10:12 a.m.

I Minutes of meetings: January 7, 2009

Brown noted a name spelled incorrectly and one word correction to the minutes. DiMichele moved to approve the meeting minutes as amended. Massaro seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

II Report on initiatives

Donna DiMichele

·Protecting the Past – RI

DiMichele provided an update on the project and distributed brochures and information on dPlan training sessions to be held in conjunction with the Protecting the Past – RI initiative. The brochures and training session schedule will also be available on the OLIS website (www.olis.ri.gov/grants/c2c/index.php). DiMichele asked the Board to get the word out on the training sessions and emphasized that training is open to all and not just members of the library network. DiMichele also apprised members about a dPlan presentation to be held in Woonsocket on April 17, in partnership with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Russell Franks

· RI Archival & Manuscript Collections Online (RIAMCO)

Franks presented an overview of the RIAMCO initiative and introduced members to the website prototype. He explained the different aspects of the project, including the ability to search subject terms across participating repositories as well as the possibility for consortia across the United States. Lopes asked what requirements were necessary to join RIAMCO. Franks responded that it would require using NoteTab (free software) or NoteTab Pro and submitting DACs compliant finding aids encoded in EAD (Encoded Archival Description). He stated that Jennifer Betts, the project manager, would offer EAD training. Massaro asked how the project would be supported after the NEH grant project ended. Franks responded that RIAMCO is essentially self-sustaining as Brown University is hosting

the website and offering technical support, and will continue to do so after the two year project.

Gwenn Stearn

· Preserving the American Historical Record (PAHR)

Stearn reported that the PAHR legislation was to be reintroduced in the US House of Representatives. With a new President and Congress there was greater hope for its passage this year. No bill number had yet been assigned, but Congressional sponsors were being sought. Stearn stated that more information will become available in the near future and that suggestions for action would be coming from the Council of State Archivist and the Society of American Archivists. Information and the text of the PAHR was available on SAA's website. Stearn will provide members a link to the bill.

III May meeting venue

DiMichele suggested Providence College or Rhode Island College as a venue for the May meeting. Stearn indicated that she might not be available for the May meeting date. Lopes made a motion to cancel the May 6 meeting and hold a meeting on the June 3 reserved date. Massaro seconded. Approved unanimously. Members agreed to email suggestions to Stearn regarding a venue for the June meeting.

IV News and announcements

DiMichele spoke about the Rhode Island Center of the Book's

promotion of Five Skies by author Ron Carlson as the 2009 selection for Reading Across RI. She also mentioned that Mr. Carlson would be speaking at a May breakfast.

Stearn informed the Board that the State Archives has resumed the Local Government Records grants this year. Grant guidelines and application materials were sent to municipal clerks in the last week of February. She remarked that the grants will be funded at higher levels than in past years.

DiMichele inquired whether the Board should review its Strategic Plan this year. Stearn agreed that it should be reviewed this fall.

V Adjournment

Hébert moved to adjourn. Lopes seconded the motion. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Read and approved 6/3/2009