

Rhode Island Historical Records Advisory Board

Minutes of Meeting – January 6, 2010

Rhode Island State Archives

337 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903

Attending: Mark Brown, Donna Longo DiMichele, Russell Franks, Michael Hébert, Marlene Lopes, Marilyn Massaro, Gwenn Stearn, chair.

Not attending: Jane Civins, Allison Cywin, Jonathan Galli, Stephen Grimes, Peggy Long, David Maslyn.

Meeting called to order: 10:09 a.m.

I Minutes of meeting – November 4, 2009

Massaro noted an error regarding the date of the prior meeting as reflected in the minutes. The error was corrected.

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

II Strategic plan review

Stearn distributed copies of the strategic plan for Board review of the comments and revisions made at the November 4th meeting. Members discussed the strategy for updating the plan in light of present needs and the requirement to develop a new plan in the event the Preserving the American Historical Record Act (PAHR) passes Congress. The Board discussed each section and item. Revisions were made. Stearn will provide a revised draft for review at the March 3rd meeting.

III News and announcements

DiMichele presented a final report on the accomplishments and outcomes of Protecting the Past – RI project funded by a \$40,000 Connecting to Collections planning grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Project Accomplishments:

A 19-member Steering Committee, representative of cultural and collections-holding institutions throughout Rhode Island, worked together to develop the RI.dPlan and to publicize it at conferences, meetings, and in publications.

- Adapted “dPlan™, the online template for disaster planning”, to the Rhode Island circumstance. This free tool is now available at <http://ri.dplan.org>**

- Trained 135 individuals representing 89 cultural heritage and collections-holding institutions in the use of RI.dPlan.**

- Created an evolving website caching links to many disaster planning and salvage sites as well as archiving all project materials and history www.olis.ri.gov/services/preservation/index.php.
- Developed topic-specific workshops to build knowledge of disaster planning for cultural heritage institutions.
- Initiated networking throughout the cultural heritage communities for disaster planning and mutual cooperation.
- Initiated and heightened communication with state and federal officials, with first responders, and with the public about inclusion of the preservation and cultural heritage collections communities in disaster planning for state and local areas.
- Received a Rhody Award for Stewardship from the RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission and Preserve RI.

Outcomes:

100% of those trainees who responded to the evaluation gave high marks for increasing their skills, knowledge, and awareness regarding disaster planning for their institutions.

VI Adjournment

Lopes moved to adjourn. Massaro seconded the motion. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Read, grammatical errors corrected, and passed unanimously at 3/3/2010 meeting.