

# **Rhode Island Historical Records Advisory Board**

**Minutes of Meeting – March 4, 2015**

**Rhode Island State Archives**

**337 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903**

**Attending: Maria Bernier, Donna Longo DiMichele, Russell Franks, Stephen Grimes, Michael Hebert, Marlene Lopes, Dave Maslyn and Gwenn Stearn, chair.**

**Not attending: Jane Civins, Allison Cywin, Jonathan Galli, and Peggy Long.**

**Also attending: Secretary of State Nellie M. Gorbea.**

**Meeting called to order: 10:00 a.m.**

**I Secretary of State Nellie M. Gorbea**

**Stearn introduced the Secretary of State, Nellie M. Gorbea, to the Board. The Secretary spoke of her commitment to the State Archives and staff as well as addressing issues that need attention, including effort to build civic pride and an understanding of government. The Secretary and members discussed ideas and strategies for promoting the State Archives and developing ways to reach out to the smaller**

repositories through education, training, and use of social media. The Secretary discussed the idea of collaboration with the state's university and colleges to promote educational opportunities relating to repositories' holdings to boost the profiles of the repositories and promote historical tourism.

## **II Minutes of meeting – November 5, 2014**

Maslyn moved to approve the minutes. Franks requested an amendment to the minutes. Bernier seconded the motion. The amended minutes were unanimously approved.

## **III Board vacancy discussion**

Stearn presented the Board with a ballot on which members could vote for three candidates to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Marilyn Massaro. Stearn distributed the ballots and members cast their votes. She will contact the two top vote receivers to ascertain their willingness to serve and have their names sent to the Governor for her consideration. The third person would be kept in reserve should either of the other two not wish to serve. Stearn will write the Governor with two names and biographical information thereafter.

## **IV Updating the Board's strategic plan**

Stearn proposed that the Board initially review the current strategic

**plan to see what is still relevant, what would need to be amended or removed, and then discuss additions to the plan at future meetings. The Board proceeded to review the plan. Discussions will resume at the May 6th meeting.**

## **V News and announcements**

**Lopes informed the Board that Rhode Island College Library is weeding the collection to free up space in the library for the placement of student service agencies offices.**

**Maslyn mentioned that the University of Rhode Island and Salve Regina University will work on a joint project to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the National Endowment for the Humanities.**

**Stearn announced that the Council of State Archivists (CoSA) has written to the chairman of the (US) House Appropriations Committee requesting an increase in funding for the NHPRC. CoSA asked all state archivists to sign in endorsement.**

## **VI Adjournment**

**Maslyn moved to adjourn the meeting. Franks seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.**