

Rhode Island Historical Records Advisory Board

Minutes of Meeting – May 6, 2015

Rhode Island Supreme Court Judicial Records Center

5 Hill Street

Pawtucket, RI 02860

Attending: Maria Bernier, Allison Cywin, Donna DiMichele, Russell Franks, Stephen Grimes, Michael Hebert, Marlene Lopes, and Gwenn Stearn, chair.

Not attending: Jane Civins, Jonathan Galli, Dave Maslyn, and Peggy Long.

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

I Minutes of meeting – March 4, 2015

DiMichele moved to approve the minutes. Bernier seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

II Statewide digital portal update – Donna DiMichele

DiMichele reported as a member of the Marketing and Communications Committee. The committee has met with the

Steering Committee with the purpose to develop a short introductory film about the initiative. A future launch event will be planned. Grants are being sought to fund the initiative further. A project goal remains to become a hub of the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA).

III Continuing review of the current strategic plan

The Board continued its review of the plan. Discussions will resume on June 10th with the intention to begin updating the plan at the September 2nd meeting.

IV News and announcements

Bernier remarked that the Westerly Library became a Literary Landmark because the papers of Margaret Wise Brown are deposited there. She was the author of notable children's books, including Goodnight Moon, among others. Her biographer, Leonard Marcus, gave an eloquent speech at the dedication ceremony last Saturday, and spoke about the historical context within which she wrote.

Cywin reported that the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth has mounted a new exhibit on women authors and illustrators. She also spoke about the Innovation, Research and Learning Center program, a new cross-curriculum innovation and collaborative space for students.

DiMichele informed members about the New England Archivists' "Symposium on 19th Century Photography" on Saturday, November 7th in Providence. A workshop will be held at AS220 in the morning and the symposium will be held at Providence Public Library in the p.m.

Stearn reported that she had sent to the Governor, the Board's two suggested persons' names for the vacant Board seat. No response had yet been received.

V Adjournment

Bernier moved to adjourn the meeting. Franks seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Steve Grimes provided a tour of the Rhode Island Supreme Court Judicial Records Center thereafter.

Approved 9/2/2015