

**LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**Monday, September 20, 2010**  
**Minutes**

**The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on September 20, 2010 at 4:15 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room C, Second Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908**

**Members Present:** Chair, Mark McKenney, Kristin Chin, Kenneth Findlay, Ed Garcia, Phyllis Humphrey, Shirley Long, Alison Peirce, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas, Vice-Chair, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Mary Ann Slocomb, Ruth Sullivan, and Tom Viall

**Members Absent:** Regina Connor, Deborah Gist, Bart Hollingsworth, Carol Terry,

**Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS):**

Howard Boksenbaum, Debbie Cullerton, Donna DiMichele, Lauren Gage, Cathy McMahon, Karen Mellor and Cheryl Space

**Observers:** None

**Reporting:** Debbie Cullerton

**Materials Distributed:**

- Agenda
- Minutes of June 14, 2010
- FY 2011 Budget Update
- Proposed OLIS Waiver Procedure for Municipal Maintenance of Effort
- Glossary of Library Terms

Chair Mark McKenney convened the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Howard Boksenbaum and Karen Mellor introduced the newest member of the OLIS staff, Lauren Gage. She joined us on August 16<sup>th</sup> and will be working in the area of direct services to libraries, including the annual report, data and statistics, continuing education, and web development. Find out more about Lauren at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/news/2010/0830lps.php>

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the June 14, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved with minor formatting changes.

**Motion Moved By:** Rose Ellen Reynolds  
**Seconded By:** Mary Ann Slocomb

**III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – MARK MCKENNEY**

The Chair reported on the successful trip to Washington, D.C for National Library Advocacy Day. RI is fortunate that we have a very strong delegation representing us in Washington. Senator John F. Reed, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, and Representative James Langevin met with the RI delegation and as always listened to the concerns for Rhode Island libraries.

It is important that the Library Board of Rhode Island ensure that the new law makers understand about the plight of libraries and know the importance of supporting them.

#### **IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM**

##### **NTIA Grants**

Mr. Boksenbaum addressed the Board regarding three NTIA Grants received by:

- OSL - Ocean State Libraries' – in a month or so there will be routers in every public library location that is capable of taking advantage of the new bandwidth
- OSHEAN – Statewide Telecommunication Network  
Which provides high speed bandwidth – received a grant for 32 million to complete providing high speed bandwidth to the corners of the state that don't have any
- RIEDC - Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation – an announcement is expected before the end of the month that there will be \$300,000 for Digital Literacy Projects in libraries in RIEDC's second broadband mapping grant, which will total over \$3 million.

##### **Directors' Meeting**

The Chief Library Officer invited everyone to attend the Directors' meeting which will be held on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am at the Woonsocket Harris Public Library. This is a quarterly meeting for LORI library directors'. At this meeting the 3 recipients of the NTIA grants will be talking about what is actually going to happen, and what it means for our libraries.

##### **OSL Celebration**

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, Ocean State Libraries will hold a giant gala at the Cranston Public Library, celebrating all three of these grants. More information will be determined and announced at a later date.

##### **COLA**

COLA will hold a candidates' event on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the East Providence Weaver Library. To date, all of the gubernatorial candidates have been invited.

##### **COSLINE Training – Karen Mellor**

On October 20<sup>th</sup> thru the 22<sup>nd</sup> OLIS will be hosting a COSLINE Training Session on Goat Island. About 30 state library professionals from the Northeast are coming in for a three day gala of sharing among state library agencies. The topic for this year is 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.

There will be presentations by headliners from the Institute of Museum of Library Services, who published the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, movers and shakers, the director of the 911 Museum in New York, and others who are already putting the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills into action. Discussion will be held on how mobile technology is changing and changing what can we do in our libraries.

##### **National Library Services**

OLIS will also host the National Library Services Conference in Newport, RI in May 2012. Regional Librarians from the 50 states and US territories will attend the Conference for 5 days and enjoy RI hospitality.

##### **Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Program**

The Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Program is authorized as part of the FY 2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act that will be providing \$250 million of the ESEA to states for

a comprehensive literacy development and education program to advance literacy skills for students from birth through grade 12.

This program will operate much as LSTA does. There will be a base rate of \$150,000 for each state and then there will be money in addition to that which is going to be to further state literacy. There will also be discretionary grants. Striving Readers will be administered by each state's K-12 agency; in RI, RIDE.

It is important that there be library representation on the committee that crafts Rhode Island's state plan. OLIS has been working with RIEMA to make sure that there is a representative from the school library community and that Cheryl Space (OLIS Library Program Specialist: Youth Services) be part of that committee.

### **Annual Reports**

The annual reports from public libraries including Applications for Grant-in-Aid, and Certifications of Appropriation and Expenditure were due on September 15<sup>th</sup>. All but 5 have arrived in our office. Of those 5, two had been granted extensions. At the next meeting we will report on the Waivers of Standards and of the Maintenance of Effort requirement.

### **Budget**

A FY 2011 Budget Update handout was distributed to the Board.

Highlights of what is going on in our budget.

- There is an additional \$140,000 in LSTA money thanks to Senator Jack Reed
- Belt tightening and increased LSTA funding made us able to hire a new Library Program Specialist, and provide LORI grants.
- Our FTE cap remains at 13
- Resources Sharing and State Library Aid are level funded
- Construction funded at requested \$2,492,974

Howard Boksenbaum answered questions from the Board.

If OLIS fails to receive a federal Maintenance of Effort Waiver our LSTA allotment will be decreased by \$31,000.

Going forward with the state budget, OLIS has been asked (along with all other state agencies) to prepare 2 budget levels from the current year, FY2011 and for FY 2012. In addition to an "unconstrained budget; i.e., no change, there will be:

- FY 2011 with a \$13,880 OLIS reduction
- FY 2012 with a \$139,604 reduction

Grants; i.e., Resource Sharing and State Aid to Libraries as well as Public Library Construction Reimbursement will be held harmless for the reductions; level funded in FY2011 and 2012.

### **LORI Grants – Donna DiMichele**

The RI Office of Library and Information Services is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Grants. OLIS offers LORI Grants with funds from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the [Grants to States Program](#) supported by the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

This is the first time in 5 years that OLIS is able to offer competitive grants. What is different than the past, is that literacy grants are no longer separate grants and are now included in LORI grants. Any LORI library is eligible to apply. Ms. DiMichele encouraged everyone spread the word to your libraires and apply. About \$150,000 will be distributed.

Guidelines for these grants can be viewed at  
<http://www.olis.ri.gov/grants/lsta/lori/announcement.php>

Mr. Boksenbaum asked the Library Board members for volunteers to be part of an Ad Hoc Committee to help evaluate the proposals as they come in and to recommend awards.. Donna DiMichele will be convening the committee. Volunteering for the Committee are:

Rose Ellen Reynolds, Joan Ress Reeves, Tom Viall, Shirley Long, Ruth Sullivan

### **Transition**

Howard Boksenbaum reported that transition to the next governor has begun. OLIS has been working on telling our story. The first documents will be submitted to the Department of Administration Directors' office tomorrow.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Public Relations**

Ed Garcia reported that the Public Relations Committee has completed updating and editing the Rhode Island Library Glossary of Acronyms and Terms. Handouts were distributed. The next meeting will be scheduled in a couple of weeks.

### **Legislation**

Rose Ellen Reynolds reported that there has been no activity.

### **Ad hoc CCCC**

Joan Ress Reeves reported that the CCCC has completed the long document with only some minor formatting remaining to be done. The short document needs to be reworked, because it isn't "jazzy" enough. This document is intended for the public and legislators. Ms. Reeves has asked the committee about meeting again to discuss options.

### **Ad hoc MOE**

The Ad Hoc Maintenance of Effort Waiver Response Committee had presented a draft policy and procedure at the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, following which the Chair had asked the Board to review the draft document over the summer and be prepared to vote on it at the September meeting. The draft was distributed and an overview of the document was given by Mr. Boksenbaum. Following a brief discussion, the vote was taken.

**Rose Ellen Reynolds moved and Ed Garcia seconded and the Board unanimously approved a motion that the Library Board of Rhode Island approve the Policy and Procedure regarding requests for waiver of MOE.**

[The draft is attached.](#)

## **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

The Chair suggested that now that the legislation has been changed it might be a good time to revisit the bylaws with an eye toward cleaning everything up. The bylaws were last visited about 5 years ago by Rose Ellen Reynolds and Joan Ress Reeves. Mark McKenney will meet with Ms. Reynolds and Ms. Reeves for that purpose..

The Chair then suggested that as in previous years, we might want to ask the major candidates for governor their views about library issues. He will draw up a letter on behalf of the Board and send out to candidates. He will indicate that the Board will be sharing their responses with the library community via our website.

The Chair of the Library Board requested that a roster of Board committees and committee members be made available to Library Board members before the next meeting.

Mary Ann Slocumb announced that ARIHSAL is holding its regional chapter conference October 24 – 26 in Newport at the Marriot. If anyone is interested it is referred to as NASAL. <http://www.nahsl.org/>

## **IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**None**

## **X. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Next meeting of the Board will be held on October 18, 2010. The Board directed OLIS to look into holding that meeting at the East Providence Weaver Library and including a presentation on the new approach to library services that they are implementing in their library.

## **XI. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

## **OLIS Waiver Procedure for Municipal Maintenance of Effort**

### Statutory Background

Rhode Island General Law 29-6-3(a)(1) requires a municipality to “. . .appropriate from local tax revenues an amount not less than the amount appropriated the previous year from local tax revenues and expended for library operating expenses. . .” in order for its public library or libraries to qualify for state aid. That appropriation must exclude any state funds received for public library services. Furthermore, state funds may not supplant funding from local tax revenues. This is the maintenance of effort requirement (MOE).

### Procedure

The Chief Library Officer will annually determine each municipality's compliance with the MOE by comparing appropriation and expenditure amounts as reported by the library or libraries of that municipality in their annual report to the Office of Library and Information Services. In the event that a municipality is shown in that report to have failed to meet the MOE, the Chief Library Officer will notify the municipality and its libraries that it is not eligible for a state grant in aid.

A municipality so notified that it is unable to comply with the MOE may request a waiver from that requirement by submitting a letter to the Chief Library Officer. The Chief Library Officer will consider the circumstances of the municipality, the request and any documentation that accompanies it and determine on the basis of the supporting documentation whether to grant the waiver. The Chief Library Officer will respond in writing within six weeks of receipt of a waiver request.

### The waiver request

A request for a waiver from MOE must include a statement of

- A. The amount of the appropriation that would be required for MOE and evidence that the municipality, through its regular budget process, has appropriated an amount inadequate to meet the requirement.
- B. The impact the reduction will have on library services to the people of the municipality, including an enumeration of those services that will be curtailed.

In addition, the municipality must provide evidence that:

1. There exist extenuating circumstances that prevent fully funding the MOE;
2. The decrease in funding of library services is comparable to decreases to funding of other municipal services;
3. There has been a serious consideration of what percentage of the municipal budget is represented by library services and how reducing that will help balance the overall budget;

4. Reductions to the funding of library services will not impair the municipality's ability to meet Minimum Standard for Rhode Island Public Libraries or to make a case for waivers from those standards it cannot meet, including plans to return to compliance;
5. The municipality is committed to restoring library services enumerated in statement B above curtailed by the reduction of funding.

#### Appeal Procedure

If the request for the waiver is denied, the municipality may appeal the decision by filing a written notice of appeal within ten days of the decision. A letter of appeal must be sent to the Chair, Library Board of Rhode Island with a copy to the Chief Library Officer. The appeal will be heard by the Library Board of Rhode Island at its regular meeting or within six weeks, whichever comes first. Written response to the appeal will be sent to the municipality and its libraries within ten days of the appeal hearing.

Approved by the Library Board of RI September 20, 2010

**LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**Monday, October 18, 2010**  
**Minutes**

**The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held  
on October 18, 2010 at 4:15 p.m. at the  
East Providence Public Library  
41 Grove Street  
East Providence, RI 02908**

**Members Present:** Chair, Mark McKenney, Kristin Chin, Regina Connor, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Shirley Long, Phyllis Lynch, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas, Mary Ann Slocomb, and Ruth Sullivan.

**Members Absent:** Kenneth Findlay, Ed Garcia, Alison Peirce, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Carol Terry, and Tom Viall

**Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS):**  
Howard Boksenbaum, Debbie Cullerton, Cathy McMahon, and Karen Mellor

**Observers:** Al Arsenault

**Reporting:** Debbie Cullerton

**Materials Distributed:**

- Agenda
- Minutes of September 20, 2010
- Connecting to Collections – A report to the Nation – RI excerpt

Chair Mark McKenney convened the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Mark McKenney welcomed everyone and thanked Eileen Socha and her staff at the East Providence Public Library for hosting the Board.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the September 20, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved with minor formatting changes.

**Motion Moved By:** Mary Ann Slocomb  
**Seconded By:** Ruth Sullivan

**III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – MARK MCKENNEY**

Mr. McKenney was filling in for Tom Viall in his absence. As reported to the Library Board last month, Tom Viall was appointed by the Governor as the new Chair of the Library Board. Mark McKenney was stepping down from the position after serving more than 10 years. He will remain on the Board representing General Library Users.



#### **IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM**

##### **Mark McKenney**

Howard Boksenbaum publicly thanked Mark McKenney for his contribution to the Board and his many years of service.

##### **Phyllis Lynch**

Mr. Boksenbaum welcomed as the newest member of the Board, Phyllis Lynch. Dr. Lynch will be representing Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner of the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

##### **Connecting to Collections Grant**

We had had a planning grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to figure out what to do with Disaster Planning and Preservation not only in libraries but in cultural heritage institutions of all kinds throughout the State of Rhode Island. The IMLS has published a Report to the Nation on all of the grants that were given all around the country. A printout of the section of the report pertaining to Rhode Island was distributed to the Library Board along with a URL of the full report online. That planning grant was the basis of OLIS' current \$250,000 IMLS implementation grant, "Protecting the Past – RI"

##### **Jumpstart Project**

The Jumpstart Project has people reading the same book at the same time all around the world. This year the book was Ezra Jack Keats' "The Snowy Day". Cheryl Space and Neshmayda Calderon from the OLIS staff read the book in English and Spanish in the atrium at the Department of Administration to the day care children. There were approximately 18 two through five year olds in the audience. We hope to discover when it's all done and counted that once again this year, we contributed to achievement of the million readers/listeners mark this year. For more information, or to view pictures, the Board was encouraged to go to the OLIS website.

##### **National Book Festival**

OLIS staff members, Cheryl Space and Alicia Waters traveled to Washington, D.C. to staff a Rhode Island booth at the National Book Festival on the mall sponsored by the Library of Congress September 25 and 26. They stamped attendees' maps with RI anchors and gave away, among other things, Rhode Island Tourism materials. Over 100,000 people attended the event. Additional information, pictures and a link to the Library of Congress are on the OLIS website.

##### **Directors' Meeting**

OLIS convened a RI library directors' meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup>, at the Woonsocket Harris Public Library. The lead recipients of the three NTIA grants that will be benefiting RI libraries each made a presentation of their grant project. Directors heard about

- OSL - Ocean State Libraries, whose \$1.6 million BTOP (Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program) grant will install routers capable of taking advantage of increased bandwidth and 600+ computers in every public library location. The grant will also strategically locate 10 mobile computing labs in public libraries and provide training for library staff and users.
- OSHEAN – Ocean State Higher Education and Administration Network–, which has received a BTOP grant of \$32 million to complete a "middle mile" fiber network to provide high speed bandwidth to the corners of RI and Southeastern Massachusetts that don't have adequate connectivity.

- RIEDC - Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation which has received a second BDDP (Broadband Data and Development Program) grant of \$3.5 million \$300,000 for Digital Literacy Projects in libraries.

### **OSL Celebration**

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, Ocean State Libraries will hold a giant gala at the Cranston Public Library, celebrating all three of these grants. All Library Board members should have received an invitation. Senator Jack Reed, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse and Congressman James Langervin will be there. Each of the Lead Agencies from OSL, OSHEAN, and RIEDC will also be attending. Tom Viall will be the MC.

### **Maintenance of Effort**

Procedures that were put in place and adopted by the Library Board are being followed. Six communities failed to meet their MOE requirement.

- Central Falls
- Cumberland
- East Providence
- Foster
- Narragansett
- South Kingstown

Letters have gone out notifying municipal officials that their community, having failed to meet MOE requirement is ineligible for their state library grant but may apply for a waiver. Three are in discussion, and OLIS is waiting on others.

### **Standards Waivers**

We have received waiver requests from 13 libraries for 31 waivers. Most were either for grandfathered staff extensions or building accessibility problems.

### **Annual Reports**

There are 17 libraries with problems with their annual report submissions. All have been contacted and most have been solved.

### **NELA**

Mr. Boksenbaum attended the NELA Conference. There was a sharing session and from what he heard despite everything Rhode Island really is doing quite well compared to the other 6 New England states. It seems many of our counterpart agencies are going through the downsizing RI experienced in the 90's. Hardest hit is Massachusetts, which has had to consolidate its library regions into a single service center.

### **LSTA Evaluation Report**

The LSTA evaluation report is due on March 31, 2012. Howard Boksenbaum has begun work on that by joining with other states to prepare a group RFP as had been done for the last evaluation report five years ago. So far Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maryland, New Jersey and Massachusetts have signed on.

### **LORI Grants – Donna DiMichele**

The deadline to apply for a LORI Grant is October 29<sup>th</sup>. Thus far we have one application plus a few inquiries.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Public Relations**

None.

### **Legislation**

In Rose Ellen Reynolds absence, Howard Boksenbaum reported that the Karla Harry Commission met on October 14, 2010. The theme of the meeting, in light of the upcoming elections was the “current” nature of the co-chairs, who, if re-elected, plan to continue as co-chairs and pursue making the Commission permanent.

### **Ad hoc CCCC**

Joan Ress Reeves reported that the CCCC has met and that the Ad hoc committee may be looking for some professional help in reworking the short document which still isn't “jazzy” enough. This document is intended for the public and legislators. The longer document, which is much more detail orientated, is meant for the librarians. This document is nearly complete.

## **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mary Ann Slocomb quickly recapped the “Health Information Outreach for Seniors” program OLIS is performing in partnership with Lifespan, Inc. with funding from the National LNetwork of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) for the benefit of members not familiar with the project.

The training sessions for Outreach to Seniors have been held so far at the Pawtucket, South Kingstown and Barrington public libraries, and the Cranston Senior Center. Additional session will be held at Newport Public Library and the East Providence Senior Center. The classes have been getting great reviews. Ms. Slocomb has been a little disappointed with the numbers, however. This is round one, and the project steering committee will be submitting a second grant proposal to NN/LM and LORI.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

The Chair reminded the Board that a tour of the East Providence Public Library by Director, Eileen Sosha will follow the meeting. The presentation will show the new approach to library services that East Providence is implementing in the Weaver Library.

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**None**

## **IX. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Next meeting of the Board will be held on November 15, 2010, at the Department of Administration, Conference Room C.

## **XI. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

**LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**Monday, November 15, 2010**  
**Draft Minutes**

**The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held  
on November 15, 2010 at 4:15 p.m.  
at the Department of Administration,  
Conference Room C, Second Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908**

**Members Present:** Tom Viall, Chair, Kristin Chin, Ed Garcia, Shirley Long, Phyllis Lynch, Alison Peirce, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas, Mary Ann Slocomb, and Carol Terry

**Members Absent:** Regina Connor, Kenneth Findlay, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Mark McKenney, Rose Ellen Reynolds, and Ruth Sullivan.

**Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS):**  
Howard Boksenbaum, Debbie Cullerton, Donna DiMichele, and Karen Mellor

**Observers:** Al Arsenault

**Reporting:** Debbie Cullerton

**Materials Distributed:**

- Agenda
- Minutes of October 18, 2010 meeting of the Board
- State Aid to Libraries FY 2012 (estimated)
- National Library Legislative Day reservation information

Chair Tom Viall convened the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Tom Viall welcomed everyone and thanked the members of the Board for all their support, nice comments, and cards he received as he takes on the role of Chair of the Library Board of Rhode Island. He also thanked Mark McKenney for the many years of service he has provided to the Library Board.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the October 18, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved with minor grammatical changes.

**Moved:** Mary Ann Slocomb

**Seconded:** Shirley Long

**unanimously adopted**

**III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Tom Viall**

Mr. Viall reported that he has been doing a lot of reflecting on what this Board can do. He is looking forward to working with each and every one of the Library Board members and to future meetings that can define what tasks the Board must undertake.

Mr. Viall also reported that, with the help of Joan Ress Reeves, he sent out a congratulatory letter on behalf of the Board to Governor Elect Lincoln Chafee. A copy of the letter was emailed to Library Board Members. He also requested a meeting with the Governor Elect Chafee and once he hears back he will notify the Board Members to see if anyone would be able to attend.

Board members thought it would be a good idea for the Chair to also send a letter to David N. Cicilline as newly elected state representative. There followed a

**Motion to send a letter of congratulations to Representative –elect Cicilline**

**Moved:** Joan Ress Reeves  
**Seconded:** Mary Ann Slocomb

**unanimously approved.**

Also Board members wanted to send a congratulatory letter to Representative James R. Langevin on his re-election to office. There followed a

**Motion to send a letter of congratulations to Representative Langevin on his re-election.**

**Moved:** Joan Ress Reeves  
**Seconded:** Mary Ann Slocomb

**unanimously approved.**

**IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER’S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM**

**New Director of Administration**

Howard Boksenbaum announced that Richard Licht has been appointed by Governor Elect Lincoln Chafee to the position of Director of Administration pending Senate approval. Members talked about drafting a letter to Mr. Licht but decided to wait until the Senate acted.

**Budget Notes**

Howard conjectured that both OLIS and the library grants will be level funded for FY2012 and that construction reimbursement will be funded at the requested level.

**FY 2012 Grant - in- Aid – Karen Mellor**

Given level funding and the municipal expenditure data from the annual reports, FY2012 grant-in-aid to municipalities will be 22.2 % of the amount appropriated and expended in FY2010. Ms Mellor shared with the Board a table of estimated municipal grants-in-aid.

**FY2011 Grants-in-aid and Maintenance of Effort**

Four municipalities have yet to resolve maintenance of effort problems. Two of them, South Kingstown and Foster, have submitted requests for waivers. Another, Cumberland, is moving to reopen the Town budget and add to the library’s appropriation. The fourth, Central Falls, because of the complexity of issues it faces, will require further discussion.

Two other municipalities, West Warwick and Westerly, have yet to complete their annual submissions because they haven’t completed their D-Plans.

OLIS also distributes state Grants-in-Aid to two institutional libraries, the libraries at the ACI and at the RI School for the Deaf. The ACI has completed its annual report; the RI School of the Deaf has not yet submitted their annual report.

### **LORI Grants – Donna DiMichele**

This year, in addition to the state grants, OLIS is able to offer a round of LSTA subgrants. Three subgrants have been awarded to programs that OLIS has been supporting with LSTA funding on an ongoing basis:

RI Family Literacy - \$40,000  
RILINK - \$35,000  
Coventry Public Library - \$15,191

Additional LSTA subgrants will be awarded as part of the competitive grant program announced at the previous Board meeting. To date, there have been 16 applications. The ad hoc committee established at the previous meeting will convene to judge those grants and the awards will be announced toward the end of the year.

Shirley Long questioned why the ongoing grants were not included with the other 16 applications that the committee would be reviewing. Donna DiMichele explained that they were ongoing projects that addressed the top priorities of literacy and network building and that the competitive grant program would address a second level of priorities. Joan Ress Reeves pointed out that the Library Board in the past, has been the one to award grants. Howard explained that with the change from LSCA to LSTA that ceased to be a requirement. Howard went on to say that he would like the Board to take a bigger role at the policy level of the use of LSTA funds. The ad hoc evaluation committee is a beginning of that. He expressed the hope that next year OLIS and the Board will be in a position work more closely together on LSTA. Discussion followed.

### **Protecting the Past – Donna DiMichele**

OLIS has negotiated a contract with Preserve RI (PRI) to manage certain parts of the project. Project manager Eileen Warburton and her assistant (yet to be named) will work for PRI. Ms DiMichele discussed the role that the new project manager will have. Her assistant will be charged primarily with creating a database of cultural and heritage collection institutions. The Disaster and Preparedness Workshop was well attended and successful. A simulation of a disaster was created and participants explored how to handle the situation.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills – Karen Mellor & Donna DiMichele**

Donna DiMichele and Karen Mellor put together a workshop for the Chief Officers of State Libraries in the NorthEast (COSLINE) in Newport at the end of November, which had a side benefit of economic development for the State of RI.

The three day conference workshop at the Hyatt in Newport, RI, brought together 30 people from 13 state library agencies plus representatives of IMLS and speakers to discuss 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and libraries. It also included a trip to the Redwood Library.

### **Rhodarian**

Karen Mellor announced to the Library Board that Rhodarian is back up on the OLIS website and better than ever. We have a new system to run it on. Ms. Mellor was recently at the Internet Librarian Conference. If you go to Rhodarian you will be able to read some of the things that she participated in.

### **National Library Legislation Day – Debbie Cullerton**

ALA\_Washington Office has already provided information about National Library Legislation Day will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Rooms have already been blocked out.

Ms. Cullerton distributed to the Library Board reservation information with the contact information for those wanting to attend.

### **IMLS - Howard Boksebaum**

Howard informed the Board that President Obama has nominated Susan Hildreth as new director of IMLS and is awaiting Senate approval.

### **Providence Public Library - Howard Boksebaum**

Providence's libraries have been in the news, especially the battle between PPL and PCL over the branch library buildings. Among the items that appeared in the press was a statement from PPL Board Chair William Simmons and a press release on the PPL website implying that the Providence Public Library receives no government. Actually, PPL receives upwards of \$400,000 annually as Endowment-based state Grant-in-aid and approximately \$1 million for the Statewide Reference Resource Center at the Providence Public Library. Howard reported that OLIS has so far stayed out of the fray, but would like to have the record set straight. Tom Viall suggested that a reminder in the form of a letter, in the nicest possible way, saying that those statements are not accurate, be sent to Providence Public Library. Discussion followed. There followed a

**Motion that the chair send a letter to Providence Public Library's Board of Trustees reminding them that they do indeed receive state aid.**

**Moved: Ed Garcia**  
**Seconded: Kristen Chin**

**unanimously approved.**

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Public Relations**

No report; however Ed Garcia had a request. Mr. Garcia is looking for direction from the Board on any new tasks that the Committee could be working on. Tom Viall suggested that there will be some significant documents coming out of the CCC and that maybe members could channel some of those energies into those documents.

He also pointed out that OLIS and the Board will soon have to take up the tasks of reviewing regulations including Minimum Standards for RI Public Libraries, LORI Standards and construction program regulations. Next month we will put planning these on the agenda.

### **Legislation**

No report.

### **Ad hoc CCCC**

Joan Ress Reeves reported that the CCCC is still working on the long document. Howard needs to get information to Ed Garcia for completion. The short version is still isn't "jazzy" enough. Ms. Reeves stated that at the last committee meeting Howard made the wonderful suggestion that Don Bousquet be approached to help us out. He has done some free work for libraries before. But first the Board must be certain what it wants to convey.

Joan also suggested that the brochures not use the name OLIS, but something more dynamic instead, perhaps "RI Library Lifeline" instead. The CCCC also suggests that to the Board hire professional help. Kristen Chin suggested adding stories to the document.

### **Ad hoc Delivery Committee – Tom Viall**

The Committee did a test of 5 libraries of various sizes, in one week where they were not required to put their items for shipment into plastic bags. Fortunately, the weather was ideal.

The libraries reported that it was much faster not having to use the bags -- enough so that the Committee will make a proposal to the Board for OLIS to purchasing covered bins. At the next meeting the Committee will be working on a to-do list and that information will be forthcoming to the Board.

## **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **OSL Celebration**

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, Ocean State Libraries held a gala at the Cranston Public Library, celebrating three Internet grants from OSL, OSHEAN, and RIEDC. Ed Garcia reported that it was a successful event. Organizers were a little dismayed that they couldn't get the congressional delegation to attend as was proposed, but President Obama was in Rhode Island and Senator Jack Reed, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse and Congressman James Langevin all put their schedules on hold. 77 people attended. Tom Viall was MC.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Joan Ress Reeves wanted to know what members of the Library Board thought about the tour last month at East Providence Public Library. Members responded that they were impressed with what East Providence has implemented. Discussion followed regarding the trends of the future and other libraries would be exploring doing the same.

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **IX. FUTURE MEETINGS**

There will be no December meeting. The next meeting of the Board will be held on January 24, 2010 at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B.

## **XI. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.



**LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**Monday, January 24, 2011**  
**Minutes**

**The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held  
on January 24, 2011 at 4:15 p.m.  
at the Department of Administration,  
Conference Room B, Second Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908**

**Members Present:** Tom Viall, Chair, Kristen Chin, Kenneth Findlay, Ed Garcia, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Phyllis Lynch, Mark McKenney, Alison Peirce, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas, Rose Ellen Reynolds, and Ruth Sullivan.

**Members Absent:** Regina Connor, Shirley Long, Mary Ann Slocomb, Carol Terry

**Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS):**  
Howard Boksenbaum, Debbie Cullerton, and Donna DiMichele

**Observers:** Dale Thompson, Providence Public Library and Eileen Dyer, President-Elect of RILA

**Reporting:** Debbie Cullerton

**Materials Distributed:**

- Agenda
- Minutes of November 24, 2010 meeting of the Board
- OLIS Monthly Report – December 2010
- OLIS Monthly Report – January 2011
- Museum and Library Services Press Release
- Title 44 Taxation Law – Chapter 44-3
- Ad hoc Delivery Committee – Report and recommendations of Inter-Library Delivery Bins

Chair Tom Viall convened the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Tom Viall welcomed everyone back from holiday break.

On behalf of the Library Board of Rhode Island Tom Viall presented Mark McKenney with a plaque acknowledging the 10 years of service he provided to the Library Board of Rhode Island as Chair and as a member of the Board

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the November 24, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved with corrections.

**Moved:** Rose Ellen Reynolds  
**Seconded:** Mark McKenney

**unanimously adopted**

### **III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Tom Viall**

Mr. Viall reported that, congratulatory letters were sent out as requested to:

- Governor Lincoln Chafee
- newly elected Representative David Cicilline
- re-elected Representative James Langevin

Mr Viall further reported that he has not yet heard back from the Governor's office regarding his request to meet with Governor Chafee. Once he hears back he will notify the Board members.

Now that Richard Licht has been approved by the Senate as Director of Administrator, Tom Viall will be sending out a congratulations letter on behalf of the Board as was discussed at the last Board meeting.

Tom let the Board know that a few Board members were not at the meeting because of health issues, namely Mary Ann Slocomb, who is recovering from knee surgery, Regina Connor, who is recovering from an accident and Karen Mellor from OLIS who is recovering from foot surgery. Cards to send to all three were distributed around the table for signatures and get well wishes.

The Chair reported to the Board on Barbara Weaver's passing. Barbara Weaver was the first CIO for the State of Rhode Island. Several people from the Board attended her memorial service which was not a wake, but a celebration of her life. A debt of gratitude is owed to this extraordinary person for having pushed forward so many missions in so many arenas and for her support for libraries from the time she was driving a bookmobile in Connecticut to the time she spent as director of OLIS and after her retirement as well.

Mr. Viall turned the floor over to Howard, who noted that if you have anything to do with libraries in Rhode Island, you are living the legacy of Barbara Weaver, referred everyone to the OLIS website [www.olis.state.ri.gov](http://www.olis.state.ri.gov) for more about Barbara and asked the Board to honor her today with a moment of silence.

Mr. Viall then reminded the Library Board that he had sent a letter to the Providence Public Library regarding the press releases in which they had neglected to mention the support they receive from the state. He received a very nice reply from the Chair of the PPL Board of Trustees, William S. Simmons, stating that it had been an oversight and that PPL is appreciative of the state's contribution. Mr. Simmons also invited Mr. Viall to tour the library and to meet with him. A meeting has tentatively been set for Wednesday. The Chair will report back next month to let the Library Board know of its outcome.

### **IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM**

#### **Governor Chafee/Director of Administration**

Governor Lincoln Chafee and the Director of Administration, Richard Licht, made rounds at the Department of Administration, stopping by people's desks introducing themselves and thanking staff for their hard work. Governor Chafee spoke with several staff members from OLIS bringing up several projects and encounters he has had with libraries. He had nothing but positive comments.

#### **Monthly Reports**

Howard brought the Board's attention to the two monthly reports that were emailed to Library Board members along with the minutes and agenda. Using the format of the monthly

reports that OLIS submits to the Director of Administration, he will now be fulfilling his promise to have regular reports to the Board. Board members were encouraged to critique the reports and request additional information they might like to see. He will be sharing these monthly reports to give the Library Board a better idea of what OLIS is working on, and what OLIS is doing on a month-to-month basis.

Howard also called attention to the AskRI Question log. Now that Lauren Gage is on board, OLIS will again be issuing these monthly reports

#### **FY2011 Grants-in-aid and Maintenance of Effort**

All RI municipalities have now qualified for their 2011 grant-in-aid. Funds have been disbursed for the first two quarters of the tax based grant-in-aid and all of the endowment based grant-in-aid.

Of the communities that hadn't met the MOE, Cumberland re-opened their budget and added to the appropriation for the library. Central Falls reviewed their application and corrected errors that made all the numbers work out. South Kingstown and Foster applied for and received waivers under the Board's new procedure.

West Warwick and Westerly, which were having difficulty, finally completed their D-Plans.

The one Institution that was having eligibility problems, the School for the Deaf, completed their move into a new facility and finished up their annual report and application.

#### **LSTA Subgrants – Donna DiMichele**

The subcommittee did a stellar job with the process of reviewing LORI grant proposals and in making funding recommendations to OLIS.

The sub-committee consisted of Board members Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Shirley Long, Ruth Sullivan, Tom Viall and a non-Board member Jennifer, Bond of Bryant University. A total of 16 grants were awarded.

- Exeter Public Library – Amount Awarded: \$21,402
- Mayor Salvatore Mancini Union Free Public Library - Amount Awarded: \$12,763
- Providence Community Library - Amount Awarded: \$50,000
- Ocean State Libraries - Amount Awarded: \$40,000
- Warwick Public Library - Amount Awarded: \$20,000
- Providence Public Library - Amount Awarded: \$15,000
- North Kingstown Free Library - Amount Awarded: \$9,125
- RI State Law Library and RI State Library - Amount Awarded: \$12,000
- Pawtucket Public Library - Amount Awarded: \$6,000
- East Providence Public Library - Amount Awarded: \$1,500
- Redwood Library and Athenaeum - Amount Awarded: \$10,000
- Providence Public Library - Amount Awarded: \$5,390

In total OLIS awarded a total of \$203,180

More information is available at the OLIS website [www.olis.state.ri.gov](http://www.olis.state.ri.gov) .

## **IMLS**

Howard referred to the Press Release that announces President Obama's signing of the LSTA reauthorization act.

Howard noted three particular changes in the reauthorized instance of LSTA. First, a new emphasis on research and data. OLIS just hired a research and data person (Lauren Gage); that is a positive change.

Second, the legislation now allows collaboration with other agencies, such as the Department of Labor and the Department of Education, especially in workforce development. Again, OLIS has begun this work with Project Compass and with the collaboration with DLT around the floods last March.

Third, education in and utilization of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills are specifically encouraged in the new LSTA. OLIS has begun exploring in-house what that could mean to OLIS programs.

Howard reported that thanks in particular to the efforts of Senator Reed, FEMA now recognizes public libraries as essential community organizations entitled to reimbursement as temporary relocation facilities. Susan Hildreth has been approved by the Senate as the new director of IMLS.

## **Broadband RI**

Three major grants that relate to development of Broadband have been awarded in RI. All have very positive ramifications for the state's libraries More information can be found at the OLIS website at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/news/2010/oshean.pdf>

## **Center for the Book**

Howard reported that the Center for the Book will be leaving Providence Public Library on June 30, 2011. He called on Donna DiMichele who is a member of the Center for the Book Board and told the Board that CFB will be seeking a new home. She asked Board members who have any ideas to let her know, as the CFB executive board will be preparing an RFP soon. Reading Across Rhode Island will go with Center for the Book to its new location.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Legislation**

Rose Ellen Reynolds reported on senate bill S0056 relating to Library Reference Resource Centers. The bill was introduced by: Senators Perry, Miller, McCaffrey, DeVall, and Nesselbush. Reference Resource Center was formerly at the Providence Public Library. If the bill passes the center may be located in a public library to be chosen yearly by the Office of Library & Information Services. This bill provides that the location of the reference resource center be chosen from requests for proposals submitted to library systems annually. Discussion followed. For more information see the OLIS legislation tracker at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/news/legislation/index.php>

### **Public Relations**

No report.

### **Ad hoc CCCC**

No report.

### **Ad hoc Delivery Committee – Tom Viall**

Tom Viall distributed a detailed request to the Board for OLIS to replace the current bins that they use in their system with covered bins. Tom displayed a covered bin to the Board.

**Motion that the Board recommend to OLIS that they find a way to implement the replacement of the current bins with the new covered bins.**

**Moved: Ed Garcia**  
**Seconded: Rose Ellen Reynolds**

**unanimously approved.**

## **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The Chair stated that he would like to revitalize some of the committees of the Library Board and perhaps create some new ones as needed. There is, he said, a large scope of projects ahead. Discussion followed.

Tom Viall asked for volunteers to join Rose Ellen Reynolds in a newly reinvigorated Legislation Committee. Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas, Phyllis Humphrey, and Ed Garcia volunteered to either continue on the Committee or to join it.

Other Committees will be formed in the near future, once the Board's needs become clear.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **IX. FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the Board will be held on February 28, 2011 at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B.

## **XI. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

## LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

Monday, February 28, 2011

Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held  
on February 28, 2011 at 4:15 p.m.  
at the Department of Administration,  
Conference Room B, Second Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

**Members Present:** Tom Viall, Chair, Kristen Chin, Kenneth Findlay, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Shirley Long, Phyllis Lynch, Mark McKenney, Alison Peirce, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas, Carol Terry, and Ruth Sullivan.

**Members Absent:** Regina Connor, Ed Garcia, Rose Ellen Reynolds, and Mary Ann Slocomb,

**Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS):**  
Howard Boksenbaum, Debbie Cullerton, and Donna DiMichele

**Observers:** Al Arsenault, Eileen Dyer, President-Elect of RILA

**Reporting:** Debbie Cullerton

### Materials Distributed:

- Broad Band Brochure and stickers
- "Facts about RI Libraries" brochure
- National Library Legislation Day Information and Registration
- CCCC Adhoc Committee draft of short PR document
- Memo sent to Public Library Directors, "Planning for your FY2012 Grant-in-aid"

Chair Tom Viall convened the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

## I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Tom Viall welcomed all Board Members.

## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the November 24, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved with corrections and clarification.

**Moved:** Joan Ress Reeves

**Seconded:** Mark McKenney

**unanimously adopted**

## III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Tom Viall

Tom has scheduled a meeting with Susan Bernstein, a member of the Governor's Policy Team for 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 9th. Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds and Howard Boksenbaum will be accompanying Tom.

Tom has also rescheduled his meeting with Providence Public Library for Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Ed Garcia will be joining Tom for that meeting and a tour of the library.

Tom noted that he had been in Kansas City when the COLA event took place at the State House on February 16th. He asked members of the Board who had attended to give an overview of the COLA event.

Joan Ress Reeves and Howard Boksenbaum reported that the event was well attended. The governor came and spoke very positively about libraries. Awards were given out. The

sweetheart of the year was Library Board Member, Mark McKenney, who gave a wonderful acceptance speech. Living Literature did a performance and did a wonderful job. COLA also gave out scholarships and 4 awards.

Prior to the COLA Meeting, the Karla Harry Commission and RILA had held a love your library event. Both the Senate and the House proclaimed February 16<sup>th</sup> of 2011 be "I Love Libraries Day" in the State of Rhode Island. A number of library related folks gathered with displays and that attracted a large crowd. Howard cited the RIEMA table as particularly impressive. Phyllis Humphrey described a video presentation about Vietnam that had been prepared by a student at Narragansett High School that provided a telling argument for having librarians in schools.

#### **IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM**

##### **Federal Budget**

Howard thanked everyone who had written to their representatives regarding Amendment 35 to the federal continuing budget resolution; it was withdrawn before the continuing resolution passed the house and IMLS funding survived for another two weeks.

##### **State Budget**

The Governor is due to present his budget proposal on 3/8/2011. Howard is extremely optimistic about Grant-In-Aid, Library Construction and OLIS' funding but could not say anything specific.

##### **FY2012 local funding, Grants-in-aid and Maintenance of Effort**

Howard is already hearing of difficulties some municipalities may have next year. As a result he has once more once again sent a memo to public library directors explaining the grant-in-aid and the maintenance of effort requirement. The memo, which was distributed, was intended to be shared with municipal CFOs and other officials.

Kristen Chin reported that she took that memo to her (Foster) Town Council in hopes that it helped spare the Foster Libraries from substantial cuts. The budget workshop will take place this week and Kristin is asking for 5% to be put back into the library budget. She doesn't anticipate that the Council will approve that but In May she plans to take it before the people at Town Meeting, when, hopefully, people will see it our way.

##### **CFO Visits Progress Report**

Cathy McMahan and Howard have been traveling around from town hall to town hall to talk with the CFO's and Library Directors together to clarify OLIS reporting requirements and the role of the state in funding public libraries. So far, there has been an awful lot of good feeling on both sides. They have divided the visits into three parts:

- Section 1: municipalities where the libraries reported more than their municipal budget reported
- Section 2: municipalities that reported spending more on libraries than the libraries reported getting
- Section 3 municipalities where the library and municipal reports are equal)

Cathy and Howard are almost finished with section 1. they has been to East Providence, Barrington, Warren, Coventry, and Narragansett.

##### **LORI grants Progress Report – Donna DiMichele**

Donna had reported the award of 16 sub grants at the January meeting. OLIS has since awarded one more grant. The committee had asked that Howard and Donna return to Ocean state Libraries (OSL) for clarification of their request for \$33,644 for a content server that will let OSL: libraries be part of a Providence emergency Management statewide "telepresence" network. They have discovered a rather sophisticated CISCO based network

that has been funded by a federal with a UASI (Urban Areas Security Initiative – Homeland Security) grant to serve emergency management needs statewide. This content serve is the one piece of equipment that was missing. It will enable video archiving and recording. By contributing this last piece and equipping selected public library with local participation equipment (from the OSL/OSHEAN BTOP grant), OSL can fully utilize the network so long as they promise to vacate it if there is an emergency.

Tom Viall asked Howard and Donna (about grants in general) if there was any process in place for reporting on the criteria being met. Donna explained that once OLIS awards the grant they are sent out guidelines on how they should report. OLIS also holds the last 10% until they write and submit the report and OLIS accepts the report. All the information is available online at [www.olis.ri.gov](http://www.olis.ri.gov).

### **IMLS**

Howard announced that Donna and he will be traveling March 14<sup>th</sup> to March 16<sup>th</sup> to IMLS for the annual Grants to the States Conference. This year's conference will focus on the upcoming evaluation due March 31, 2012 and the new 5 year plan due June 30, 2012. The new plan will reference the new LSTA.

### **Broadband RI**

RI has received 3 federal broadband stimulus grants. OLIS brought the recipients of those grants (OSHEAN, OSL and RI Economic Development Corporation) together at the October Library Directors' meeting. There, they conceived of the "Trifecta" framework for describing them and planned a public event to announce all three together. Tom Viall MC'ed that event at the Cranston Public Library. That event led to the creation of an excellent brochure describing the three efforts and their synergies. Howard distributed those brochures and BBRI (Broadband RI) stickers from the RIEDC to the Board.

Howard has been asked to be part of RIEDC's Core Broadband Planning Group. More information can be found at [www.broadband.ri.gov](http://www.broadband.ri.gov)

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Legislation**

In Rose Ellen Reynolds' absence, Joan Ress Reeves reported on senate bill S-0056 and its companion bill H-5118, relating to the Statewide Reference Resource Center (SRRC). The Legislation Committee discussed Howard's position and agreed to support it. S-0056 was sponsored by: Senators Perry, Miller, McCaffrey, DeVall, and Nesselbush; H-5118 by McCauley, Fox, Carnevale, Williams, Ajello. S0056 alters the language of RIGL section 29-6-9, which funds a 'Reference Resource Center at the Providence Public Library'. Instead, it directs OLIS to choose a public library annually to host the SRRC from RFPs submitted by libraries. Howard's position suggests amendment to direct OLIS to prepare an RFP for the SRRC every two years and to select a public library from among the respondents to host it. For more information see the OLIS legislation tracker at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/news/legislation/index.php>

Ken Findlay suggested the term of the SRRC be three years with two one year renewals.. Discussion followed about the benefits and disadvantages this might have on OLIS and statewide library services.

### **Motion to go on record in support of this legislation with Ken's suggested amendments**

**Moved:** Mark McKenney  
**Seconded:** Ken Findlay



**unanimously approved.**

**Public Relations**

No report.

**Ad hoc CCCC**

Joan Ress Reeves distributed the latest version of the short PR document. The target audience for the short document is both the general public and legislators. The longer document is for people who really want details. Different ideas on how to proceed were discussed. Ms. Reeves stated that she will move ahead and try to incorporate everyone's suggestions. Joan also asked Howard if he would contact Don Bousquet to see if he could help with his. If not, another avenue will have to be taken.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**National Library Legislation Day**

National Library Legislation Day will take place in Washington, DC on May 9<sup>th</sup> and May 10<sup>th</sup> Debbie Cullerton is once again acting as RI coordinator on behalf of ALA. Information forms and registration forms were handed out. Board members were encouraged to attend.

**Review of Library Board Membership**

Names of LBRI members that expired in December 2009 are now in the Governors office for his nomination for renewal. Names of those who expired in 2010 have been submitted to the process. Howard will be talking to members whose second term has expired.

**LBRI Messages to take to Susan Bernstein**

Tom Viall asked the Library Board if there was any message and/or question that they would want him to bring up at the meeting. Discussion followed. The consensus was to stay positive, and to thank the Governor for showing up at recent events. Because OLIS is in a very good position it is best to stay positive. It would be great if maybe Ms. Bernstein could go back to the Governor and tell him the positive things that OLIS was doing.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

This week is Read Across America. Wednesday is Dr. Suess's Birthday. RIEMA is celebrating at Warwick Mall on Saturday. OLIS is collaborating with them.

**IX. FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the Board will be held on March 21, 2011 at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B.

**XI. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

**LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**Monday, March 21, 2011**  
**Minutes**

**The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held  
on March 21, 2011 at 4:15 p.m.  
at the Department of Administration,  
Conference Room B, Second Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908**

**Members Present:** Tom Viall, Chair, Kristen Chin, Ed Garcia, Shirley Long, Mary Ann Slocomb, Carol Terry, and Ruth Sullivan.

**Members Absent:** Regina Connor, Kenneth Findlay, Bart Hollingsworth, Phyllis Humphrey, Phyllis Lynch, Mark McKenney, Alison Peirce, Joan Ress Reeves, Joan Retsinas and Rose Ellen Reynolds.

**Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS):**  
Howard Boksenbaum, Debbie Cullerton, Donna DiMichele and Karen Mellor

**Observers:** Cathy McMahon, Department of Administration, Central Business Office Dale Thompson, Providence Public Library

**Reporting:** Debbie Cullerton

**Materials Distributed:**

- Message from Representative Mike Chippendale to Kristen Chin
- OLIS Monthly Report for February 2011
- OLIS Monthly Report for March 2011
- 2010 IMLS Reauthorization
- Final draft of short document from Joan Ress Reeves and the Adhoc Committee
- Don Bousquet – Quahog Picture
- Policy on Appropriated but not awarded G-I-A Funds

Chair Tom Viall convened the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Tom Viall welcomed all Board Members.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the February 28, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved with some minor typographical errors.

**Moved:** Shirley Long

**Seconded:** Kristen Chin

**unanimously adopted**

**III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Tom Viall**

Tom reported on his meeting with Susan Bernstein, a Policy Advisor to Governor Chafee on March 9. Howard, Rose Ellen Reynolds and Joan Ress Reeves accompanied Tom. Tom thanked the Governor on behalf of the Board for his appearance at COLA's annual meeting and spoke on the importance of OLIS and our fiscal concerns. Susan Bernstein expressed a willingness to support our efforts. She asked to be notified of upcoming events that the

governor might want to participate in, asking in particular that OLIS contact the Governor's scheduler (and to make sure that she is copied) regarding KRARI. She also said she would help with nominations to the Library Board. Tom referred to Howard, who assured the Board that OLIS had made contact on both those items.

Tom also reported on a meeting at Providence Public Library where he had the opportunity to sit down with Bill Simmons, Chair and Dale Thompson, Director. Tom found it to be an educational experience and he has come to better understand the Providence Public Library. Dale Thompson did an excellent job of presenting Tom with background and history and where Providence Public Library stands on the friction that sometimes between the library and the city. There followed discussion of the legislation (H5118 and its Senate companions) regarding the funding for the Statewide Resource Center.

#### **IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM**

##### **Announcements and Distribution of Reports**

Howard acclaimed the return of Karen Mellor and Mary Ann Slocomb both of whom had been out on medical leave.

Howard distributed the OLIS monthly reports for February and March and asked the Board to notify him if there is anything else that ought to be included.

##### **LSTA**

Donna and Howard were in Baltimore on March 14 – 16 attending IMLS meetings about the changes to LSTA from re authorization and what states will have to do for the 5 year evaluation (due March 31, 2012) and the next 5 year plan (due June 30, 2012).

Donna distributed a short document from IMLS that organizes the new LSTA priorities under themes.

Howard mentioned that an emphasis in the new IMLS is the collaborating with other agencies. OLIS has been following this principal already, collaborating with the Department of Labor and Training for example, on providing information to the unemployed.

As for the 5 year LSTA evaluation, OLIS is participating in a 7 states RFP, for consulting help.

##### **State Budget**

The state grants-in-aid grants are level funded but erroneous numbers were published in the Budget book. The correct numbers can be found on the OLIS website <http://www.olis.ri.gov>.

OLIS has an approximately 6% increase in the governor's proposal

##### **Municipal Budgets**

Some of the municipalities on the other hand, are in dire straits. Howard has been hearing from Central Falls, Pawtucket, and West Warwick in particular. We may have some places this fall where it is difficult to justify a waiver from the maintenance of effort.

##### **OSL**

OLIS awarded Ocean State Libraries a LORI grant to do some organizational development planning Howard reported that his experience with Ruth Metts, who is the consultant that

OSL hired to do the job, has been very positive. She is extremely perceptive and has gained the trust of OLS members.

Regarding Broadband, most of the BTOP equipment is here and most of it has been installed. The negotiations are proceeding with the BDDP grant with the Economic Development Corporation.

### **Project Compass**

Karen Mellor reported that on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, OLIS will continue Project Compass, an IMLS and Gates Foundation grant to the North Carolina State Library to develop library capacity in assistance in jobseekers. Because Rhode Island has such a high level of unemployment OLIS has been invited to take part in Round 2 of Project Compass. Trainers from the national project will hold a session for RI librarians.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills**

Karen Mellor reported that 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills are those that are necessary to bring schools, libraries, museums and people into the current century. IMLS has produced a guide to 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and made their promulgations a priority. OLIS presented RI's first library 21<sup>st</sup> century skill continuing education session on March 2, called "3 D libraries, online, inside, and on the move". Speakers from the Arlington, Virginia public library spent the morning addressing approximately 80 RI librarians in how their library has integrated a vast array of social media into their ongoing day-to-day activities. A moderated discussion completed the session along with a discussion on what attendees could commit to do to improve their 21<sup>st</sup> century skills aptitude. More information on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills can be found on the OLIS website <http://www.olis.ri.gov> OLIS will be posting resources, presentations and discussions.

### **Message of support from Representative Mike Chippendale to Kristen Chin**

Howard distributed copies of a message that Kristen Chin and the Libraries of Foster had received from Representative Mike Chippendale.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Legislation**

Rose Ellen was not in attendance. Howard gave a brief run through of some of the legislation concerning libraries that is pending and directed the Library Board to the OLIS Legislation Tracker page on the OLIS website.

<http://www.olis.ri.gov/news/legislation/index.php>

### **Public Relations**

Ed Garcia explained that the Public Relations Committee will meet and work on projects as a needed and will not have a report at every meeting. Ed is planning to update their resource the Committee had prepared last year for tracking state representatives and senators and which libraries they relate to.

### **Ad hoc CCCC**

Tom Viall received an email from Joan Ress Reeves with an updated copy from the Ad hoc CCCC committee of the short document. Copies were distributed to the Board. Joan had also asked Howard to express thanks to the committee for all their work.

Howard had been asked at the February Board meeting to contact Don Bousquet and ask him if he would help us with artwork. Howard has been in touch with Don Bousquet who has authorized use of the quahog artwork and offered to create more if needed. Discussion

followed as to whether it should go to an outside source for quality printing. Consensus of the Board was to get a professional designer to make it into a brochure. Howard was asked to explore state contracts to see what was available via MPA.

## **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Reaffirming the policy on unallotted funds**

In 2003, Howard and then chair Mark McKenney developed a policy on the use of appropriated but not awarded G-I-A Funds. Howard distributed a copy of that policy to the Board and requested the current Board reaffirm it.. Discussion followed.

The chair asked the Board to reaffirm the policy and called for a motion.

### **Motion to reaffirm the current policy**

**Moved: Ruth Sullivan**  
**Seconded: Mary Ann Slocomb**

**unanimously approved.**

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mary Ann Slocomb thanked the Library Board for the get well card. She it really perked up the day when she got it in the mail. Her knee replacement surgery went well and she is in physical therapy and on the road to recovery.

Ms. Slocomb also updated the Board on the Health Information Outreach to Seniors Program that was partly funded by OLIS. The project has received a second grant from the NN/LM New England Regional Medical Library for \$5,000. Several classes have been set up and are going to run in April. Mary Ann and staff Keiran Ayton will be presenting the project at a poster session at the Medical Library Association annual conference in May in Minneapolis.

## **IX. FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the Board will be held on April 25, 2011 at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B.

## **XI. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m

**LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**Monday, April 25, 2011**  
**Minutes**

**The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held  
on April 25, 2011 at 4:15 p.m.  
at the Department of Administration,  
Conference Room B, Second Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908**

**Members Present:** Tom Viall, Chair, Kristen Chin, Bart Hollingsworth, Mark McKenney, Joan Retsinas, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Mary Ann Slocomb, Carol Terry, Phyllis Lynch, Phyllis Humphry

**Members Absent:** Ed Garcia, Shirley Long, Ken Findlay, and Joan Ress Reeves

**Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS):**  
Howard Boksenbaum, Donna DiMichele and Karen Mellor

**Observers:** Eileen Dyer

**Reporting:** Karen Mellor and Howard Boksenbaum (in the absence of Debbie Cullerton)

**Materials Distributed: None**

Chair Tom Viall convened the meeting at 4:22 p.m.

### **I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Tom Viall welcomed all Board Members.

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the March 21, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved.

**Moved:** Carol Terry  
**Seconded:** Mary Ann Slocomb

**unanimously adopted**

### **III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Tom Viall**

Debbie Cullerton is still in hospital recovering from an infection. There is a possibility that she will be discharged today to home care with PICC Line & Infusion Resources. Howard added that her spirits are good. She told him, "I have my Kindle" Tom asked to extend to her the best wishes of the board.

Johnston opening their new library building on April 9 to great fanfare and a massive community turnout. All of Rhode Island's federal congressional delegation except Rep. Langevin, who had transportation issues, attended and spoke in praise of library and community, the importance of supporting libraries and the importance of investing in libraries. Susan Hildreth, newly appointed director of IMLS, gave the keynote address. It is a beautiful building, and impressively welcomed by the community. It will be important to remind our legislators at NLLD, of how much they supported libraries on April 9.

## **IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM**

### **Financially troubled communities**

Howard had attended Town Council budget workshops at Foster and West Warwick in the capacity of resource to the librarian. He called on Kristen Chin for the latest news from Foster. She reported all departments have to have a reduction. Moreover, the question has arisen as to whether library is something that town should support. He further reported on a very negative response from West Warwick's Town Council over the prospect of losing state funding because of the maintenance of effort requirement. Some at the town council workshop; seemed to think libraries can be run with volunteers. There was a large supportive turnout, however, including Steve Collela, convener of the job club who spoke eloquently about the need to support the library.

Howard also met with librarians from Pawtucket and Central Falls about the prospect of a two-city contract for library services. He will be meeting again with both cities also about their respective budgets.

CFO meetings have been going quite well. Howard and Cathy McMahon have been well received. There is great value to having Cathy along to talk "accountant-ese" Meetings with Cranston helped the library make it past budgetary trials and tribulations. Howard and Cathy will visit South Kingstown tomorrow.

Bart asked whether any city or town had lost its grant because it didn't meet eligibility requirements. Howard responded that no one has lost GIA they have either met eligibility requirements or been granted waivers.

Joan Retsinas asked about Central Falls, Howard responded that it is unclear at present whether PAW will manage CFA library.

### **Budget**

1. State; still no news, still no budget
2. Federal also no budget. LSTA is currently \$5 million from FY2011 – we look to begin spending that July 1 additional \$475,000; may lose share of grant program
3. Likely to have \$11 million for FY2012 below FY2010
4. June 2 & 3 – Terri Brown, RI's liaison at IMLS will attend the RILA conference June 2 and will be part of the presentation, "Alphabet Soup" session

Howard reviewed the monthly report including:

### **Project Compass**

OLIS will sponsor a Project Compass, Monday, May 2. Project compass is a project of the North Carolina State Library funded in part by an IMLS Grant that focuses on helping public libraries serve people seeking employment. May 2 will bring brought trainers from North Carolina together with a local reactor panel. RI DLT participated.

### **Protecting the Past:**

Protecting the Past –RI held its first "Whole Community session at Ruff Point on May 3. People from RI EMA, FEMA, and cultural heritage and library institutions in Newport County met to discuss disaster preparation. It was an excellent beginning, bringing together this first of communities, to become model for rest of state.

### **Karla Harry Commission**

The Karla Harry Commission will meet May 3: Phyllis and Mary Ann will attend.

### **KRARI**

Will be held May 14 at the State House with a performance by the Brown University Lion Dance Troupe, sessions by Grace Lin “Where the Mountain Meets the Moon” and a variety of other festivities starting at noon.

### **NLLD**

May 9 – COSLA May 11

### **Updates to Calendar (from members)**

April 29, CRIARL meeting not ACRL (C. Terry)

April 30, RARI Breakfast (M. Slocomb)

May 13, ACRL @ Holy Cross. Bert Crenca from AS220 is one of keynotes. (C. Terry)

### **Collaboration with other agencies**

Collaboration with other state agencies is an OLIS priority. Current efforts include:

I. DLT - Howard and Karen met with Charlie Fogarty, DLT participated in Project Compass.

II. RIEMA – Through Protecting the Past –RI, OLIS was part of the drafting of Emergency Service Function (ESF) 11 and is working to - creating database of cultural resources so as not to forget anyone in disaster planning/preparation or in response/recovery.

III. RIEDC has created “Broadband RI” (BBRI) with a BDDP grant from the NTIA: 10% is allocated to designing and implementing digital literacy projects out of libraries. Originally that 10% was to go to OSL, but OSL and RIEDC failed to come to contract terms and RIEDC is now out with an RFP. Howard will continue to sit on committee developing BBRI, OLIS staff will work on the project as well. So far, school libraries are missing from the picture, although RIDE is involved. OLIS will be looking at ways to integrate all libraries.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Legislation**

Rose Ellen Reynolds reported on;

H6034: exempts WWA from provisions of RIGL 29-6-2, no Senate companion bill yet. Howard interjected that it seems to have been effectively “squashed” according to RILA’S lobbyist, Steve Alves. Alves had originally introduced the legislation that reduced MOE to 80% when he was Senate Finance Chair.

H5712: Public corporation to create regional services commission. Impact to libraries? HB: already provision in 29-6-3 for multi-community collaboration. Hearing, tabled for further study.

H5590; S0292: Pilot programs for summer learning for municipalities with high school lunch reimbursements. To House Finance, Senate held for further study.



## **Public Relations**

Ed Garcia not present. There was some discussion of a Channel 10 piece featuring Ed. it was a relatively long piece, highlighting Cranston library's role in helping unemployed with job search and workforce recovery in collaboration with DLT.

## **Ad hoc CCCC**

Joan Ress Reeves not present. Report moving forward.

## **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **NLLD – Howard Boksenbaum & Debbie Cullerton**

Not too late to register. May 9, 10. Schedule forthcoming. Will remind delegation of statements made in JOH.

### **Delivery Bins – Tom Viall**

OLIS is writing RFP for delivery bins. Waiting for word on both state and federal budgets. The new bins are considered an imperative by OLIS but can't move until it is known there is money to pay for it. As to how to phase in the new bins: the plan is to swap out the old bins as they arrive. Packaging will be optional in covered bins, must be packaged in uncovered. Rollout will likely be in summer which will make transition easy.

### **Health Outreach to Seniors – Mary Ann Slocomb**

Wrapping up the grant project; last class will be this Friday (April 29). Classes were better attended this session. Excellent management by Kieran Ayton. At the Medical Library Association meeting in mid-May, Mary Ann will be doing a poster session about the project. "Health Information Outreach to RI Seniors." Mary Ann and Howard held up the poster for all to examine.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

LSTA reauthorization. The new LSTA will require that OLIS do more with less; hence, it is more important to get priorities right. The question of how can the Board contribute arose and will lead to continued discussion.

### **Request for a 21<sup>st</sup> century skills committee**

Howard asked the Board to appoint a Request for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Committee to help OLIS devise a plan to increase awareness and skills throughout RI libraries. What falls in this category? For example: BDDP grant for digital literacy. The way we operate libraries. The way OLIS does business internally and with libraries and other users.

**Motion:** the chair will work with Howard to appoint a committee chair and develop a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Committee.

### **Motion carried.**

HB will start developing a framework. The URL for IMLS's 21st Century Report: is <http://www.imls.gov/about/21stCSkills.shtm> and can be reached via the OLIS website homepage.

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mark McKenney announced a PCL fundraiser raffle of a weekend in New York. \$50 per ticket limited number (200), wraps up April 29.

Joan Retsinas asked about PCL's: problems with facilities, no maintenance over several years, etc. Mark responded that Smith Hill and Olneyville are in dire straits. There is no air at Knight Memorial, which had consequently had to close at times because of the heat. Ownership issues are still trying to be resolved. Endowment issue down the line - are parts of endowment for branches?

#### **IX. FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the Board will be held on May 16, 2011 at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B.

#### **XI. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND  
Monday, June 20, 2011  
Minutes

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held  
on June 20, 2011 at 4:15 p.m.  
at the Department of Administration,  
Conference Room B, Second Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

**Members Present:** Tom Viall, Chair, Regina Connor, Kenneth Findlay, Ed Garcia, Phyllis Humphrey, Alison Peirce, Joan Retsinas, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Mary Ann Slocomb, Carol Terry, and Ruth Sullivan

**Members Absent:** Kristen Chin, Bart Hollingsworth, Shirley Long, Phyllis Lynch, Mark McKenney, and Joan Ress Reeves

**Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS):**  
Howard Boksenbaum, Debbie Cullerton, Donna DiMichele and Karen Mellor

**Observers:** Dale Thompson, Providence Public Library

**Reporting:** Debbie Cullerton

**Materials Distributed:**

OLIS Monthly Report – June 2011  
ALA - Senate HELP Committee draft to reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act  
Draft Letter from Tom Viall regarding Reduction of Maintenance of Effort for Library Funding  
List of Senators to contact regarding vote for Workforce Investment Act

Chair Tom Viall convened the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Tom Viall welcomed everyone.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the April 25, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

**Moved:** Rose Ellen Reynolds

**Seconded:** Mary Ann Slocomb

**unanimously adopted**

**III. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Tom Viall**

Mr. Viall reported on National Library Legislative Day in Washington. Several Board members were there and the group had a marvelous time. ALA's Washington Office did a marvelous job of going over the issues. The RI NLLD entourage was very well accepted by Senator Reed and Senator Whitehouse.

Tom also reported on his activities vis a vis the State General Assembly session. Several bills were introduced that would challenge the library Maintenance of Effort. Rep. Joy Hearn from Barrington, co-chair of the Karla Harry Commission called a meeting of library advocates to discuss the possible changes to the Maintenance of Effort and strategies to counteract them. Tom, as chair of the Library Board and Rose Ellen

Reynolds as legislative committee chair and myself were fortunate enough to attend. Howard will be going into more detail on that meeting in his report.

#### **IV. CHIEF LIBRARY OFFICER'S REPORT - HOWARD BOKSENBAUM**

##### **State Budget**

Both OLIS and the library grants are surviving the budget process well. The House finance committee has passed a version of the budget and sent it to the floor.

Beyond the funding, there are a couple of items that cause some library a little anxiety; these are detailed on the OIS website's legislative update page.

##### **Federal Funding**

The current federal fiscal year ends at the end of September 2011, OLIS had received a small increase, as, along with reauthorization came a sufficient increase in LSTA to add to the portion that went into the population-based portion of the grants. Next year's reduction to IMLS' budget will result in a \$53,443 (4.6%) cut for OLIS. From what Howard understands from the people he has talked to in Washington FY 2013 will probably be even worse. .

##### **Delivery**

In early May, OLIS received notification from Current Carrier, Inc. the interlibrary delivery vendor that they couldn't afford to continue the contract. Since then, after much discussion, OLIS has come to an agreement that they will honor the contract until the end of March 2012. By then OLIS will have produced another RFP and gone out to bid for a new contract. Current Carrier would be free to bid if they so desired.

Earlier, Current Carrier had told OLIS that they would distribute the new bins when it was time to roll out our new bin system. Howard would like to get that in writing before OLIS actually buys the bins so as not to be stuck with all these bins and need to store them. It is not in the contract. Howard expects that to be cleared up before the summer is over. Summer would be the best time to accommodate the new bins. With so schools on vacation, there are fewer delivery stops.

##### **FY2011 Grants-in-aid and Maintenance of Effort**

West Warwick, Pawtucket and Central Falls continue to have great difficulties coming up with enough local funding to meet their maintenance of effort. Senators and representatives from Pawtucket and West Warwick have each introduced legislation to exempt their municipality from part of the maintenance of effort; requiring them to budget only 66% of last year's expenditures rather than 100%.

Alternatives have been proposed by West Warwick Representative Nunes, Former Representative Pires acting for Pawtucket to make the threshold 80% and apply it statewide, and Representatives Joy Hearn to move the dates back one year rather than change the MOE.

##### **Workforce Development**

In national legislation, the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) is up for reauthorization and leaves out the library's perspective and needs. Nevertheless, Departments of Labor and Training and libraries continue to work together.

Karen Mellor reported that the Office of Library and Information Services was presented with a Creative Partnerships Award by the Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island (WPGRI) at its annual meeting on June 14th. OLIS received the award for its collaborative efforts with the RI Department of Labor and Training (DLT) on workforce recovery (see also Project Compass below), which include collaborating on trainings and resource sharing. OLIS has made certain AskRI databases (Learning Express and Reference USA) that are relevant to the job seeking population freely available at DLT One Stop Career Centers (no login required) and provided training for DLT staff. DLT links to AskRI and specific resources from its

various websites. It was an honor to be recognized as being a creative partner with the Department of Labor and Training.

To ensure that these efforts continue will need the Federal Department of Labor to step up and include libraries in what they are doing. Howard asked the Library Board to take a look at what ALA is asking us to do in terms of support and get in touch with Sheldon Whitehouse who is a member of the Senate HELP Committee that will be voting on reauthorization of WIA.

### **RILA**

At the RILA Conference on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, OLIS presented a program on LSTA and staffed an exhibit in the vendor area.

OLIS programs highlighted in the exhibit include disaster preparedness, summer reading, the National Book Festival, statewide databases (AskRI), and the professional collection at the OLIS Library. The OLIS Talking Books Plus Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped was also promoted so that greater numbers of Rhode Islanders with disabilities can sign up for the service.

In addition to the OLIS booth at the exhibit, Chief Library Officer Howard Boksenbaum and Library Program Manager Donna DiMichele were joined by Terri Brown, Senior Program Officer for State Library Programs at the Institute of Museum and Library Services, for the session "From Alphabet Soup to Library Success: OLIS, IMLS and LSTA."

### **Project Compass**

Karen Mellor reported that Project Compass met at Cumberland Public Library on Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> with trainers from North Carolina. Project compass is a project of the North Carolina State Library funded in part by an IMLS Grant that focuses on helping public libraries serve people seeking employment. This is the second phase of the grant. Over 30 people attended, we had a terrific panel.

Ken Findlay mentioned what a great job OLIS did in putting this together.  
Rose Ellen Reynolds remarked about PR and how important it is that somebody notices.

### **Protecting the Past:**

Protecting the Past –RI held its first “Whole Community session at Ruff Point on May 3. People from RI EMA, FEMA, and cultural heritage and library institutions in Newport County met to discuss disaster preparation.

### **Center for the Book**

Howard reported that the Center for the Book will be leaving Providence Public Library on June 30, 2011. He called on Donna DiMichele who is a member of the Center for the Book

### **Annual Reports**

Beginning July 1, 2011 the online annual survey of public libraries will open.

### **Directors Meeting**

OLIS will convene a meeting of RI Library directors (of all types of libraries) on June 30<sup>th</sup> at the Economic Development Corporation. Featured topic will be the library digital education and training that will come from the BDDRI.

### **Motion to accept the Chief Library Officers Report**

**Moved:** Rose Ellen Reynolds  
**Seconded:** Mary Ann Slocomb

**unanimously adopted**

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Legislation**

Rose Ellen Reynolds does not have too much to add however she is really concerned about the maintenance of effort. Ms. Reynolds also commented on how useful the OLIS website on legislation is. It makes it so much easier to track the bills.

### **Public Relations**

No report.

### **Ad hoc CCCC**

No report.

## **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **National Library Legislative Day**

Several members from the Library Board attended. Howard reported that they were able to see both of our senators, but didn't get to see either of our representatives.

### **Delivery Bins**

OLIS is waiting to see what happens with the vendor and the federal budget.

### **21st Century Skills**

At the RILA Conference, OLIS managed to secure and pass out to the Library Board the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills booklet. OLIS has also distributed these to the Library Community and we look forward to a sub-committee person for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills.

### **WebJunction**

OLIS will no longer be participating in WebJunction. We originally got involved with WebJunction as a way to extend out continuing education efforts. There was lots of online self directed courses that we could buy on behalf of all the Rhode Island libraries. We were hoping that it would become a local media center. It really didn't turn out that way, and it became very expensive for us with very little return.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

No report.

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **IX. FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for September 19, 2011, 4:15 pm at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B.

## **XI. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.