

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
September 18, 2017
at the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Louise Herrington-Bright, Rosita Hopper, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Edward Garcia, Phyllis Humphrey, Alison Davis-Maxell, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Phyllis Lynch

Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS): Karen Andrews, Jason Bloom, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor

Guests: None

Materials Distributed:

- Proposed LBRI Schedule for 2017-2018 Legislative Session

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the June 12, 2017 meeting

Moved by: Ms. Reynolds

Seconded by: Dr. Hopper

The meeting minutes were approved with non-substantive changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA)

The Coalition of Library Advocates held their first meeting of the 2017-2018 session, and approved a revision of the COLA strategic plan for the next three years. The Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) is also working on their strategic plan, and has hired a consulting group to perform interviews and studies. Mr. Viall interviewed with RILA's consultants last week to discuss RILA's processes.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. Office of Digital Excellence (ODE), Bijay Kumar

Mr. Kumar, Chief Digital Officer and Chief Information Officer, has been appointed by Governor Raimondo to head the Office of Digital Excellence for the State of Rhode

Island. Mr. Kumar has worked primarily in the private sector of organizations, most recently as Vice-President of Information Technology at Hasbro, Inc. OLIS is part of the Office of Digital Excellence, and reports to the Chief Digital Officer.

ii. OLIS Staffing

Ms. Mellor introduced Jason Bloom, OLIS' new Program Manager, to the LBRI. Mr. Bloom began work at OLIS on September 5. He worked most recently as a public library director in Massachusetts, and has extensive experience working in public libraries, and with technology in libraries. At OLIS, he will manage projects including data collection, state aid, and library construction.

OLIS is now fully staffed with 13 full time equivalents (FTEs). In conjunction with the launch of the new strategic plan, OLIS management will review staff assignments and reporting structures to better align OLIS staffing with plan objectives.

iii. OLIS Strategic Plan, Roundtables

OLIS received notification from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in August that OLIS' Strategic Plan was approved. IMLS further noted that OLIS had crafted a plan that fully responds to IMLS guidelines and legislation, and that would serve as a strong example for other state agencies. Ms. Mellor extended her gratitude to the LBRI for their assistance and input in developing the plan. The plan's effective date is October 1, 2017.

OLIS staff have already begun to launch several initiatives of the plan, specifically roundtables. The Digital Innovation Roundtable for librarians involved in technology and online applications has been initiated by Ms. Baffoni, OLIS' Adult Services Coordinator. Ms. DiMichele is spearheading the new Urban Libraries Roundtable which will identify issues facing urban libraries. She has also convened a new Special Collections Roundtable to create a community of practice for librarians who work with special collections or archives. The group will have its first meeting in December.

iv. Talking Book Plus

To be more descriptive of the services offered by the program, the name of the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped will be changed from Talking Books Plus to Talking Books Library (TBL) on October 1. The change will eliminate the ambiguities of the word 'Plus', and clearly define the service as a library.

Dr. Hopper inquired about the difference between the materials offered through Talking Books and the audiobooks available through public libraries. Ms. Mellor explained that TBL materials are produced by the National Library Service (NLS) at a higher standard of recording than commercial audiobooks. Talking Books also include additional features such as audio bookmarks that make it easier for readers who are visually impaired to navigate through a book. Finally, special copyright provisions for Talking Books allow for simultaneous use of the books. Those who use the Talking Books download service do not have to wait for copies of popular books to become

available, in contrast to the sometimes long waiting lists for popular books on Ocean State Libraries' Overdrive service.

B. Public Library Annual Survey

The Public Library Annual Survey, which includes applications for state grant-in-aid, opened on July 17 and closed on September 15. All public libraries, except for two, have submitted their surveys, and OLIS is currently reviewing and processing applications for state grant-in aid.

With the assistance of Ocean State Libraries (OSL) staff, OLIS' State Data Coordinator, Lauren Plews, pre-loaded library circulation and collection data into the survey to allow librarians more time to focus on local and unique data. The feedback from libraries about changes made to the survey this year was universally positive. Ms. Feldman voiced her agreement that the changes in the survey reduced survey completion time by about 25% compared to previous years.

C. Continuing Education (CE)

In mid-August, OLIS' Fall Continuing Education calendar was finalized and announced. Thirty-four programs will run between September and January on a range of topics, and are open to all library staff and trustees. Mr. Findlay discussed the program 'Supporting Children and Families Affected by Incarceration and the RI Prisoner Re-entry Initiative' in which he will be a speaker. The program is scheduled for November 16 at the Department of Corrections Campus' Dorothy Dix Building.

D. Professional Development Scholarships

i. Research Institute for Public Libraries (RIPL)

OLIS awarded four scholarships to Rhode Island library staff to attend the Research Institute for Public Libraries (RIPL) Conference in Maine this August. RIPL was hosted by the Maine State Library, and launched in 2015 by the Colorado State Library. The Institute focused on methods for gathering, analyzing, and utilizing various forms of data. The scholarship winners will participate in a panel to share their conference experience on October 18 at the Barrington Public Library.

ii. Futures Conference

OLIS awarded seven scholarships to RI library staff for the Futures Conference to be held in Atlantic City in September. The conference is coordinated by the New Jersey State Library, and co-sponsored by OLIS and state library agencies in Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and West Virginia. Four OLIS staff members will attend. The scholarship winners will participate in a panel to share what they learned at the conference on October 25 at the Narragansett Public Library.

E. Barrington Public Library Construction

Barrington Public Library has completed their renovation project and will hold a grand opening on September 24. OLIS will reimburse approximately 50% of the eligible construction costs for this project.

F. OLIS Agency Regulations, Secretary of State Online Searchable Regulations Database

The RI Secretary of State's office is developing a new online system for state rules and regulations, which will result in standardized formats and ease of access through online search. This project is part of the Administration's initiative to make Rhode Island more business friendly. State rules and regulations are currently available online in PDF format.

To comply with the initiative, OLIS reformatted and refiled the Minimum Standards and Regulations for RI Public Libraries, and the Library of RI Standards and Regulations. The Public Library Construction Reimbursement Regulations are currently under development and will be filed in the new format following approval by the LBRI, and in accordance with the standard process for filing new regulations.

Regulations for institutional libraries need to be developed as current regulations are approximately 30 years old and out-of-date. Once the Institutional Library Regulations are developed and approved by the LBRI, they will be filed with the Secretary of State in accordance with the standard process for filing new regulations.

G. Disaster Preparedness

Ms. DiMichele reported that she has issued advisories to libraries about securing areas prone to leaks, and ensuring drainage areas are cleared and functional throughout the hurricane season.

H. State Budget

The RI FY18 State Budget is projected to have a deficit, and state agencies have been requested to review their budgets for cost-cutting measures. OLIS reviewed its budget this summer, and projected that some savings can be found in delivery service expenditures because of the hub system instituted for school libraries. Mr. Viall commended Ms. Mellor on the budget status communications she sent to the LBRI this summer, while the state budget was still unapproved by the RI Senate.

I. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Budget

The bill to fund the IMLS and the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) came out of the Senate Appropriations Committee with an additional \$4,000,000 for the Grants to States program. The bill must now be passed by the full Senate and the House.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

No updates.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Findlay

Mr. Findlay reported on the Books Beyond program for inmates to record books for their children. Mr. Findlay met with the Rochambeau Library staff to pilot a program that provides a 'golden ticket' invitation, in the Books Beyond packages for children, to encourage them to visit the libraries of Providence. The invitation program includes Providence Public Library and all branches of the Providence Community Library. A grant proposal has been written by Mr. Findlay to fund the program statewide including purchasing books that help children deal with an incarcerated parent, training library staff in this area, and providing focus groups for families of incarcerated persons.

B. Ms. Feldman

On September 14, librarians from the Small Libraries group went to the Island Free Library on Block Island for its meeting. At the library, they viewed a patron-created exhibit titled "Seeking Shelter from the Storm." The exhibit focuses on the life of activists Daniel Berrigan and William Stringfellow during the 1960s on Block Island. The exhibit is available through October 11, and will be at Brown University later in Fall 2017, and at Salve Regina University in Spring 2018.

Ms. Feldman also reported that Ms. Kristen Chin, the former LBRI representative for small libraries, has recently accepted the position as director of Barrington Public Library. Barrington's current director, Debbie Barchi, will be retiring in November.

C. Dr. Hopper

Dr. Hopper reported that the committee for libraries of academic institutions supports the open textbook project initiated by Governor Raimondo. Through this initiative, Johnson & Wales University has saved students the most money of Rhode Island academic institutions. Dr. Hopper inquired if the chair of the committee for the open textbook initiative could be invited to address the LBRI. Mr. Viall advised that the topic will be discussed as new business at the October 2017 LBRI meeting.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was discussed.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. East Greenwich High School Library

Ms. Reynolds reported that the East Greenwich High School library is no longer staffed by a librarian and has been closed. She recommended the LBRI address the situation with a letter to the town of East Greenwich opposing the closure. Mr. Sloan suggested that the situation involving the East Greenwich High School library may be resolved by the next LBRI meeting. Mr. Viall recommended that a letter addressing the situation be sent to the town of East Greenwich.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Mellor reported that Cornucopia will hold their annual meeting on November 2 at 5:30 p.m. in the State Room at the State House. The meeting will address immigration; information about the meeting will be posted on the OLIS website.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2017, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

Mr. Viall reviewed the proposed LBRI meeting schedule for the 2017-2018 session. The schedule was approved without changes.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Dr. Hopper

Seconded by: Mr. Findlay

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

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
October 16, 2017
at the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Cristina Amedeo, John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Edward Garcia, Louise Herrington-Bright, Rosita Hopper, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Joan Ress Reeves, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Phyllis Humphrey, Alison Davis-Maxell, Phyllis Lynch, Rose Ellen Reynolds

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

Guests: Dr. Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

None

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the September 18, 2017 meeting

Moved by: Ms. Drnach

Seconded by: Dr. Hopper

The meeting minutes were approved with non-substantive changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Cornucopia Meeting

Cornucopia, an organization that promotes diversity within libraries, will hold an event at the RI State House on November 2, at 5:30 pm.

B. Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) Annual Meeting

The Coalition of Library Advocates will hold their annual meeting at the RI State House on April 10, 2018, at 5:30 pm.

C. United Way 10th Anniversary

On October 5, Mr. Viall attended the 10th Anniversary Meeting of United Way 2-1-1 with Ms. Mellor to celebrate United Way, and the services they provide. Libraries often partner with United Way on various projects, and other members of the library community were at the celebration. Ms. Mellor is a founding member of United Way 2-1-1 Advisory Board.

D. Futures Conference Panel Discussion

The Futures Conference was held in New Jersey in September, and four OLIS staff members attended. A panel discussion about the Futures Conference will be held at Narragansett's Maury Loontjens Memorial Library on October 25, from 9:30 am–12 pm. The panel will include seven library professionals awarded OLIS scholarships to attend the conference. A sign-up for the panel discussion is available on the OLIS website.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. OLIS Staffing

Lauren Plews, OLIS' State Data Coordinator, will be on leave until April 2018. Her duties will be reassigned as necessary to provide coverage of services during her absence.

ii. OLIS Budget

OLIS has submitted its Fiscal Year 2019 budget request to the Department of Administration (DOA). Based on the projected FY19 RI State Budget deficit of \$237 million, the DOA requested all state agencies to submit budgets with a 10% reduction. The DOA submits a budget to the Governor's office in October, and the Governor will submit her budget to the RI General Assembly in January 2018, per statute.

The state's semi-annual revenue estimating conference will take place in November to update the economic outlook for state budgeting purposes. Ms. Mellor will continue to update the LBRI on the status of OLIS' budget.

Ms. Herrington-Bright inquired whether OLIS' submitted budget, with a 10% decrease, will require further revision if the administration's proposed incentive-based retirement plan for qualified state employees does not return the anticipated revenue. Ms. Mellor reported that the state estimates 45% of retirement-qualified state employees will take advantage of the retirement proposal, and realize the projected revenue.

B. OLIS Strategic Plan

The new federal fiscal year began on October 1 and OLIS' new strategic plan went into effect on that date. OLIS' processes are being aligned with the plan, and staff are developing and implementing its various projects to support libraries across the state. Progress on the plan will be reported to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) annually through the State Program Report.

C. Studio Rhode Grants

i. Studio Rhode Launches

Ms. Mellor visited the Woonsocket Harris Public Library on September 28 for the opening of Studio Rhode, a digital creation space. Through a grant received from OLIS

and the RI Office of Innovation, the library received a substantial donation of equipment, software and educational resources from Apple, Inc., along with support from Apple in setting up the space and implementing new programs. Woonsocket's project, "My Woonsocket Life," is collecting oral histories about the city from residents, and commentary about their hopes for the future. The interviews are recorded on iPads and published on YouTube; the recordings have been closed-captioned for hearing-impaired individuals. The project has increased awareness of the library and resulted in the library becoming more deeply embedded in the community.

The Westerly Public Library also received a Studio Rhode grant, and their studio will launch in November. The grant to Westerly was funded by the Carnegie Foundation, and matched the grant from Apple. Westerly Public Library is using digital technology to help Westerly realize its vision of Westerly as a center for the arts by supporting artists in various media. The project is also using technology for digital storytelling to communicate the stories of artists to the communities.

ii. Additional Library Grants

The RI Office of Innovation and OLIS will be using a portion of the Carnegie Foundation grant to provide mini-grants to libraries to develop additional Studio Rhode digital creation labs. Funds will also be used to support a digital toolkit so that other libraries may benefit from the lessons learned in Woonsocket and Westerly.

iii. Local Futures Conference Planned

OLIS will partner with the RI Office of Innovation to develop a Futures Conference to be held in RI in late spring, 2018. The conference will be modeled after the Futures Conference held in Atlantic City, NJ in September, but on a smaller scale. The event will bring together futurists from inside and outside the library world to discuss how libraries can identify trends, and be relevant and responsive to the future needs of their communities. Additional partners will include the RI Library Association and the Coalition of Library Advocates.

D. Futures Conference, Atlantic City, NJ

In September, several OLIS staff attended the Futures Conference in Atlantic City, NJ. In addition, seven scholarships for RI librarians were provided by OLIS (4) and conference partners (3). Ms. Mellor and Ms. DiMichele presented an overview of the Futures Conference. Futurists from outside the library world presented on privacy, virtual reality, science, and new technologies while discussing trend spotting and predicting future needs.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

No updates.

B. Federal Budget

Ms. Mellor sent a note of thanks to Senator Reed for his work on the bill that would increase funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services by \$4,000,000, which is earmarked for the Grants to States Program.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Ms. Amedeo

Ms. Amedeo reported that United Way and other state agencies have planned over 100 events statewide for the annual Medicare open enrollment period. If residents seek information from libraries on how to sign-up, they may be directed to contact United Way 2-1-1 for assistance. Some enrollment events and healthcare screenings will be held in libraries.

Ms. Amedeo thanked Ms. Mellor for her contributions to United Way 2-1-1, and her work on their advisory board. She also thanked Mr. Viall and Ms. Mellor for their attendance at the recent 10-year anniversary celebration for United Way 2-1-1.

B. Mr. Bucci

Mr. Bucci reported that the President of the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) sent a letter to the East Greenwich School Committee protesting the closure of the East Greenwich High School Library. The school committee responded with an acknowledgement of the situation, and advised that the situation is under review. Ms. Mellor reported that the RI Library Association sent a letter to the Superintendent of the East Greenwich school system about the closure, and received a prompt reply acknowledging the situation. Mr. Sloan reported that the High School Library is reopened with a proctor to monitor library users and circulate books, but noted that a professional librarian is not managing the library. Mr. Viall will post the letter sent by COLA to East Greenwich on the COLA website.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. School Library Support

Mr. Viall introduced the issue of school systems not filling school library positions, and referenced the current situation with the East Greenwich High School Library. He requested feedback from the board about proactive steps that could be taken in response to these types of situations.

The Board discussed possible factors driving this trend, including a lack of understanding of the value of libraries in an electronic world, and the common misperception that technology diminishes the need for libraries. It was determined that more information is needed on the status of school librarians and school libraries, and the Board should develop a strategy to approach the issue of school libraries not being adequately staffed or even closed in some schools. Forward actions include inviting a representative of the School Librarians of RI

(SLRI) to address the Board, and update them on the issues of school library staffing and closures statewide. The Board also discussed developing a strategy for raising awareness of the value of school libraries, especially with school administrators. Finally, the Chair noted that the RI Department of Education (RIDE), while represented on the Board, does not attend meetings. It was recommended that the Chair contact RIDE to encourage attendance.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2017, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

Mr. Garcia pointed out that February 19, 2018 is listed as a LBRI meeting date on the LBRI Meeting Schedule for the 2017-2018 session. February 19, 2018 is Presidents Day, and a federal holiday. Mr. Viall will review the month of February 2018 for a different meeting date for that month, and advise the board.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
November 20, 2017
at the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Louise Herrington-Bright, Rosita Hopper, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, John Bucci, Edward Garcia, Phyllis Humphrey, Alison Davis-Maxell, Phyllis Lynch, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Joan Ress Reeves, Robert Sloan

Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS): Karen Andrews, Jason Bloom, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor

Guests: Ms. Sarah Hunicke, Past President, School Librarians of RI (SLRI)

Materials Distributed:

- Approved LBRI Schedule for 2017-2018, Revision 10/25/17

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the October 16, 2017 meeting

Moved by: Dr. Hopper

Seconded by: Ms. Reynolds

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Cornucopia Annual Meeting

On November 2, Mr. Viall attended the annual Cornucopia meeting at the RI State House with Ms. DiMichele. The keynote speaker for the event was Christopher Bourret of the RI Family Literacy Initiative (RIFLI). Mr. Bourret talked about the impact of literacy on diversity, and highlighted the relationship between RIFLI and libraries. Libraries often serve as a home base for RIFLI initiatives, and many of their programs are funded in conjunction with libraries.

B. Cranston Public Library 50th Anniversary Celebration, April 5, 2018

On behalf of Mr. Garcia, Mr. Viall announced that Cranston Public Library will celebrate its 50th its Anniversary on April 5, 2018, and members of the Board are invited.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. Enterprise Technology Systems and Services (ETSS)

ETSS is the umbrella agency that includes OLIS, the Division of Information Technology (DoIT), and the Office of Digital Excellence. On November 10, Mr. Bijay Kumar, the state's Chief Information Officer/Chief Digital Officer, convened a meeting of all ETSS employees at RI College. During the retreat, OLIS was recognized by the Director of the Department of Administration (DOA), Michael DiBiase, for the work that it performs, and the value it adds to the DOA. Ms. Mellor gave a presentation about OLIS.

ii. OLIS Website

OLIS is redesigning its website to make it more user-friendly and easier to navigate. During the scan for the new strategic plan, OLIS received comments about the difficulty of locating information on the website due to the large volume of information. A comprehensive review and reorganization of the website is underway. The new website will use the state template, and meet all ADA Section 508 accessibility requirements.

iii. Rhode Island Reads

OLIS is a partner in Governor Raimondo's Third Grade Reading Challenge, "Rhode Island Reads." OLIS will participate in a social media campaign to support the initiative during the week of November 27 using the hashtag #RIREADS.

iv. RI Statewide Online Catalog Outage

Because of a power outage from a weather event on October 29 that affected power at Ocean State Libraries (OSL) offices in Warwick, the statewide online library catalog, Sierra, was inaccessible to RI libraries and library users for three days. In addition, OSL facilitates internet and wireless internet services to public libraries, so these services were also unavailable in many of RI's public libraries. OSL's role in internet access services is a result of centralized filtering and data collection to meet federal requirements for erate funding and data collection. OLIS will be working with OSL to mitigate the potential for large scale disruption of library services in the future.

B. Studio Rhode

i. Westerly Public Library Studio Rhode Grand Opening

Westerly Public Library held a grand opening for their Studio Rhode project 'The Wilcox Boiler Room.' The studio was named for a funding patron who was a boiler maker by trade. The grant for the Studio Rhode project was provided by the Carnegie Foundation with support from Apple Computers, the RI Office of Innovation, and OLIS. The foci of the studio are digital storytelling, animation, pop up museums, and traditional fiber arts.

C. Continuing Education (CE)

i. Adult Correctional Institution (ACI)

Ms. DiMichele reported that OLIS offered a CE event highlighting Department of Corrections (DOC) programs to connect families with incarcerated family members through reading. The event showcased the Books Beyond program that allows an inmate to record themselves reading a book to their child. The book, and its subsequent recording, are then given to the inmate's child. LBRI member Ken Findlay administers the Books Beyond Initiative, and was a featured speaker. The Director of the DOC, A. T. Wall, welcomed attendees.

Ms. Mellor reported that OLIS is investigating how to support the Books Beyond program, including providing online resources for libraries. The RI Coalition for Domestic Violence will support the purchase of books for additional programming. Dr. Hopper and Ms. Reynolds attended the event, and noted that the program preserves the privacy of children, and has attracted many volunteers.

D. Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA)

On October 30-November 1, Ms. Mellor attended the COSLA meeting in Nashville, TN. Speakers included the new director of the American Library Association's (ALA) Washington office, Kathi Kromer. ALA's Washington office coordinates the annual National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) event, and the director discussed anticipated future NLLD changes. Some future changes include moving the event to earlier in the year to ensure that Congress will be in session during the event, and making library advocacy an all-year effort. The Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Dr. Kathryn Matthew also spoke, and reported that the IMLS is finalizing the framework for their new strategic plan.

COSLA members discussed the challenges in acquiring eBooks and databases at affordable rates and through standardized platforms. The Council of State Library Agencies in the Northeast (COSLINE) is gathering data on the purchase of statewide databases by state library agencies in the northeast, and will evaluate the possibility and merits of regional purchasing.

Members also discussed the upcoming 2020 US Census, which will be conducted online, and the potential for this to create a burden for local libraries as many people may need library computers and assistance to complete the census.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

i. Reauthorization of Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA)

Senator Reed's office is drafting the bill to reauthorize MLSA. The current MLSA expired in 2016 but is still funded. MLSA was largely rewritten in 2010; the 2017 changes will be minor, and increase the focus on digital literacy, additional support for tribal and indigenous libraries, partnerships with federal agencies, and the use of standardized tools to maximize the effectiveness of data collection.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

No board member reports.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Board Strategy for Support of School Libraries

Sarah Hunicke, Past President of School Librarians of RI (SLRI), reported on the recent closure of East Greenwich High School's Library, and activities that SLRI is taking to promote professional librarians in RI schools.

SLRI surveyed school librarians to determine the state of school libraries in Spring 2016. The data indicated a downward trend in school library funding, and professional librarian stewardship for school libraries. Responses indicated that 50% of school libraries had a drop in their budget, digital resources are underfunded, and 80% of librarians had a fixed schedule. A fixed schedule does not allow for student collaboration or library management. Many RI school systems require libraries to work in several schools, and school librarians are often tasked with jobs that are not related to librarianship. Most RI schools do not have a full-time professional librarian.

School accreditation is not affected by the lack of professional librarians in public schools, and the RI Department of Education (RIDE) does not have guidelines in place for school libraries. SLRI is seeking representation on the RI Board of Education from RIDE, and requested that RIDE adopt The American Association of School Librarians Standards. SLRI met with the current RIDE Commissioner, Dr. Ken Wagner, to address the challenges facing school libraries in RI.

SLRI is promoting awareness of the importance of school libraries in a child's education by producing a short video about school librarianship, slated for release in January 2018.

Mr. Viall advised that the LBRI should address RIDE representation on the LBRI, conduct letter writing campaigns, and promote public awareness of the need for school librarians.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Minimum Standards for Institutional Libraries

Ms. Mellor reported that the Minimum Standards for Institutional Libraries require a major revision. The regulations have not been revised in over twenty years, and should be revised not only for language, but also to include current technologies and processes. OLIS currently provides state aid to the ACI and the RI School for the Deaf. Formerly, OLIS also provided aid to the RI Veterans Home, the Training School, and the state hospital.

Ms. Mellor recommended that OLIS revise the document for review by a LBRI committee. Mr. Findlay, Ms. Drnach, and Ms. Reynolds volunteered to participate in a committee to review the revised document, and submit it to the full LBRI for approval and adoption. Work will commence in early 2018.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Viall thanked OLIS staff and the LBRI, for their service during the past year.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2017, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

The February 2018 meeting of the LBRI has been rescheduled to February 5 because the previous date was a federal holiday. Updated LBRI Meeting Schedules for the 2017-2018 session were provided to LBRI members.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Ms. Drnach

Seconded by: Mr. Findlay

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

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
December 18, 2017
at the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Cristina Amedeo, John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Edward Garcia, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Lynch, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Louise Herrington-Bright, Phyllis Humphrey, Alison Davis-Maxell, Joan Ress Reeves

Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS): Karen Andrews, Jason Bloom, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor

Guests: Dr. Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

None

I. WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the November 20, 2017 meeting

Moved by: Ms. Reynolds

Seconded by: Dr. Hopper

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Senator Reed, Net Neutrality Press Conference

Senator Reed held a press conference at Providence Public Library in anticipation of the vote by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on Net Neutrality, scheduled for December 14. Mr. Viall, Mr. Garcia, and Ms. Mellor were in attendance.

Senator Reed wrote a letter to the Chair of the FCC, signed by other US Senators, including Senator Whitehouse, opposing plans to deregulate the internet by repealing Net Neutrality rules.

Board members were encouraged to thank Rhode Island's senators for their support of Net Neutrality.

B. National Library Legislative Day (NLLD)

National Library Legislative Day will be May 7-8, 2018, in Washington DC. The event will be held at the Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel in Washington, and more information will be forthcoming in 2018. Members interested in attending may notify Mr. Viall, Ms. Mellor, or Ms. Andrews. Registration for the event is open.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. Library Delivery Statistics, Item Count

During the last week of October, OLIS ran its biannual delivery system item count. The count provides a snapshot of how many items are moving through the interlibrary delivery system. The count returned a total of slightly over 42,000 items circulated that week. Public libraries circulated the most items during the count, approximately 40,000 items during the week.

Delivery item counts have historically been lower in the fall count, and higher in the spring count. OLIS attributes the lower fall count to academic and school library borrowing not yet reaching full capacity. Extrapolating from the current count, RI libraries will circulate around 2.1 million items this fiscal year

ii. Interlibrary Delivery Contract, Request for Proposal (RFP)

A Request for Proposals (RFP) for the ILL delivery service has been posted through the state Purchasing Office; proposals are due by January 8. OLIS anticipates awarding the new contract by April 1 to allow the selected vendor a three-month period to prepare. The current delivery contract with Optima Courier is a three-year contract that expires on June 30, 2018. More information about the RFP results should be available at the February LBRI meeting.

iii. Public Library Annual Report

In the next two weeks, OLIS will post Fiscal Year 2017 Public Library Annual Report data on the OLIS website. Additionally, the data will be submitted to the federal government in the coming months. Libraries use the data to support requests for local library funding, and to research staff salaries.

iv. Fiscal Year 2019 Grant-in-Aid (GIA) Funding

Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 GIA funding is based on the annual survey information collected for FY17. OLIS anticipates FY19 GIA to be level-funded, as it has been historically, except for FY16 when there was a \$900,000 increase. In FY17, library appropriations and expenditures amounted to approximately \$35 million from RI municipalities, and \$3.5 million from library endowments. Level funding of \$8.6 million in state FY19 will result in RI cities and towns receiving 22.3% of local appropriations and expenditures, down from 22.8% in FY18.

B. Summer Meals Program

Ms. Mellor asked Mr. Garcia and Ms. DiMichele to report on how the Cranston Public Library, and OLIS respectively, are engaging with the RI Summer Food Service Program, which is coordinated by the RI Department of Education (RIDE). Cranston offered meals at the Knightsville Branch in 2017. There was an excellent response from the community, and the vendor was responsive with supplying culturally-appropriate meals for the community. West Warwick Public Library also hosted the program in 2017. Ms. DiMichele reported that OLIS Youth Services Coordinator, Danielle Margarida, is working with RIDE's Outreach Coordinator and Project Manager to bring the Summer Food Service Program to more libraries with qualifying populations.

C. Rhode Island Reads Campaign

Rhode Island Reads Campaign for Third-Grade Reading sponsored a social media promotion at the end of November using the hashtag #RIREADS. It was a very successful effort thanks to the participation of librarians at public and school libraries. The hashtag trended highly on Twitter, and many of RI's state officials engaged in the effort on their social media platforms. The campaign ran from November 27 to December 1.

D. OLIS Website

Ms. Mellor reported that OLIS has been working on a redesign and reorganization of its website over the past nine months. The new website will tentatively launch in early January. A new "Residents" section has been added to the site so that Rhode Islanders can find library information more easily. A social media feed is included in the Residents' section to capture content from RI libraries, and to provide a central place to view library news and programming from around the state.

OLIS has purchased a subscription to LibGuides, a content management system, to curate resources for various OLIS services and facilitate the process for posting those resources. The platform is used by libraries across the country, which enables sharing of common resources.

E. Library of RI (LORI) Annual Certification

The Library of RI (LORI) annual certification will begin on January 9.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

i. Net Neutrality

On December 14, 2018, the FCC voted to repeal Net Neutrality rules. The internet is now viewed as a free market enterprise, and will not be regulated as a public utility.

Mr. Viall reported that opponents of the FCC ruling will seek legislation to overturn the ruling. Mr. Garcia cautioned that legislative efforts may not be immediate because legislators will be working on other issues.

Ms. Mellor discussed the press release from Senator Reed's office about the FCC's vote, and Mr. Viall noted that delivery of information over the internet, not internet access, will be impacted by the FCC's action.

Mr. Garcia reported that RI Attorney General Kilmartin, is considering joining with other states in a lawsuit against the FCC, and recommended that the LBRI write a letter to him encouraging RI to join the lawsuit. Mr. Viall replied that the LBRI should allow the Attorney General time to join the suit, and if not joined by early January, issue the letter.

B. Federal Budget

Ms. Mellor reported that the continuing resolution for the current year federal budget was passed on December 8, but will expire on December 22. Without a budget, the federal government will shut down, which could impact grant payments to OLIS from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Viall

Mr. Viall reported that the Rhode Island Library Association (RILA), the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), Cornucopia of Rhode Island (CORI), and the New England Library Association (NELA) now offer a joint membership option to members. The joint membership is offered with a discount, and is available online.

<http://www.rilibraries.org/joint-memberships>

B. Dr. Hopper

Dr. Hopper reported that she attended a gallery talk by David Ferriero, 10th Archivist of the United States, at the RI State Archives on December 14. Topics discussed were the new fully-digital Obama Presidential Library, and the proposed new home for the RI State Archives.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. School Library Issues

Mr. Viall welcomed LBRI member, Dr. Phyllis Lynch, of the RI Department of Education (RIDE), and thanked her for her attendance.

Mr. Viall reported that Sarah Hunicke of the School Librarians of RI (SLRI) organization attended the November 2017 LBRI meeting to report on school libraries, and data gathered by SLRI in 2017. The data reflected that school librarianship, and access to school libraries, is trending downward in RI public schools.

Mr. Viall advised that the Board's goal is to determine what it can do to help preserve school libraries, and professional librarian leadership for them. He noted that there is no requirement in the RIDE Basic Education Program (BEP) Standards governing RI school libraries or professional school librarians. The Board is seeking ways to respond to efforts by communities to eliminate or reduce school librarians and libraries, and would like to see

more substantial language in the BEP that addresses the need for professional school librarians and school libraries.

Dr. Lynch reported that the BEP Standards are written broadly to allow local governments to structure their school programming to fit the needs of their individual communities, and that they include requirements for library media education.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2018, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room C, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Dr. Hopper

The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
January 08, 2018
at the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room C,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Cristina Amedeo, John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Louise Herrington-Bright, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Edward Garcia, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Humphrey, Alison Davis-Maxell, Phyllis Lynch, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds

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

Guests: None

Materials Distributed:

None

I. WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:24 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the December 18, 2017 meeting

Approval of the minutes was tabled until the February 05, 2018, LBRI meeting.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Mr. Viall spoke with Senator Whitehouse, thanking him for his support of recent federal legislation on behalf of libraries, and asked him to relay the Board's gratitude to Senator Reed for his support of funding for the Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA). Senator Reed submitted a bill reauthorizing the MLSA, which was supported by Senator Whitehouse.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Studio Rhode Grants

The RI Office of Innovation is allocating funding from a Carnegie Foundation grant for Studio Rhode that will enable OLIS to fund a second round of Studio Rhode projects. OLIS will host a Studio Rhode Phase II design thinking workshop next week to assist libraries with the development of project ideas, and outline the grant application process. The grant application period will close on February 2; grants will be awarded in mid-February. The focus of the grants will be rethinking library services, with an emphasis on creating spaces for digital learning and creation. LBRI members are asked to encourage libraries to apply for the grants.

B. Open Educational Resource (OER) Initiative

OLIS is working with the RI Office of Innovation on the Governor's Open Textbook Initiative (OTI) that assists faculty in identifying and using free online educational resources for university classes to relieve students of the expense of purchasing textbooks. All RI universities and colleges are participating in the initiative.

To address content and copyright concerns, the Office of Innovation, OLIS and the OTI committee (a group of librarians representing each of the state's academic libraries) will present a 'Copyright Bootcamp' at the end of February. The workshop will address copyright basics, fair use, and other copyright concerns. The workshop content will focus on copyright from a higher education perspective, but will present content relevant to K-12 and public librarians.

C. Narragansett Library Construction Project

Narragansett voters approved a referendum in 2016 to build a new library. The project has encountered some roadblocks with property acquisition, but the town recently entered into an agreement to acquire a building that will be renovated to create a new library.

D. OLIS 2017 Year in Review

Ms. Mellor reviewed highlights from OLIS' annual State Program Report on the use of Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) funds, which was submitted to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in December. The report is based on the federal fiscal year, and as such, the figures presented differ slightly from the figures in the state budget. The LSTA grant reported on was slightly over \$1,000,000, an increase of \$4,000 from the prior year; matching state funds were approximately \$1,400,000, a nearly \$200,000 increase. Library aid to municipalities increased by \$900,000.

The Library of Rhode Island (statewide delivery and interlibrary loan) accounts for 39% of the total OLIS budget, followed by the Talking Books Library, which accounts for 22%. OLIS administrative costs, 13%, increased by 2% from FY16 due to costs incurred for the evaluation of the prior strategic plan and the development of the new strategic plan. Public library development costs (consultant services to libraries, continuing education) and youth services account for 7% each, with the balance of the OLIS budget consisting of expenditures on AskRI, research and statistics, reference services, and preservation. Ms. Mellor will create a report outlining programming costs, funding sources, and a brief narrative of program expenditures for the OLIS website.

E. New OLIS Website

During the evaluation of the previous LSTA plan, OLIS received feedback from libraries indicating that the OLIS website was difficult to navigate due to the large amount of information. OLIS' web team performed a major reorganization of the website over the last nine months, and the new iteration will launch on January 11. The new site is streamlined, and follows the same template as most state websites.

Ms. Mellor demonstrated the new website and its updated design, fielded questions, and requested feedback from the LBRI as they continue their site review. Libraries will also be solicited for their input on the website. New website features include a section titled 'Resident Services' to make it easier for Rhode Islanders to find information relevant to their needs, a Twitter stream to showcase programming from libraries across the state, and the use of LibGuides for the Continuing Education (CE) calendar and registration.

Ms. Drnach recommended more public facing content on the homepage, and Ms. Amedeo suggested that an AskRI slide be included on the homepage slideshow.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Representative Joy Hearn (Barrington) will not seek re-election in 2018. Representative Hearn is a prominent supporter of libraries, serving as co-chair of the Karla Harry Commission on Libraries, and has been honored in the past by the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA).

Ms. Mellor reported that Rhode Island has a projected \$250M budget deficit for Fiscal Year 2019, and will inform the Board of any impact to the OLIS budget following the release of the Governor's later this month.

B. Federal Budget

On December 21, Senator Jack Reed introduced a bill to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA). Information about the bill has been posted on Rhodarian on the OLIS website.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Ms. Amedeo

Ms. Amedeo reported that some RI libraries served as warming centers during last week's cold spell. She inquired if federal or state law requires that libraries remain open to provide this public service. United Way 2-1-1 was issued a list by the RI Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) that indicated that libraries would be open as warming centers, and the Mayor of Warwick placed robotic calls to residents advising that libraries would be open to provide this service. However, many libraries in the state were not open.

Ms. DiMichele reported that libraries are not required by law to remain open during inclement weather, and she will contact RIEMA to address the dissemination of this information as it pertains to libraries for future weather events.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Board Strategy for Support of School Libraries

Mr. Viall reported that LBRI member, Phyllis Lynch, contacted him to advise that the RI Department of Education (RIDE), will identify another representative to attend LBRI

meetings. Dr. Lynch reported that she has begun the discussion at RIDE about school libraries.

RIDE's Basic Education Program (BEP) was researched by Mr. Viall. The BEP is established law, and is written in generic and broad terms to accommodate the large variety of RI municipal school systems. The document references libraries as designated areas that afford age-appropriate access to library media. Library media centers are included as part of the adequate facilities requirement. High-quality library media programming, library specialists, and the necessity of library media instruction and materials is included in the language of the BEP. Non-compliance is not addressed.

Mr. Viall will review the Basic Education Programs of other states for library requirements, and advised that the best way for the LBRI to support school librarians and school libraries is to continue to work with the RI Department of Education on their behalf.

B. Net Neutrality

In response to the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) ruling to repeal Net Neutrality rules, some states have initiated a lawsuit against the FCC. Mr. Viall advised that RI Attorney General Kilmartin is considering joining the lawsuit, and if RI does not join the lawsuit soon, the Board will send a letter to the Attorney General recommending that RI join the lawsuit.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2018, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room C, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
February 05, 2018
at the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room C,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Cristina Amedeo, Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Edward Garcia, Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: David Allard, John Bucci, Kenneth Findlay, Phyllis Humphrey, Alison Davis-Maxell, Joan Ress Reeves

Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS): Karen Andrews, Jason Bloom, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor

Guests: Dr. Walter Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

None

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:19 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the December 18, 2017 meeting

Moved by: Dr. Hopper

Seconded by: Ms. Reynolds

The meeting minutes were approved with non-substantive changes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the January 08, 2018 meeting

Moved by: Ms. Reynolds

Seconded by: Ms. Drnach

The meeting minutes were approved without change.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Library Board of Rhode Island Appointments

Mr. Viall thanked eligible LBRI members for their willingness to consider reappointment, and everyone for their suggestions for future board members. Recommendations have been submitted to the RI Department of Administration for consideration by the Governor, who appoints members to the Board with the advice and consent of the Senate. Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) Representation on LBRI, Phyllis Lynch, was unable to continue to serve as LBRI designee from RIDE due to scheduling conflicts.

David Allard has been appointed by the RI Education Commissioner, Dr. Ken Wagner, to represent RIDE. Mr. Allard participates in the Children’s Cabinet, and has worked with OLIS on several initiatives, including the OLIS Summer Reading Program and RI Reads, the Campaign for 3rd Grade Reading.

B. Cranston Public Library, Design Merit Award

Mr. Viall congratulated Mr. Garcia on the Design Merit Award presented to Cranston Public Library in December by the RI Chapter of American Institute of Architects. Cranston received the award for the redesign of its Children’s Room.

C. Rhode Island Library Day

RI celebrates Library Day on Saturday, April 14. To raise library awareness, many public libraries will host events and encourage the return of overdue materials by offering late fee amnesty.

D. Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) Annual Meeting

COLA will hold their annual meeting on April 10, at the RI State House. The reception begins at 5 pm, and the meeting at 5:30 pm. Jim Neal, President of the American Library Association, will be the speaker. More information is on the COLA website (<http://colari.org/>).

E. National Library Legislative Day

National Library Legislative Day will be held in Washington, DC on May 7-8. Registration for the event is open, and Mr. Viall will attend.

F. LBRI Annual Report

Mr. Viall extended his appreciation to Ms. Mellor for compiling the LBRI annual report; a recap of the board’s efforts for the past fiscal year. It is posted on the OLIS website with the archived LBRI meeting minutes, and will be filed with the RI Secretary of State; the report will be distributed to the board.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. OLIS Staffing

Andrew Egan, supervisor of the Talking Books Library (TBL), is retiring from state service on February 9. Mr. Egan has worked in TBL since 2000, and in a variety of other capacities in his 38-year tenure with OLIS. Ms. Mellor extended her best wishes to him for his retirement.

The position vacated by Mr. Egan is federally funded, and will be filled as soon as possible. Along with TBL responsibilities, the position will be expanded to include responsibilities in the broader area of accessibility of library resources, services, and facilities. OLIS Library Program Specialist Alicia Waters has been working part-time in TBL since the retirement of another TBL librarian in 2016. Ms. Waters will oversee the

daily operations of TBL until the position is filled. To ensure that seamless service is provided to TBL patrons, another OLIS staff member has been assigned to TBL on a part-time basis.

B. Continuing Education, Copyright Bootcamp

In support of the Governor's Open Textbook Initiative, and in partnership with the RI Office of Innovation, OLIS is offering an intensive two-day workshop on copyright at Bryant University, on February 21-22.

The workshop was developed by the Open Textbook Initiative Taskforce, a group of academic librarians that is supporting the development of open educational resources in academic institutions. The workshop will address issues about copyright and fair use of materials. Space is limited to 35 attendees. The speaker for the event is Kyle K. Courtney, Copyright Advisor for Harvard University, and founder of Fair Use Week.

C. Interlibrary (ILL) Delivery Contract

The ILL delivery vendor procurement process is underway and on schedule; there should be no interruptions in OLIS Library of Rhode Island (LORI) delivery service. Concurrently, OLIS is collecting data on the use of interstate delivery with Massachusetts to assist the HELIN academic library consortium in assessing the value of that service, which utilizes the OLIS delivery vendor in conjunction with LORI delivery, but is funded by HELIN.

D. Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Resource Sharing Group

A subgroup of the LORI Resource Sharing Workgroup is reviewing e-resources in all types of libraries. Part of the review will analyze which subscriptions are purchased to determine if cost savings can be realized through group purchasing, and to minimize duplication of effort. The group is also examining how libraries can share and/or gain expertise on vendor contract negotiations.

E. Studio Rhode Grants

The Studio Rhode grant application period ended on February 2. Funding for the grants is provided by the Carnegie Foundation through the RI Office of Innovation. Grants up to \$10,000 will be awarded to four libraries for projects focused on digital learning, digital creation spaces, and libraries as community centers. Grant recipients will be announced by the next LBRI meeting and posted on the OLIS website.

F. Rhode Island Library Legislative Day and Library Day

RI Library Legislative Day is Tuesday, April 10, at the State House, and will precede COLA's annual meeting at 5:00 PM. Various libraries and library organizations will exhibit at the State House on April 10 to promote the value of libraries.

RI Library Day is April 14. The goal of Library Day is to raise awareness of libraries, and to encourage legislators and other stakeholders to visit their local libraries to observe the

variety of services offered. All RI public libraries will again offer late fee amnesty to patrons as an incentive to return overdue materials.

The Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) sponsors Library Day and Library Legislative Day; both events take place during National Library Week (April 8-14).

G. Federal Budget

Ms. Mellor reported on the status of federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) funding. There is currently no federal budget, and the government is operating under a Continuing Resolution, which expires February 8, 2018; as a result, the 2018 IMLS Grants to States have not been awarded.

Chiefs were advised that if a federal budget is not enacted, states may apply for partial grants under extenuating circumstances. OLIS will not need to do this currently as the office budgeted to use funds from the FY17 federal grant through the end of state FY18.

H. Rhode Island State Budget

The Governor presented the state budget in January. OLIS was funded at its current service level for FY2019. The revised budget for 2018 includes a small reduction in funding for OLIS, but this reduction is a result of less than anticipated costs for personnel and interlibrary delivery and was expected; no reduction of services will result.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Mr. Garcia reported that RI state legislators, Representative Regunberg and Senator DiPalma, introduced bills, H7422 and S2008 respectively, in response to the FCC's repeal of Net Neutrality rules. The bills will prohibit state agencies, quasi-state agencies, and municipalities entering service agreements with internet service providers that do not follow the principle of Net Neutrality. Libraries and schools are specifically mentioned in Rep. Regunberg's legislation.

An event at the State House last week announced the introduction of Rep. Regunberg's Net Neutrality Act of 2018. RILA, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the Young Democrats Party are promoting the legislation. RILA is discussing the creation of materials for distribution to library groups to support this legislation.

Mr. Garcia recommended that the LBRI draft an opinion on the bills, and Mr. Viall requested that LBRI members review the legislation prior to drafting an opinion. The board will discuss and finalize their decision at the March meeting

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Dr. Hopper

Dr. Hopper reported on the Consortium of Rhode Island & Academic Research Libraries (CRIARL) meeting held February 2. The consortium includes academic, historical society and special libraries, and meets three times annually.

CRIARL's Government Documents Committee, which includes librarians working at RI academic and research libraries, is the only committee that focuses on government documents in RI; it serves as the de facto reporting body to the Connecticut State Library, which is the multi-state regional depository library that supports RI. There is no easy way to locate government depository libraries in RI. Ms. Mellor offered to have OLIS publish a directory of such libraries on its website.

CRIARL also discussed the value of an MLS as a professional credential. The University of Pittsburgh placed their MLS program on hiatus for a year to examine the future of the program, and some other universities around the country are also evaluating their MLS programs, or closing programs entirely. The group discussed whether degree programs adequately prepare graduates for employment, and if employers should require an MLS degree. The group consensus was that MLS-degreed graduates, while well-schooled in library and information theory and values, may not be adequately prepared to work in libraries unless they are already in the library workforce.

Ms. Mellor stated that the University of RI (URI) has been updating their MLS graduate program curriculum and its focus. URI's MLS program will be reviewed for accreditation by the American Library Association in Spring 2018.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. LBRI Strategy for Support of School Libraries

Mr. Viall reported that while the library community believes that school libraries must be staffed by MLS-degreed librarians, this belief is not always supported by school administrators.

Ms. Drnach reported on a 2017 study by the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association about state requirements for school librarians. The information noted that some states require professionally trained librarians, and others do not. A review of other states' educational plans reflects inconsistent job titles for school librarians. Ms. Drnach's research showed no national consistency in the requirement for school librarians, the language that references them, and the criteria for determining their qualifications.

Ms. Mellor noted that nationally there is no consistent titling of, or requirements for, librarians in schools, that individual state economies often impact hiring practices, and that in some places, including RI, there is a deficit of available MLS-degreed applicants.

Mr. Viall stated that he anticipated representation from RIDE at the LBRI, and that his request of RIDE would be that they take an active role in fielding complaints from the community about both the staffing of and availability of school library services.

B. Net Neutrality

Mr. Garcia recommended that the LBRI send a letter of thanks to Attorney General Kilmartin for joining the lawsuit against the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) over their decision to suspend Net Neutrality rules.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2018, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Ms. Reynolds

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
March 19, 2018
at William Hall Library
1825 Broad Street, Cranston, RI 02905

Members Attending: John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Edward Garcia, Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Lynch, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Phyllis Humphrey, Alison Davis-Maxell, Joan Ress Reeves

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

Guests: Kathi Kromer, Associate Executive Director, American Library Association (ALA), Washington Office; Dr. Alan Inouye, Director of Public Policy, ALA, Washington Office; Jack Martin, ALA State Chapter Councilor and Executive Director, Providence Public Library; Kieran Ayton, President, Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) and Rhode Island College Emerging Technologies Librarian; Julie Holden, Vice President, RILA and Assistant Director, Cranston Public Library; Cheryl McCarthy, President, Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates

Materials Distributed:

- Draft letter of support for H7076 and H7422, Net Neutrality
- Press Release, Studio Rhode Grants

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the February 05, 2018 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Mr. Norris

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Acknowledgments

Mr. Viall extended his gratitude to Mr. Garcia for providing the venue for today's meeting, and to Jack Martin for making the arrangements for today's guest speakers from the American Library Association's (ALA) Washington Office: Kathi Kromer, Associate Executive Director, and Alan Inouye, Director of Public Policy.

B. National Library Legislative Day (NLLD)

National Library Legislative Day will be held in Washington DC on May 7-8, and registration for the event is open. Mr. Viall attended an NLLD online webinar about best practices for approaching Congressional members with concerns and issues of importance to libraries.

C. Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA)

COLA's annual meeting is scheduled for April 10 from 5-7:30 p.m. at the RI State House. Jim Neal, President of ALA, is the event's keynote speaker and COLA's Sweetheart of the Year award will be presented to Neeltje Henneman, COLA Board member and Treasurer.

D. Marrakesh Treaty

A bill to implement the Marrakesh Treaty to facilitate access to published works for persons who are blind, visually impaired or otherwise print disabled was introduced to Congress and, if passed, will allow copyright restriction exemptions to be made in the reproduction of materials for the blind and visually-impaired. The Marrakesh Treaty was adopted by the World Intellectual Property Organization in 2013, and has been ratified by 37 countries. ALA has more information about the treaty on its website.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. OLIS Staffing

Andrew Egan, Regional Librarian for the Talking Books Library (TBL), retired from state service as of February 9. OLIS is moving to fill the position as soon as possible. Alicia Waters, Library Program Specialist, is currently coordinating daily TBL activities to ensure that there is no gap in patron services.

One of two Library Program Manager positions is vacant as of March 7.

B. Studio Rhode

OLIS, in collaboration with the Office of Innovation, awarded four additional Studio Rhode grants to RI libraries through a competitive grant process. Funding was provided through a grant to the Office of Innovation by the Carnegie Corporation.

Grant awards ranged from \$9,300 to \$10,000 for community and digital learning projects. Award winners include: Central Falls Library's "Teen Space on Wheels", Providence Community Library's "Virtual Providence", Greenville Public Library's "Get Growing at Greenville", and Warwick Public Library's "Virtual Worlds at Warwick." The grants were made available through an extension of the 2017 Studio Rhode project, which awarded grants to Woonsocket Public Library and Westerly Public Library.

Mr. Viall inquired if libraries receiving Studio Rhode grants could make presentations to the LBRI about their projects. Ms. Mellor reported that grant presentations are included as part of the project and future presentations to the LBRI can be arranged. Additionally, OLIS is working with Studio Rhode libraries to present at the New England Library Association (NELA) and Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) joint 2018 conference.

C. National Library Service (NLS) Promotional Campaign

The Library of Congress' National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, represented locally by OLIS' Talking Books Library (TBL), has launched a promotional campaign to raise public awareness of its services for the print disabled. The campaign has increased program visibility, and TBL staff report that applications for and use of TBL services have increased.

The TBL program currently serves approximately 1,500 patrons. Once hired, the new supervisor for the Talking Books Library will be tasked with conducting community outreach; an estimated 20,000 Rhode Islanders may be eligible for TBL services.

Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo inquired if libraries will be able to assist patrons with their requests for large print books or books on CD. Ms. Mellor responded that most public libraries' collections include large print books and audio books; libraries can also acquire materials for their patrons from other libraries. OLIS works with public libraries to publicize TBL services and has provided training sessions for public library staff to assist patrons with downloading books from NLS systems. Libraries are also encouraged to become institutional members of TBL so that they can receive NLS equipment and enroll patrons in NLS services.

D. Census 2020

An End-to-End Test in preparation for the 2020 US Census will be conducted in Providence County starting later this month; it is the only complete test in the country. The 2020 Census will be the first census that utilizes online surveys; it is anticipated that public libraries will play an important role in providing access and assisting the public with census surveys. Ms. Mellor has been working with the Census Bureau, libraries, and the American Library Association to identify roles that libraries may play in helping the Census Bureau get an accurate count, which is critical to many programs in RI that are federally funded.

OLIS is also working with the Urban League of Rhode Island, youth serving organizations, and the Census Bureau on an April workshop aimed at bringing community leaders together to discuss strategies to get accurate census counts of traditionally undercounted populations, including minority children ages 0-4 and young men.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Kathi Kromer, Associate Executive Director, and Dr. Alan Inouye, Director of Public Policy, from the Washington Office of the American Library Association (ALA), presented an overview of key national legislative issues of concern to ALA and libraries.

The reauthorization and funding of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA); level funding for the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) Program; and the potential elimination of the Institute of Museum and Libraries Services (IMLS) in the proposed FY19 Federal Budget, are issues of primary importance to ALA.

ALA supports Net Neutrality rules that promote equal access to all information transported via the internet. Maintaining the ability for all internet users to access information available via the internet at the same speed as large media organizations ensures a competitive market.

E-Rate is a federal program that provides discounts to libraries and schools for costs related to telecommunication services, wi-fi, and internet access. Because of E-Rate funding, almost all US public libraries now provide public internet access and wi-fi.

ALA supports the Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty, which would allow copyright exemptions to facilitate the access of materials to persons with print disabilities.

More information about the legislation that ALA supports can be found on the ALA website. <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/>

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Findlay

Mr. Findlay announced that the books purchased through the Department of Corrections' Books Beyond program are ready for distribution to public libraries. He thanked OLIS staff, Alicia Waters and Danielle Margarida, for their work on the project. Ms. DiMichele reported that OLIS staff has packaged the books for delivery through its library delivery service.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Board Strategy for Support of School Libraries (S 2338)

Mr. Garcia reported on Senate Bill S 2338 stating that it would set standards to ensure that students have access to school libraries and their services during school hours, and an hour before and after school sessions. The bill is sponsored by RI State Senators DiPalma, Gallo, Gee, Miller, and Sheehan. The bill is scheduled to be heard on March 28.

Dr. Lynch noted that RI's Basic Education Plan (BEP) is framed to give Local Education Agencies flexibility, however it does not require a full-time librarian in every school. The BEP regulations are designed to afford school districts flexibility in how they manage various school processes as they relate to their individual communities.

B. Net Neutrality

Prior to today's meeting, Mr. Viall circulated a draft letter in support of proposed bills that relate to Net Neutrality to the Board for input. The Board supported submission of the letter to legislative leaders.

i. House Bill H 7422, Net Neutrality Protection Act of 2018

H 7422 prohibits unreasonable interference with end users' access to broadband internet service and content available to end users over the internet.

ii. House Bill H 7076 and Senate Bill S 2008, Net Neutrality

H 7076 requires state agencies, public authorities, and municipalities to purchase internet connection services only from providers that follow Net Neutrality principles. The bill is scheduled for a hearing on March 16.

S 2008 is the Net Neutrality companion bill to H 7076, and has been referred to Senate Commerce but has not yet had a hearing.

iii. House Bill H 7162 Gun Crime Statistics Library Provision

Mr. Garcia discussed adding a provision to H 7162 that would require gun crime statistics to be issued to RI public libraries for dissemination to the public.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2018, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room C, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo

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

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on

April 16, 2018

At the Department of Administration,

2nd Floor, Conference Room C,

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Rosita Hopper, Doug Norris, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Edward Garcia, Kenneth Findlay, Louise Herrington, Phyllis Humphrey, Phyllis Lynch, Alison Davis-Maxell, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds

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

Guests: None

Materials Distributed:

- Draft Library Construction Reimbursement Regulations, Dated April 16, 2018

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:20 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the March 19, 2018 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. National Library Legislative Day (NLLD)

National Library Legislative Day will be held in Washington DC on May 7-8. Jack Martin, Executive Director of Providence Public Library, Cheryl McCarthy, Chair of the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), Sarah Hunicke, Past President of School Librarians of RI (SLRI), LBRI members Mr. Garcia and Mr. Viall, and Ms. Mellor are registered to attend NLLD. All four RI Congressional offices are scheduled for visits from the RI Library Delegation.

B. Coalition of Library Advocates

COLA held its annual meeting at the RI State House on April 10. Jim Neal, President of the American Library Association (ALA), was the event's keynote speaker, and COLA's 'Sweetheart of the Year' award was presented to Neeltje Henneman, COLA Board Member and Treasurer.

COLA has voted to become a section of the Rhode Island Library Association (RILA). Mr. Bucci reported that Cornucopia of Rhode Island: A Library Community of Color (CORI) and SLRI are also investigating becoming sections of RILA. By joining together, RI library groups will combine their individual strengths to create a unified library organization for all kinds of RI libraries.

Mr. Viall extended his gratitude to Ms. Mellor, Mr. Bucci, and Ms. McCarthy for their work in facilitating communications between the library groups to address RILA merger questions and concerns.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. OLIS Staffing

The job announcement for the vacant Library Program Specialist III position (supervisor of the Library for the Blind and the OLIS Library) was posted, and closed on 4/13. Numerous applications were received and OLIS will move forward with the candidate selection process to fill the position in the most expedient manner possible.

The recently vacated position of Library Program Manager is proceeding through the state hiring process. Ms. Mellor is absorbing the duties from several staff absences, including the State Data Coordinator; the additional workload is impacting the timely completion of projects.

B. Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Certification Annual Process

Ms. DiMichele reported that the annual LORI Certification process was completed in early April. 179 libraries were certified as LORI libraries, including six new libraries: the RI School for the Deaf, Moses Brown, Meeting Street School, Lincoln High School, Community School of Cumberland, and Metcalf School of Exeter. Roger Williams Law Library declined to renew their LORI membership, and two elementary schools, closing at the end of the 2018 school year, did not renew their LORI memberships.

C. Library Construction Reimbursement Program

i. Providence Public Library

Providence Public Library (PPL) applied for construction reimbursement funding for a substantial \$21 million renovation project that will meld the original library building with the 1950s section facing Empire Street. The project is slated to begin in August 2018, and be completed in Spring 2020. Following funding approval from the State Budget Office, OLIS entered an agreement to reimburse \$8.9 million of the project cost; reimbursement will begin in 2021.

For the duration of the project, PPL plans to store most of their collection, but will maintain a portion for interlibrary loan purposes. PPL communicated collection limitations for the renovation period to other RI libraries, and is negotiating a temporary location to provide limited library services during the renovation. Ms.

Mellor recommended that the LBRI hold a meeting at PPL once the renovation is complete.

ii. Maury Loontjens Memorial Library (Narragansett)

Narragansett voters approved a library bond referendum for a project in November 2016; the project was later cancelled because the town could not complete a purchase agreement for the new location. The project has been revived: a purchase and sales agreement was signed for a building located within a few blocks of the current library.

iii. Jamestown Public Library

Jamestown Public Library has scaled back its design for renovation, but is continuing to plan its renovation project. The library is planning to apply for construction reimbursement funding.

D. Studio Rhode

Studio Rhode projects are progressing smoothly and engaging patrons with their varied programming. Warwick Public Library's "Virtual Worlds at Warwick" project has reported making an impact with patrons because the program allows users to virtually experience real life scenarios in far off locations. During a book club program, participants could virtually walk through a Syrian refugee camp, enabling them to place themselves inside the refugee experience.

Grant awardee programs also include Central Falls Library's "Teen Space on Wheels," Providence Community Library's "Virtual Providence," and Greenville Public Library's "Get Growing at Greenville."

E. Census 2020

On April 13, Ms. Mellor attended a workshop about Census 2020 at the Urban League of RI. Librarians from Brown University and eight public libraries attended. The workshop focused on approaches to increase Census participation by many traditionally undercounted populations in Rhode Island, including young children and young men who are minorities.

The workshop also emphasized the importance of creating partnerships to promote the importance of an accurate census count. Census 2020 will be the first decennial census that allows people to complete their census survey online; libraries will play a critical role for people needing technology access. It is estimated that states lose \$1,100 in federal funding for each person that is not counted in the census.

F. RI Library Legislative Day

April 10 was Library Legislative Day at the RI State House. Along with other Rhode Island library organizations, OLIS staffed an exhibit table for the event. Hearings for several high-profile bills were held that day, and the State House was crowded. OLIS staff used the opportunity to discuss libraries, and their services, with the attending public.

G. RI Library Day

April 14 was RI Library Day, and Rhode Island public libraries offered fine amnesty and a variety of activities in celebration of libraries.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Ms. Mellor attended the budget hearing for the Department of Administration, however there has been no movement on state legislation that concerns libraries.

The Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act will be heard by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on April 18.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Ms. Feldman

Ms. Feldman reported that Louttit Library participated in the West Greenwich Spring Fair. The farm-based fair brought together farming vendors with community groups, such as 4H, and focused on 'all things poultry', including poultry-related learning. Louttit's February 'Pet Month' showcased patrons and their pets communicating their favorite books.

Ms. Feldman attended a six-week RI Interlocal Trust Management Institute 'Management Bootcamp' at Roger Williams University. The program offered instruction on a variety of administrative issues, including insurance, risk management, and personnel management.

B. Mr. Sloan

Mr. Sloan reported that the Town of East Greenwich allocated 2019 funding for a high school librarian. East Greenwich Public Library's town aid was level-funded for a second year, but the Library may no longer participate in town services such as bookkeeping and health insurance which will add additional expenses to the budget. Medical insurance was later reinstated for library staff.

Ms. Mellor reported that North Kingstown Public Library is also being billed by their town for bookkeeping services. Reductions in town services for libraries impact library's maintenance of effort requirement. Mr. Viall responded that library service reduction actions by towns requires research.

OLIS will further explore the issue to determine how many libraries are losing services previously provided by their municipalities. Ms. Mellor reported that the State is also adopting a charge back system: beginning in FY19, the State will charge state agencies such as OLIS for facility and IT services.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Board Strategy for Support of School Libraries (S 2338)

Senate Bill S 2338 was heard and held for committee study. Mr. Viall inquired if this item requires additional LBRI action or should be removed from the agenda. Mr. Norris asked if

Dr. Lynch, the RI Department of Education (RIDE) LBRI representative, commented about RIDE's Basic Education Plan (BEP) language on school libraries, and Mr. Sloan replied that the BEP is vague on school libraries. Mr. Viall reported that Dr. Lynch advised that the BEP is written broadly in many areas to allow municipal flexibility in school governance.

The board determined that the item will be removed from the agenda, and revisited when additional action is required for school library issues.

B. Net Neutrality

i. House Bill H 7422, Net Neutrality Protection Act of 2018

Net Neutrality H 7422 was heard and held for further study.

ii. House Bills H 7076 and S 2008, Net Neutrality

House Bill H 7076 was scheduled for a hearing on March 16, and requires state agencies to purchase internet connection services only from providers that honor Net Neutrality rules. Beatrice Pulliam of Providence Public Library and Kieran Ayton, RILA Chair, testified on behalf of the bill.

Senate Bill S 2008 is the Net Neutrality companion bill to H 7076, and it has been referred to Senate Commerce.

The legislative bills will be moved from Unfinished Business to Committee Reports on the agenda.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Construction Regulations

Ms. Mellor reviewed the updates to the reimbursement regulations recommended by the Library Construction Reimbursement Regulations Review Committee, and thanked committee members for their work on the regulations. Mr. Bucci, Ms. Drnach, Ms. Feldman, Ms. Mellor, and Kay Bullard, retired Assistant Director at Providence Public Library, comprised the committee.

Mr. Viall requested a motion to accept the revisions with minor changes.

Moved by: Ms. Drnach

Seconded by: Dr. Hopper

The regulations were approved unanimously. OLIS will work with the DOA Legal Services Division to promulgate the rules, which will include a public hearing as part of the process.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2018, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room C, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Dr. Hopper

Seconded by: Ms. Drnach

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on

May 21, 2018

At the Department of Administration,

2nd Floor, Conference Room C,

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Melody Drnach, Kenneth Findlay, Edward Garcia, Louise Herrington, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, John Bucci, Alison Davis-Maxell, Annette Feldman, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Humphrey, Phyllis Lynch, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Robert Sloan

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

Guests: Dr. Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- 2018 RILA Legislative Briefs
- Updated Regulations for State Aid to Institutional Libraries

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:20 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the April 16, 2018 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Ms. Dzialo

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. National Library Legislative Day (NLLD)

National Library Legislative Day was held in Washington, DC on May 7-8. Jack Martin, Executive Director of Providence Public Library, Cheryl McCarthy, Chair of the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), Sarah Hunicke, Past President of School Librarians of RI (SLRI), LBRI members Mr. Garcia and Mr. Viall, and Ms. Mellor, attended the event to represent RI libraries and discuss library issues. The delegation met with Senator Whitehouse and his staff, and with congressional staff members for Representative Langevin, Representative Cicilline, and Senator Reed.

Primary issues addressed at the meetings were the reauthorization of the Museum and Library Services Act, and fully funding the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Other topics discussed included staffing for RI school libraries, and the roles that RI libraries will take to facilitate the test of US Census 2020 in Rhode Island.

Mr. Martin and Mr. Garcia reported on programming in RI libraries, and updated Senator Whitehouse about the Marrakesh Treaty on which the Judiciary Committee will soon vote.

At the May 7 NLLD reception, Ms. Mellor accepted an award from the American Library Association on behalf of Joan Ress Reeves, LBRI Member Emeritus, for Ms. Reeves' 35-year commitment to library advocacy. Senator Reed presented the award.

B. Mr. Garcia, Alumni of the Year

Mr. Viall congratulated Mr. Garcia on his recent honor of being named the University of RI (URI) Graduate School of Library and Information Services 'Alumni of the Year.'

C. Rhode Island Futures Conference

OLIS will host a Futures Conference on June 7 from 8:30-4:30 at URI; Mr. Viall encouraged LBRI members to attend the event.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. OLIS Staffing

Alicia Waters has been selected to fill the new position of Library Services Coordinator, which includes supervision of the Talking Books Library (TBL); the position will also include responsibility for the OLIS Library. Ms. Waters has worked in various capacities at OLIS for 31 years, including Talking Books, the OLIS Library, and the Library of Rhode Island delivery service.

ii. Vacant OLIS Positions

The now vacant Library Program Specialist II position (formerly held by Ms. Waters) will be redefined to align with OLIS' current needs, as articulated in the strategic plan. The position of Library Program Manager is also vacant, but in process in the state hiring system.

B. Kids Reading Across RI (KRARI)

The annual KRARI event was held at the RI State House on May 19. Celia C. Pérez, author of the 2018 KRARI selection *The First Rule of Punk*, was the keynote speaker; 225-250 people attended.

Governor Raimondo, Honorary Chair, was unable to attend the celebration, and her Director of Communications, Mike Raia, spoke on her behalf. The West Warwick High School Jazz Band performed for the attendees, and nineteen RI public libraries and other organizations were on-hand to offer activities and promote summer library programs.

C. RI Summer Reading Program

KRARI is the kick-off event for the Summer Reading Program held in Rhode Island's 48 public libraries. The theme for this summer's program is 'Libraries Rock!'; the program focuses on music, geology, and the natural world.

D. Futures Conference

OLIS will host a Futures Conference at URI in the Galanti Lounge of the Carothers Library on June 7 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The conference is a collaboration between OLIS, the RI Office of Innovation, the RI Library Association (RILA), the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), and URI's Graduate School of Library and Information Studies. Funding for the event is provided by the Office of Innovation.

Miguel Figueroa from the American Library Association's Center for the Future of Libraries is the keynote speaker for the conference, which will include speakers from both inside the library world and beyond. The goal of the conference is to encourage librarians and library staff to consider trends both in and outside of libraries that will impact the delivery of library services now and in the future. As part of the conference, Mr. Figueroa will facilitate an exercise to allow attendees to apply their newly-acquired knowledge, and conference presenters will participate in a closing panel to synthesize the day's discussions.

E. Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA)

After the conclusion of NLLD events, Ms. Mellor attended the COSLA meeting in Washington, DC.

- i. Ms. Mellor has been working with the US Census Bureau, and facilitated a presentation by Census officials to address the COSLA meeting as to how libraries can assist individuals with Census self-responses. Providence County is the test market for Census 2020.

The next census will be available in print in 59 languages and online in 12 languages. The Census Bureau is especially concerned with accurately capturing the 0-4 age group; approximately one million people in this demographic were uncounted in the 2010 Census. Estimates determine that states lose \$1,100 in federal funding for each uncounted person.

- ii. Institute of Museum and Library Services Grant Cycles

IMLS staff attended the COSLA meeting and described changes to grant cycles for the discretionary National Leadership and Laura Bush grants. The current two cycle discretionary grants will be reduced to one cycle with a static September/October application date. A new grant program for small libraries (with awards of \$100-150k per grant) is being developed that will not require a monetary match, unlike the National Leadership and Laura Bush grants. This will make it easier for smaller libraries to apply for grant-funded projects with outcomes that could have a ripple effect to other libraries nationwide.

F. Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Project

Ms. Mellor attended the Maine State Library's final STEM Project meeting in York, ME on May 14-15. OLIS and the Massachusetts State Library Board of Commissioners (MBLC) partnered with the Maine State Library on a STEM Literacy grant from the IMLS.

As part of the project, the Maine State Library and the MBLC each collaborated with three libraries in their states to promote STEM literacy. One of the outputs of the grant project will be a STEM Manual for state library agencies to assist public libraries with programming.

OLIS Youth Services Coordinator, Danielle Margarida, is investigating STEM literacy kits for OLIS purchase that can be distribute to libraries.

G. Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Certification

Ms. Mellor reported on the 2018 LORI Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Statistics and Technology Scan. Data is collected annually from libraries to certify their participation in the LORI network. Delivery service is supplied to 180 library systems and 209 library locations; school libraries comprise 59% of LORI libraries.

Cranston Public Library is the leading lending library in the state, followed by Lincoln Public Library. Providence Community Library is the top borrowing library, and Cranston is second. ILL circulation increased for this reporting period, with school hubs contributing to the increase. School hubs were created for some communities to allow schools within a hub to receive more deliveries per week.

The technology scan was updated for 2018 to include more detailed information, specifically about newer technologies available to patrons. Data from the full library technology scan is on the OLIS website.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Mr. Garcia reviewed items from the RILA Legislative Briefs handout and reported that the Marrakesh Treaty will soon be scheduled for a vote by the Senate. The Senate recently approved a bipartisan resolution to restore Federal Communication Commission (FCC) Net Neutrality rules, and the resolution will move to the House for final approval.

Ms. Mellor reported that no library legislation has been acted on in the past month by the RI General Assembly, and that no bills were currently scheduled for hearings.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

No board member reports were heard.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Regulations for the Construction Reimbursement Program

Ms. Mellor reported that the new Public Library Construction Reimbursement regulations have been submitted to the RI Office of Regulatory Reform for review. When the review is complete, OLIS will forward the regulations to the Legal Division for submittal to the Department of State's Rules and Regulations section. The proposed regulations will be open for public comment at that point. A public hearing will also be scheduled for the proposed regulations.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review of Updated Minimum Standards for Institutional Libraries

Ms. Mellor presented a draft of the new standards for state institutional libraries, and reported on the history of the standards. RI General Law 29-6-8 defines the requirements that state institutions must meet to receive state library aid, including meeting standards of service established by OLIS. The previous standards, written in the mid-1990s, were highly prescriptive, and contained outdated language and guidelines.

Ms. Drnach, Mr. Findlay, Ms. Reynolds, and Ms. Mellor comprised the standards review team. Along with a review of the prior standards, the current Public Library Standards were consulted to maintain consistency in the provision of public library service. The state's institutional libraries provide public library service to individuals who are unable to use their local public library, such as individuals who are incarcerated. The revisions were written broadly to accommodate variables among the state's residential and student institutions.

Ms. Mellor requested LBRI feedback about the proposed standards. Once feedback is received, the review team will meet to revise the draft. The final draft of the regulations will be presented to the LBRI for a vote at the June 18, 2018 meeting.

The Adult Correctional Institution (ACI) and the RI School for the Deaf meet current state requirements for library aid to state institutions.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2018, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room C, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Mr. Norris

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

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND
The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
June 18, 2018

At the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room C,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Lynch, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Rose Ellen Reynolds Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Alison Davis-Maxell, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Edward Garcia, Phyllis Humphrey, Doug Norris, Joan Ress Reeves

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

Guests: Heidi Blais, Aaron Coutu, Walter Dzialo, Marcus Mitchell

Materials Distributed:

- Draft Regulations for Public Library Construction Reimbursement Program
- Draft Minimum Standards for Institutional Libraries
- Proposed 2018-2019 LBRI Meeting Schedule

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m., and introduced three newly-appointed LBRI members, Heidi Blais, Aaron Coutu, and Marcus Mitchell. The appointees have received Senate Committee approval; the full Senate will vote on their appointments on June 19.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the May 21, 2018 meeting

Moved by: Ms. Reynolds

Seconded by: Mr. Sloan

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. RI Futures Conference

OLIS hosted a Futures Conference on June 7 at the University of Rhode Island (URI). The conference was a collaboration of the RI Office of Innovation, the RI Library Association (RILA), the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), and URI's Graduate School of Library and Information Studies (GSLIS).

93 library staff from several types of RI libraries participated. Futurists and innovators presented trending ideas to help attendees envision the future of libraries. Participants attended breakout sessions, and the assembled discussed how the presented information

could be applied to and implemented in libraries. Funding for the conference was provided by the RI Office of Innovation.

B. Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) Annual Meeting

RILA held its annual meeting after the Futures Conference, at which Mr. Sloan was honored as the “Trustee of the Year”.

C. School Libraries

School libraries have been placed back on the Board agenda because of recent developments.

D. LBRI Members

Mr. Viall congratulated Mr. Findlay, Dr. Hopper, Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo and Mr. Sloan for their reappointments to the LBRI, on which the full Senate must still vote. Special thanks were offered to Ms. Reynolds as she departs the board; Ms. Reynolds has participated on the LBRI in various roles since 1991.

Ms. Blais (representing school libraries), Mr. Coutu (representing library users) and Mr. Mitchell (representing library users), were appointed to the board by Governor Raimondo, and awaiting the consent of the Senate, introduced themselves to the board.

Ms. Mellor reported that two additional LBRI appointees also await the consent of the Senate, Leslie Page from the Woonsocket Harris Public (representing economically disadvantaged library users), and Amanda Richman of RI Hospital (representing special libraries).

Ms. Mellor extended her thanks to Mr. Viall for his many years of service to the board, both as a library user representative and as the Board Chair.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. Staffing

Alicia Waters is now the OLIS Library Services Coordinator, overseeing the Talking Books and OLIS Libraries. OLIS will seek to fill the vacated Library Specialist II position in the new fiscal year. The open Library Program Manager I position is in process.

ii. State Budget

The state budget was passed by the RI House on Friday, and now moves to the Senate. OLIS was funded at its current service level, which includes a slight increase to accommodate contractual pay raises for staff. The proposed OLIS budget for state fiscal year 2019 is \$2.7 million. Grant-in-aid (GIA) to cities and towns was level-funded at \$9.4 million, which is approximately 22.3% of local expenditures and appropriations.

B. Futures Conference & Futures Forward

The library community responded positively to the Futures Conference, with nearly 100 people attending from various types of libraries and very good feedback on the sessions

Miguel Figueroa of ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries gave the keynote presentation about trends that impact libraries, and led a hands-on exercise for attendees to discuss the trends and impact on their libraries. A variety of speakers, from inside and outside the library world, gave presentations about trends and innovations that impact future services in libraries.

OLIS will use remaining funding to coordinate several additional workshops over the summer featuring speakers who were unable to present at the June event. Futures speakers will include Jason Griffey, noted library technologist, and a representative from the Harry Potter Alliance, who will discuss community activism. There will also be a session focusing on innovation for small libraries.

C. ALA Census Library Outreach and Education Task Force

Ms. Mellor has been appointed to the ALA 2020 Census Library Outreach and Education Task Force. Ms. Mellor will share RI's experiences from the end-to-end test in April and provide input on the role of libraries during the Census. Census 2020 will be the first census to be conducted primarily online and the Census Bureau will partner with libraries to facilitate online access to the census.

D. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Five-Year Site Visit

Ms. DiMichele reported on preparations for the upcoming site visit from IMLS Program Officers on August 7-9. OLIS submits a five-year plan to the IMLS, and once during that five-year period, IMLS conducts a site visit to verify the plan's progress and effectiveness. The IMLS Program Manager for RI and the IMLS Deputy Director for State Programs will meet with OLIS' management team and professional staff to review programming and grant processes. They will visit several Rhode Island libraries with OLIS' management team, to see the variety of programs and activities happening in libraries, including two libraries that received Studio Rhode grants from OLIS. Ms. Mellor noted that although they will review the use of grant funding, the visit is not a forensic audit.

E. Summer Reading Program (SRP)

Ms. DiMichele reported on the summer reading programming. Staff from OLIS and the Providence Community Library (PCL) promoted the SRP at a "Free Friday" at the Providence Children's Museum on June 15, which included a visit by PCL's mobile library. Danielle Margarida, OLIS' Youth Services Coordinator, reported that over 100 people attended and OLIS distributed 75 free books.

Summer Reading programming will begin in libraries soon, with 226 programs scheduled for children and 117 programs scheduled for teens. The SRP Explorer incentive cards distributed to children and teens are now printed in English and Spanish. The cards are distributed to

youth who meet their reading goals, and can be used to access an assortment of educational venues or provide admission discounts.

Ms. Mellor reported that PCL has a Studio Rhode grant from OLIS and the Office of Innovation to create virtual reality video tours of some Explorer card destination for youth unable to visit those venues.

F. Fall Program Planning

OLIS professional staff is actively planning fall continuing education programs.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

i. Net Neutrality

RI Net Neutrality Bill S2008, which would require state agencies to contract with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) that follow Net Neutrality laws, passed the Senate Commerce Committee and will go to the floor for a vote. The parallel bill from the House, though, has not moved out of committee and it is unlikely that this will become law.

However, on April 24, 2018, Governor Raimondo issued Executive Order 18-02, Internet Neutrality and State Procurement, to ensure that state agencies only contract with ISPs that follow Net Neutrality rules. The RI Department of Administration has drafted regulations for the Purchasing Department to make Executive Order 18-02 applicable to state agency purchasing practices.

ii. Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA)

The federal MLSA, sponsored by Senator Reed, provides the legislation that provides for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding.

Ms. Mellor and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) have discussed with Senator Reed the possibility of increasing the base allotment for state grants to provide more funding for smaller states. COSLA is working with ALA and formed a joint committee to explore increasing funding for LSTA, and to change the base allotment. The Grants-to-States Program had an infusion of \$4,000,000 last year, of which Rhode Island realized less than \$20,000.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Sloan

Mr. Sloan reported that East Greenwich Free Library received level-funding from the town, but is now being charged for services previously provided without cost by the town.

B. Dr. Hopper

Dr. Hopper reported that Brown University invited RI librarians to attend a meeting about establishing a RI hub for the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). The DPLA is the portal

to a vast library of digital images, aggregated from state and regional hubs. To contribute to DPLA, a minimum number of images is required. Brown University is leading the initiative.

Ms. Mellor added that the goal of the meeting is to determine the interest level for the project. OLIS will work with Brown and other interested participants to support this initiative. RI is one of only a few states that does not have a DPLA hub or participate in a regional hub.

C. Mr. Bucci

Mr. Bucci reported that Cranston Public Library will no longer charge children and teens for overdue materials, and the City of Cranston will allocate funds to the library to make up the lost revenue. A study of Cranston's youth patron library cards determined that 1/3 of young patrons were not using them due to outstanding fines. The waiver of overdue fees began last month, and will not apply to lost or damaged materials.

Providence Community Library is also going fine-free for children and teens; nationally, many libraries are becoming fine-free for children and teens.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Regulations for Public Library Construction Reimbursement

A hearing for the Public Library Construction Reimbursement Regulations will be held on June 28; the hearing information is posted on the Secretary of State and OLIS websites. The hearing is open to anyone who would like to comment on the proposed changes to the regulations. To date, OLIS has not received any comments on the proposed regulations. Ms. DiMichele reported that once the proposed regulation is approved and effective, the current regulations will be repealed.

B. Regulations: Minimum Standards for Institutional Libraries

LBRI members received a draft of the proposed regulations, Minimum Standards for Institutional Libraries. The RI Adult Correctional Institution (ACI) and the RI School for the Deaf are the two state institutions that currently receive institutional grant-in-aid (GIA). Per RIGL 29-6-7, the state provides GIA to state institutions that serve populations that cannot otherwise access a public library; RIGL 29-6-8 establishes the requirements for RI institutions to receive GIA. The ACI and School for the Deaf returned feedback about the proposed changes, and edits were made based on that feedback.

Ms. Drnach, Mr. Bucci, and Ms. Reynolds were instrumental in providing feedback to improve regulation clarity, and Ms. Mellor extended her thanks to them.

Mr. Viall requested a motion to approve the revised Minimum Standards for Institutional Libraries.

Moved by: Ms. Reynolds

Seconded by: Dr. Hopper

The revised Minimum Standards for Institutional Libraries were approved.

C. Board Strategy for Support of School Libraries

Mr. Viall returned this item to the agenda because of a recent development in school libraries. Ms. Mellor reported that the Town of South Kingstown has converted their high school library into a Learning Commons, and posted a position to oversee the Learning Commons. The posted job announcement does not have a requirement for a Master in Library Science (MLS) degree. There is concern that students will not receive the same educational benefits from the Learning Commons as they would from a library staffed with a professional librarian.

Mr. Sloan reported that East Greenwich High School will not hire a professional librarian in 2019.

Dr. Lynch reported that the Rhode Island Department of Education's (RIDE) Basic Education Plan (BEP) is written with broad language with respect to how communities manage school libraries. Communities could be asked if the changes to school library personnel meet the intent of the BEP requirements, and a formal request made to RIDE for an advisory opinion on the situation.

Mr. Viall will send a letter to the South Kingstown School Committee schools to make the case for why a librarian is important. Mr. Sloan will draft a letter to the East Greenwich School Committee about their decision to not hire a high school librarian in 2019.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

Mr. Viall distributed the proposed LBRI 2018-2019 Meeting Schedule to be approved at the September LBRI meeting.

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2018, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Bucci

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