

LBRI: September 18, 2000 Minutes

Members Present:

Chair Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Ann Crawford, Donna Good, Artemis Kirk, Donald Deignan, Deborah Barchi, Jay Litman, William Shuey, Mary Cummings, Phyllis Harnick

Members Not Present:

David Panciera, Anne Kayarian, Joanne Aspri, Dennis Cheek, Madelyn Rumowicz, Joshua Teverow

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

Barbara Weaver, Dorothy Frechette, Beth Perry, Donna Longo DiMichele, Melody Allen, Laurie Scialabba

Observers:

Dale Thompson, Providence Public Library

Chair Reeves convened the meeting at 4:40 P.M.

I. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the May 22, 2000 meeting will stand as circulated.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Weaver reported that Dorothy Frechette would retire on October 31, 2000.

Ms. Weaver and Ms. Perry attended the Gates Foundation library grant workshop in Seattle. Grants and eligibility guidelines were received. No money, equipment or staff will come to Rhode Island until the middle of 2002. Eligible buildings will receive full grants, training, help desk support and computers. The Gates Foundation sets eligibility guidelines. Scholarship and stipend money may also be available to graduate library schools in the state.

The Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Committee List was distributed. Ms. DiMichele reported that the first meeting will be held September 28, 2000 at the Community College of Rhode Island, Lincoln Campus.

The plaque given by the American Library Trustees Association was displayed. A meeting will be set up in Senator Reed's office in October to give awards to Senator Reed, David King and David Panciera. Library Board members are invited to attend.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Allen reported that two changes were made to the draft Minimum Standards for Rhode Island Public Libraries.

Standard 1. Under the population category 20,000-49,999, the hours open were reduced from 75 to 60 hours and under the population category 50,000 and over, the hours open were reduced from 68 to 65.

Standard 10. The phrase "at least one" was eliminated, and public access to terminals was changed to "The library provides onsite public access to the internet and offers instruction in its use."

Discussion followed.

It was moved and seconded that the Library Board vote to approve a change in the second sentence in Standard 10. FROM: "The library provides onsite public access to the Internet and offers instruction in

its use." TO: "The library provides onsite public access to the Internet appropriate to the demonstrated needs of the local library community and offers instruction in its use."

The Library Board unanimously approved the motion. There were no abstentions.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Reeves reported that the General Assembly did not fund the Library Linx Project in the last legislative session. We will try again next year.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Planning and Budget

Ms. Reeves reported that there are no recommendations from the committee to the Library Board. One of the two items discussed was the issue of funding in the budget to recruit for the position vacated by the retirement of Ms. Frechette. The second item discussed was the commitment of \$2,270,000 in construction reimbursement funds in FY2002 for projects already underway, which is \$270,000 over the two million dollar cap. The committee will meet again to discuss options. The Advocacy Task Force may also be called upon.

Committee on Legislation

No report.

Committee on Public Relations

No report.

V. NEW BUSINESS

The report, "Assessing E-Government," by Darrell West was discussed. The website for the report is <http://www.insidepolitics.org/egovtreport00.html>. Newspaper articles were distributed.

"The Cooperating Libraries Automated Network, Lending and Borrowing - fiscal 1997 - 2000" report was distributed. Ms. Frechette discussed the report.

Ms. DiMichele reported that school membership in RILINK is up to 18.

Ms. Weaver reported on the Democracy Compact.

VI. AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The following dates were established for future meetings of the Library Board:

October 16, 2000
November 20, 2000
December 18, 2000
January 22, 2001
February 26, 2001
March 19, 2001
April 23, 2001
May 21, 2001
June 11, 2001

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 P.M.

LBRI: October 16, 2000 Minutes

Members Present:

Chair, Joan Ress Reeves, Ann Crawford, Mary Cummings, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Deborah Barchi, Madelyn Rumowicz, Anne Kayarian, Donna Good, Jay Litman

Members Not Present:

William Shuey, Joshua Teverow, Artemis Kirk, David Panciera, Dennis Cheek, Phyllis Harnick, Joanne Aspri, Don Deignan

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

Barbara Weaver, Dorothy Frechette, Beth Perry, Donna DiMichele, Laurie Scialabba

Observers:

Dale Thompson, Providence Public Library

Chair Reeves convened the meeting at 4:45 P.M.

I. MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes will stand as circulated.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Weaver reported that the kickoff for "Find-It Rhode Island" was held earlier today at the Office of the Secretary of State. Ms. Perry gave a demonstration of "Find-It Rhode Island" at the kickoff.

At the Rhode Island Educational Media Association Annual Dinner, Ms. Frechette received the President's Leadership Award for lifetime achievement. The Linda Aldrich Award was given to Ms. Good.

This is the last Library Board meeting that Ms. Frechette will attend as part of the OLIS staff. Ms. Frechette has been appointed Executive Director for RILINK. OLIS has received permission to fill the position vacated by Ms. Frechette immediately. Advertisements for the vacancy will be placed in LJ Hotline, Providence Journal, Boston Globe and at various electronic library sites. The closing date for applications is November 30, 2000. The vacancy notice was distributed.

Ms. DiMichele reported that the first meeting of the Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Committee was held on September 29, 2000. Discussion included dismay that funding for statewide databases failed in the last legislative session. The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2000. Information and minutes will be posted on the Library Programs website or the LORI Pro website.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Ms. Reeves congratulated Ms. Weaver, Ms. Perry and OLIS staff on the success of "Find-It Rhode Island"

Chair Reeves reported that Mr. Panciera has resigned from the Library Board. Ms. Weaver will request a replacement for Mr. Panciera.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Legislation

No Report.

Committee on Planning and Budget

Ms. Rumowicz reported that Ms. Weaver presented the committee with the budget for Library Programs. State funding is not forthcoming. If the legislature does not increase funding, decisions will need to be made about eliminating programs. Ms. Rumowicz will draft strategies to increase awareness to the many services provided by the state library system. Each committee member will be responsible for a portion of the strategy. Ms. Weaver will develop a proposed budget. Funding for the Public Library Construction Program is also a problem. The Budget Office has stated that the cap is at two million dollars. Discussion followed. Ms. Weaver will speak to the Legislation Committee. Ms. Weaver will also inform the Budget Office that the Library Board did adopt a sliding scale of caps. The Governor has not increased the cap even though the Library Board did. Chair Reeves made reference to the statement, "A noble anger is our duty."

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled on November 3, 2000

Committee on Public Relations

No report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Reeves proposed a standing ovation for Ms. Frechette.

VII. AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 20, at 4:30 P.M. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room C.

The Committee on Planning and Budget will meet on Friday, November 3, 2000 at 2:00 P.M. at the Department of Administration, Auditor's Conference Room.

LBRI: November 20, 2000 Minutes

Members Present:

Chair Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Ann Crawford, Donald Deignan, Deborah Barchi, Jay Litman, Anne Kayarian, Joanne Aspri, Joshua Teverow

Members Not Present:

Dennis Cheek, Madelyn Rumowicz, Donna Good, Artemis Kirk, William Shuey, Mary Cummings, Phyllis Harnick

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

Barbara Weaver, Beth Perry, Donna Longo DiMichele, and Laurie Scialabba

Observers:

David Macksam, Cranston Public Library; Kathy Ellen Bullard, Providence Public Library

Chair Reeves convened the meeting at 4:41 P.M.

I. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the October 16, 2000 meeting will stand as circulated.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Weaver reported that OLIS has received permission to recruit for the position vacated by the retirement of Dorothy Frechette. Applications are being accepted until November 30, 2000. An interview committee has been established. Interviews will be scheduled for December and an offer is expected to be made by January 1, 2001.

UCITA: A Guide to Understanding and Action/ A Satellite Teleconference was distributed. Ms. Weaver will be meeting with Senator Roney tomorrow. Ms. Bullard will also attend the meeting. The UCITA (Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act) teleconference will be held on December 13, 2000 at the Lincoln Campus of the Community College of Rhode Island.

What is UCITA? distributed. Kathy Ellen Bullard gave a presentation on UCITA.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Reeves thanked Ms. Kayarian and Mr. Litman for her visit to Warwick Public Library.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Planning and Budget

No meeting was held due to difficulty in scheduling.

Committee on Legislation

Ms. Reynolds discussed the article, Don't buy this filter, Providence Journal Editorial, and encouraged Library Board members to contact their representatives.

Mr. Macksam presented the proposed RILA Legislative Priorities to the committee. RILA will consider endorsing the concept of seeking the appropriate venue for securing state funding for the current OLIS operations funded by federal funds. The state cannot use LSTA (Library Services Technology Act) funds for operational expenses. LSTA funds cannot be used to supplant state funds. Chair Reynolds read from the communication she had received from Donna Good. Ms. Good was disappointed that the proposed RILA 2001 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA did not include RILink. Mary Cummings contacted Ms. Reynolds to express disappointment that the RILink Project had been eliminated from the proposed RILA 2001 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA. Ms. Cummings strongly supports the RILink project. Ms. Aspri stated that a broader base of support for special libraries is needed. Ms. Aspri was disappointed that special libraries were not included in the proposed RILA 2001 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA and should be added to the proposal.

A forum on the future of RILink, sponsored by the Library Board, to discuss RILink will be held with an open invitation to everyone. January 9, 2001 is the possible date.

The Committee moves that the Library Board vote to support funding legislation in the amount of \$1,250,000 to include all of the items in last year's Library Linx Project, including support for the RILink project.

The Library Board unanimously approved the motion. There were no abstentions.

Committee on Public Relations

No report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VII. AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 18, 2000, 4:30 p.m. in Conference Room C.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

LBRI: January 22, 2001 Minutes

Members Present:

Chair Joan Ress Reeves, Donald Deignan, Joanne Aspri, Jay Litman, Mark McKenney, Mary Cummings, Ann Crawford, Donna Good, Phyllis Harnick, Deborah Barchi, Joshua Teverow, Madelyn Rumowicz

Members Not Present:

Anne Kayarian, Dennis Cheek, William Shuey, Artemis Kirk, Rose Ellen Reynolds

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

Barbara Weaver, Donna Longo DiMichele, Laurie Scialabba

Observers:

Dale Thompson, Providence Public Library

Chair Reeves convened the meeting at 4:40 P.M.

Chair Reeves introduced Mark McKenney as a newly appointed member of the Library Board, awaiting confirmation by the Senate.

The Minimum Standards for Rhode Island Public Libraries was distributed. The Minimum Standards for Rhode Island Public Libraries can also be found on the web.

Ms Weaver updated the Library Board on the status of the Children's Internet Protection Act, which was added to the federal Budget Act. The American Library.

I. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the November 20, 2000 meeting will stand as circulated.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Weaver reported on the recruitment status of the position vacated by the retirement of Dorothy Frechette. Interviews have taken place and she is in the negotiation process. An announcement will be made shortly.

Association has hired legal counsel to protest that action. Since federal funds have not been used for Internet access by Rhode Island public libraries, nor have e-rate discounts been used directly by public libraries for Internet access, there does not appear to be a current problem for them. The issue of access through CLAN or RINet is not resolved, nor is the situation regarding school libraries. Questions and Answers on Children's Internet Protection Legislation was distributed.

Ms. Weaver has been assured that legislation for UCITA (Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act) will not be introduced in Rhode Island this year.

The Federal appropriation for the current year was passed very late. Rhode Island will receive approximately \$40,000 more than was expected. Census 2000 was used and Rhode Island population increased by about 45,000 people. The money will be used to help make up the deficit this year.

Regulations for the public library construction/renovation reimbursement funding under 29-6-6 of the Rhode Island General Laws APPENDIX F was distributed. Clarification language has been added to specify certain

costs that are not included in the cap on per square foot allowable costs. This is not a change in regulations, but a clarification to respond to questions about delineation of costs.

LORI Grants Awarded for Year 2001 was distributed by Donna Longo DiMichele. Seven applications for grants were received. Six of the applications were awarded grants totaling approximately \$65,000.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Reeves reported on the LSTA (Library Services Technology Act) Reauthorization Task Force. A major change that is recommended would increase the appropriation from \$150,000,000 to \$500,000,000. \$203,000,000 was appropriated this year. Federal funding for Rhode Island this year was \$820,096. Within the \$500,000,000 appropriation, the base grant to each state would double. ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) is also coming up this year. Senator Reed is supporting ESEA.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Legislation

The Advocacy Task Force Report of the meeting held on January 8, 2001 was distributed. Chair Reeves gave the Library Board an overview of the Advocacy Task Force meeting. The Advocacy Task Force voted, in principle, for the FY2002 Library Linx Project to include Virtual catalog interface, databases, multi-type linkages/networking, staffing and support, and resource sharing and delivery in the amount of \$1,750,000. This amount is \$500,000 greater than the amount for the Library Linx Project that the Library Board approved at the November 20, 2000 meeting. ARIHSL (Association of Rhode Island Health Sciences Librarians), SLA (Special Libraries Association) and RIEMA (Rhode Island Educational Media Association) voted in favor of supporting the Library Linx Project at the \$1.75 million dollar level. The CLAN (Cooperating Libraries Automated Network) Steering Committee voted to recommend to the CLAN membership to support the Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) Legislative Proposal, not the proposal supported by the Advocacy Task Force.

Ms. Crawford reported that the Legislation Committee moves that the Library Board support the FY 2002 Library Linx Project in the amount of \$1,750,000.

When asked why CLAN did not support the Library Linx Project, Ms. Barchi, as CLAN president, responded that CLAN was unable to support numbers that do not have any data to support them. It would be hard to get legislative support. Other concerns were the amount of money for the project, and the issue of 25% state support for public libraries. Some libraries are not getting 25%. Discussion followed.

OLIS Survey Results: Library Subscriptions to CD and Online Resources was distributed. Ms. Weaver explained the survey. Approximately \$500,000 is now spent on electronic resources that are available only to specific groups. The FY2002 Library Linx Project, if funded, would allow everyone to participate. Ms. Barchi will bring this information to the next CLAN meeting. Artemis Kirk, Cheryl Bannick, Joan Reeves and Alice Barrows of the Advocacy Task Force have volunteered to work on public relations for the project.

The Library Board voted to support the FY 2002 Library Linx Project in the amount of \$1,750,000. There were no objections. Ms. Barchi abstained from the vote.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VII. AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

A revision of the Five-Year Plan for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will be sent in advance to the Library Board for review before the next meeting. There will be a vote on it at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 26, 2001 at 4:30 P.M. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B.

Chair Reeves read excerpts from the letter received from RILA stating that RILA will support the following issues: network development in the state; database licenses, a catalog interface, resource delivery service and a statewide union list of serials.

The Annual Meeting of the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13, 2001 at the State House. Joan Ress Reeves will receive the Sweetheart of the Year Award.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

LBRI: February 26, 2001 Minutes

Members Present:

Chair Joan Ress Reeves, Jay Litman, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Donald Deignan, Mary Cummings, Artemis Kirk, Mark McKenney, Donna Good, Deborah Barchi

Members Not Present:

Joanne Aspri, Anne Kayarian, Madelyn Rumowicz, Dennis Cheek, William Shuey, Ann Crawford, Phyllis Harnick, Joshua Teverow

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

Barbara Weaver, Beth Perry, Laurie Scialabba

Guest: Anne Parent, Regional Administrator for the Central Massachusetts Library System.

Chair Reeves welcomed and introduced Anne Parent, Regional Administrator for the Central Massachusetts Library System. On April 16, Ms. Parent will join OLIS as Assistant Director, Library Programs Management Services.

I. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the January 2001 meeting will stand as circulated.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Weaver reported that Senator Reed has reintroduced his proposal as an amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization. School libraries will receive federal funding for resources. Senator Chafee is a cosponsor of the bill.

The Gates Foundation has accepted our application for a grant for Rhode Island. The Gates Foundation will contact libraries in FY 2002 and FY 2003.

Rhode Island's Plan for Evaluation of the LSTA 5-Year Plan 1998-2002 was distributed. On the third page, the plan for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) evaluation is described. An outside evaluator will be hired. A joint venture with other New England states will be considered. \$30,000 has been set aside as an approximate cost for the evaluation.

The American Library Association National Library Legislative Day and briefing in Washington, D.C. will be held April 30- May 1, 2001. Representatives from the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), Rhode Island Educational Media Association (RIEMA), Rhode Island Library Association (RILA), Cooperating Libraries Automated Network (CLAN), Library Board of Rhode Island, and OLIS will attend. Library Board members were invited to attend.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Reeves asked Ms. Weaver to report on the correspondence addressed to the Library Board. Ms. Weaver explained that two messages were found on LORIPRO on the general interest special interest group (SIG), and addressed to the Library Board. The two letters dated 1/24/01 and 2/09/01, both written by Robert Balliot, were distributed. Ms. Weaver will respond to the messages. Copies of Ms. Weaver's response will be sent to Library Board members. The issue of state support in the amount of 25% based on local city and town expenditures will be addressed at the Library Director's Meeting on March 30, 2001. Discussion followed. Ms. Barchi will speak to Ms. Weaver about a possible solution.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Planning and Budget.

The Draft Federal Program Budget for FY2002 was distributed.

Ms. Reynolds chaired the meeting for Madelyn Rumowicz and reported that the documentation distributed is due to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) by April 1, 2002. If grants and ongoing expenses remain as is for FY 2001, there will be a negative balance of \$31,995 in FY02. The amount in the proposed federal budget in FY 2002 is based on the same figure received in FY01, which was \$820,096.

The committee recommends and moves that the Library Board reduce the Library of Rhode Island (LORI) grants by \$16,000 and reduce the Literacy grants by \$16,000 to make up the \$31,995 deficit in the federal budget for FY 2002.

Discussion followed.

It was unanimously approved by the Library Board of Rhode Island that the Library of Rhode Island (LORI) grants be reduced by \$16,000 and the Literacy grants be reduced by \$16,000 to make up the \$31,995 deficit in the federal budget for FY 2002. There were no abstentions.

OLIS will be asking for approval of the entire Federal Program Budget Report for FY 2002 at the March 19, 2001 meeting. The Federal Program Budget Report for FY 2002 will be distributed to Library Board members before the next meeting.

A Library Board meeting at Tech Access will be planned for the spring.

Committee on Legislation

Chair Reeves reported on the meeting with Representative Fox on the Library Linx Project. Representative Fox is excited about the project. He also advised asking for the entire amount necessary to the project.

Representative Fox wants to write and introduce the bill after the 2001 Supplemental Budget has been decided. A meeting will be scheduled with Ms. Weaver, Chair Reeves, Mr. Panciera and Representative Pires, House Finance Committee Chairman. Chair Reeves wrote a letter of thanks to Representative Fox.

Ms. Reynolds reported on four pieces of legislation. S 0637 Relating to state aid to libraries – Legislation has been introduced for a \$25,000 grant to the Rogers Free Library. Legislation has also been introduced for a \$2,500 grant to each of the libraries in Exeter, Coventry and East Greenwich. H 5570 Relating to Education – Literacy Program – Libraries or school libraries not included. H 5899 Relating to Education – School libraries not included. H 5369 Relating to Community Antenna Television systems – Chair Reynolds will write to Representative Gorham thanking him for mentioning libraries. S 0637 – This relates to asset protection. No library would be able to plan in the time frame given. Repairs are the responsibility of the municipality.

H 6100 Article 4 of the Governor's Budget Relating to State Aid to Libraries –

Comparison of proposed totals to annual cap, by fiscal year 2000-2029 was distributed.

A brief overview of the Public Library Construction Program was given. The Governor reinstated the program in 1998. In 1991, the Library Board established a cap of \$2,000,000 for the program. The Library Board later

adopted a gradually increasing scale raising the cap of the program. Regulations for Public Library Construction/Renovation Reimbursement Funding under 29-6-6 of the Rhode Island General Laws were filed with the Office of the Secretary of State in 1999. Appendix F 3 specifies that the "Office of Library and Information Services will retain the existing cap of \$2 million for total estimated reimbursement payment for the FY2000 budget, and will raise the cap by \$1 million each year thereafter to a maximum of \$5 million in FY2003."

Article 4, page 51, of the proposed FY 2002 budget, adds the following language to 29-6-6, "Total annual payments under this construction grant-in-aid program shall not exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000)" This year, \$2,280,699 has been approved for signed contracts. The Comparison of proposed totals to annual cap, by fiscal year 2000-2029 was discussed. If the cap in Article 4 is adopted, it will not affect the FY02 budget, but it will affect the FY03 budget and beyond. No additional libraries can be added until at least FY08. In FY03, Portsmouth and Hope Library will be eligible for reimbursement. In FY04, East Greenwich and Middletown will be eligible for reimbursement. Other libraries could also be affected.

The Committee moved that the Library Board support the elimination of Article 4 from H 6100.

The Library Board of Rhode Island unanimously voted to support the elimination of Article 4 from H 6100.

Chair Reeves will notify the Advocacy Task Force about the Library Board vote to support elimination of Article 4 from H 6100 and request that legislators be contacted.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VII. AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 19, 2001 at 4:30 P.M. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B.

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 P.M

LBRI: March 19, 2001 Minutes

Members Present:

Chair Joan Ress Reeves, Donald Deignan, William Shuey, Ann Crawford, Deborah Barchi, Donna Good, Joanne Aspri, Mark McKenney, Dennis Cheek

Members Not Present:

Rose Ellen Reynolds, Mary Cummings, Joshua Teverow, Artemis Kirk, Anne Kayarian, Madelyn Rumowicz, Jay Litman, Phyllis Harnick

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

Beth Perry, Donna Longo DiMichele, Laurie Scialabba

Observers:

Kathy Ellen Bullard, Providence Public Library

Chair Reeves convened the meeting at 4:40 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 P.M. Barbara Weaver was testifying at a budget hearing. Beth Perry will stand in for Ms. Weaver

I. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the February 26, 2001 were distributed. The minutes stood as circulated. Comments are welcome.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Perry reported that the Library Directors' meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 30, 2001. On Wednesday, Ms. Weaver will meet with some of the public library directors about the issue of state support in the amount of 25% based on local city and town expenditures.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Perry reported that Library Board members have received the Federal Program Budget for FY 2002 incorporating the two changes that the Library Board voted and approved at the February 26, 2001 meeting. Gary Nichols, Maine State Librarian, and Ms. Weaver will work on a proposal for evaluation.

It was moved and seconded that the Library Board of Rhode Island approve the Federal Program Budget for FY 2002.

Personnel, the Literacy and Library of Rhode Island (LORI) grants, and public relations were items discussed.

The Library Board of Rhode Island unanimously approved the Federal Program Budget for FY 2002.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Reeves reported that she has been in contact with Representative Fox. There has not been any movement yet on legislation for the Library Linx Project. A public relations piece is being written, and funding will be needed for printing.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Committee on Legislation, the Committee on Planning and Budget and the Committee on Public Relations have not met.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Deignan commended Ms. Perry for the focus group on public library services for individuals with disabilities held on March 7, 2001 at Tech Access in Warwick, Rhode Island. Mr. Deignan reported that one of the items brought up during the discussion was how people with disabilities access information and services at local branch libraries and how they get access to the Internet. Mr. Deignan asked Library Board members to think about these issues for future legislative proposals or future actions to be taken by the Library Board. Adaptive software programs and the universalization of software programs are important issues. Ms. Perry reported that a survey was sent to public library directors about library services to individuals with disabilities in their communities. The Rhode Island Gates Public Library Coalition will be looking at the compatibility of Gates computers with adaptive software and hardware.

Ms. Perry reported that Tech Access is available to host a meeting of the Library Board. The Library Board will plan to hold its May 21, 2001 meeting at Tech Access. Directions will be sent out.

Ms. DiMichele reported that NELINET is interested in exploring a regional delivery system. Ms. DiMichele will attend a meeting on April 19, 2001 as the representative for library services in Rhode Island.

Ms. DiMichele reported that the LORI Committee has started developing the following topics for working groups: grant projects from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), interlibrary loan (ILL), and ways to learn what the library community would like for databases. Robert Aspri and Dorey Conway have been invited to serve on the working group for databases. Ms. DiMichele also noted that one of the advantages of these databases is that they are sources of information that do not need to be filtered. They are preselected and "safe".

The Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) is supporting the Child Internet Protection Act teleconference on April 11, 2001 at 3:30 P.M. It may be held at Bryant College. The American Library Association (ALA) is joining with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) in opposition to the Child Internet Protection Act.

Chair Reeves announced that during March and April, a series of mid-day interactive discussions would take place using case studies. It is called "Academic Libraries of the 21st Century Announces Live Chat Session Series." Registration is free and limited to 100 seats. Contact Ms. Scialabba for further information.

Architecture and Libraries: Designing the Seattle Public Library, a lecture by Dan Wood, Architect and Project Director, will be given on Sunday, April 8, 2001, at 3:00 P.M., at the Bayard Ewing Building, Rhode Island School of Design. This lecture is cosponsored by RILA.

April 30 and May 1, 2001 are ALA's National Library Legislative Day and Briefing in Washington, D.C. Library Board members are welcome to join the group and lobby Rhode Island congressional legislators.

VII. AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 23, 2001 at 4:30 P.M. at the Department of Administration.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

LBRI: April 16, 2001 Minutes

Members Present:

Chair Joan Ress Reeves, Mark McKenney, Ann Crawford, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Joshua Teverow

Members Absent:

Donald Deignan, William Shuey, Deborah Barchi, Donna Good, Joanne Aspri, Mary Cummings, Artemis Kirk, Anne Kayarian, Madelyn Rumowicz, Jay Litman, Dennis Cheek, Phyllis Harnick

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

Barbara Weaver, Anne Parent, Beth Perry, Donna Longo DiMichele, Laurie Scialabba

Observers:

Shirley Long, Providence Public Library

Chair Reeves welcomed Anne Parent to OLIS.

I. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes will stand as circulated with minor corrections.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Weaver welcomed Anne Parent to OLIS.

Dorothy Frechette will be named as GSLIS Alumna of the Year at the Annual Gathering at URI on Saturday April 21. Chair Reeves will send a letter of congratulations to Ms. Frechette.

American Library Association Library Legislative Day is scheduled for April 30 and May 1, 2001 in Washington, D.C. Barbara Weaver, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Anne Parent, Ednor Larson, Dale Thompson, Holly Albanese and David Macksam will attend from Rhode Island.

The Library of Rhode Island (LORI) website has been redesigned, and is now "Bobby" approved which denotes handicapped accessibility. Karen Mellor, Chaichin Chen, Sheila Carlson, Alicia Waters, and Debbie Cullerton, Library Programs staff, were recognized for their hard work on the website.

Ms. DiMichele reported that the LORI databases working group is developing a web-based survey to determine what resources and subject areas are needed to serve the public. URI GSLIS is providing assistance with the development of the survey. The LORI Committee will present a program at the Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) Annual Meeting, June 7-8, 2001. Two officers from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will attend the RILA Annual Meeting to discuss outcome-based evaluation.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Reeves received a letter from Dale Thompson, Providence Public Library, about the Library Board vote to reduce the Literacy grant by \$16,000. Ms. Thompson will address the Library Board at the May 21, 2001 meeting.

Chair Reeves also received a copy of a letter written by Joan Prescott, Librarian at the Rogers Free Library, to her state legislators requesting the elimination of Article 4 from the Governor's budget.

Chair Reeves reported that a subcommittee of the Advocacy Task Force is working on strategies for the Library Linx Project. OLIS staff member, Kathy Reilly, was recognized for designing the brochure for the program. Samples were reviewed. The Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) may pay for printing the brochure. David Macksam, Director of the Cranston Public Library, is promoting the purchasing of database licenses and access to the databases from libraries and home in the Cranston Public Library's Newsletter.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee meetings.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VII. AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Library Board is scheduled for Monday, May 21, 2001 at Tech Access, 110 Jefferson Blvd, Warwick, at 4:30 P.M.

The next meeting of the Advocacy Task Force is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, 2001, 4:00 - 6:00 P.M., Department of Administration. Library Board members are invited to attend.

An all-day retreat is scheduled for Friday, October 12, 2001, at the Whispering Pines Conference Center, Alton Jones Campus. Please reserve the date.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

LBRI: May 21, 2001 Minutes

Members Present:

Chair Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Donald Deignan, Mary Cummings, Phyllis Harnick, Deborah Barchi, Donna Good, Anne Kayarian, Jay Litman

Members Absent:

William Shuey, Joanne Aspri, Artemis Kirk, Madelyn Rumowicz, Dennis Cheek, Mark McKenney, Ann Crawford, Joshua Teverow

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

Barbara Weaver, Beth Perry, Donna Longo DiMichele, Laurie Scialabba

Observers:

Denise DiMarzio, Rhode Island Family Literacy Initiative (RIFLI);
Kevin McKay, Rhode Island Family Literacy Initiative;
David Macksam, Cranston Public Library;
Louise Moulton, Providence Public Library;
Karen McGrath, Auburn Branch, Cranston Public Library;
Susan Reed, Pawtucket Public Library;
Kristen McKenna, Providence Public Library;
Kathy Ellen Bullard, Providence Public Library

Introductions were made.

Chair Reeves thanked Judy Carlson at Tech Access for hosting the Library Board meeting. A tour will be done after the meeting.

I. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes will stand as circulated with minor corrections.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Weaver reported that the House Finance Committee is determined to continue with the elimination of the Motor Vehicle excise tax. There will be no funding of new projects unless \$30,000,000 from the elimination of the Motor Vehicle excise tax can be found. Funding issues may impact Article 4 (Public Library Construction), Article 6 (e-government) and the Library Linx Project.

The official unveiling of the new Rhode Island quarter took place at Fort Adams in Newport on May 21. U.S. Mint Director Jay Johnson and the Governor thanked librarians for their participation in supporting the efforts of the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts by allowing all Rhode Islanders to vote on the new coin design by either voting online or at their local library.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

IV. CAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Reeves reported that a hearing was held on Article 4 of the Governor's budget. It was noted that the Regulations for Public Library Construction/Renovation Reimbursement Funding under 29-6-6 of the Rhode Island General Laws were filed with the Office of Secretary of State in 1999. Appendix F of the rules gradually raises the cap to \$5,000,000 in FY 2003. Chair Reeves gave testimony on behalf of the Library Board. Representatives from the East Greenwich Free Library and Providence Public Library also gave testimony.

No legislation has been written yet for the Library Linx Project.

Chair Reeves reported that the Rhode Island contingent visiting Washington, D.C. for American Library Association's Legislative Day were well received by the Rhode Island congressional delegation. Scheduled appointments were informative. Senator Reed's amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) has been passed. Senator Reed's web page specifies RILINK, (Rhode Island Library Information Network for Kids), as one of the "Innovative Solutions to the Challenges Faced by School Libraries."

Ms. Weaver reported that the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) is scheduled for reauthorization soon. The Council of State Library Agencies in the Northeast (COSLINE) hosted a Senate Staff Luncheon to discuss ESEA and LSTA.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee meetings.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Reeves received a letter from Dale Thompson, Providence Public Library, about the Library Board vote to reduce the Literacy grant by \$16,000. It was requested that a presentation be made at the Library Board meeting on May 21, 2001. Chair Reeves provided a brief background and noted that the federal appropriation for FY 2002 is not yet known. RIFLI Information Packet and Our Stories, An anthology of writings from learners of the Rhode Island Family Literacy Initiative in public libraries statewide. Fourth edition was distributed. Ms. DiMarzio stated that 835 adults and 305 children are currently enrolled in the program; most of them are immigrants. RIFLI runs sixteen programs and 200 people are waiting to participate. Approximately 800-1,000 people are on the waiting list for the literacy program at the International Institute. There is a need for literacy programs. It cost \$17,500 for RIFLI to run a literacy program. \$16,000 reduction in funding would mean the loss of one program, which means a lost opportunity for thirty people and their children. Influencing parent's literacy has an effect on children's literacy. Ms. McKenna reported on the stories of individuals enrolled in the program. All those enrolled in the literacy programs get their library cards. They use the library and are customers of the library. Ms. McGrath stated that those enrolled in the literacy program at the Auburn Branch have a library card and use the library. Chair Reeves thanked all for their presentations and comments. Chair Reeves stated that the Library Board vote on the federal budget was based on level funding. Chair Reeves suggested lobbying for funding on the state and federal level. Adult literacy programs are needed as well as literacy programs for children. The need for literacy programs is expanding, however funding is not expanding to meet the need. There is a state and social services component to the literacy issue. It was suggested that other avenues of funding be explored. Ms. Reynolds stated that the decision was not an easy one. \$820,000 in federal funding amounts to less than \$1.00 per person for statewide services. Chair Reeves stated that lobbying for LSTA reauthorization in the amount of \$500 million dollars, with an increase in the base grant to states is worked on.

VII. AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

None.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.