

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND
The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
September 17, 2018
At the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Cristina Amedeo, Heidi Blais, John Bucci, Aaron Coutu, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Leslie Page, Amanda Richman, Robert Sloan

Members Absent: Melody Drnach (Chair), Phyllis Lynch, Marcus Mitchell, Doug Norris, Joan Ress Reeves (Emeritus)

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

Guests: Walter Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- 2018-2019 Library Board meeting schedule
- Library Board Manual: list of updated sections

I. WELCOME

Karen Mellor, Chief Executive Officer of the Board, called the meeting to order at 4:20 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the June 18, 2018 meeting

Moved by: Dr. Hopper

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Ms. Mellor, filling in for the Chair, conveyed greetings and apologies from Ms. Drnach, who was out of town and unable to attend the meeting. The new members, Ms. Blais, Mr. Coutu, Ms. Page and Ms. Richman were welcomed; reappointments acknowledged; and a thank you extended to all members of the board for their work on the Board.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. Board Training

A Board orientation was conducted by OLIS from 3-4 pm, just prior to the meeting and attended by four new members; new members were provided with the Library Board manual. There are new sections for the manual, and those are listed on the handout

distributed to members. OLIS will provide hard copy of the new/updated sections for current members upon request; the updated manual is also available on the OLIS website.

ii. New Public Library Directors

Four public libraries have new directors: at East Providence Public Library, Michael Carlozzi; at Providence Community Library, Cheryl Space; at Pascoag Public Library, Gretchen Hanley; and at Tiverton Public Library, Catherine Damiani.

iii. Staffing

Applications for the Library Program Manager position are under review and interviews will be scheduled soon.

iv. State Budget

The 2019 and 2020 State budgets fund OLIS at current service levels, but one FTE has been eliminated as part of the Department of Administration's reduction of FTEs. OLIS will seek to restore the FTE, which was planned as a Digital Services Coordinator.

B. Library Futures Series

Four programs, including a day-long program and 3 half day sessions, were attended by 200 members of the library community from June through August. Written feedback on evaluations, as well as comments made orally, indicate that it was a thought-provoking, well-received series.

C. Summer Reading Program

Public libraries have had a very successful summer reading season, with reading programs for adults, teens and children. OLIS is compiling statistics from the libraries and will report them at the October board meeting.

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

Two members of the IMLS Office of Library Services State Programs division visited OLIS for three days in August for the routine site visit conducted once during each Five-Year Plan cycle. Madison Bolls, Senior Program Officer, and Teri Devoe, Associate Deputy Director, State Programs, met with all OLIS professional staff to talk about LSTA funded projects. They also toured 6 public libraries, the State Library (State House) and the Providence Athenaeum, meeting briefly with their respective directors and taking in a summer reading performance for teens. They met with the Executive Director of the RI Center for the Book to discuss its collaborations with OLIS.

After the site visit, Ms. Bolls sent a letter to Ms. Mellor stating that OLIS demonstrated careful stewardship of federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds and that the OLIS program is well-organized and well-run, with several elements that could serve as models for other states, including continuing education and project tracking.

E. OLIS 2019 Work Plan

The 2019 OLIS workplan is in process. OLIS prepares an annual workplan that correlates with the federal fiscal year (October 1 – September 30). The plan keeps OLIS activities aligned with its Five-Year Plan and provides a framework for the annual report to the IMLS.

F. Continuing Education

More than 20 OLIS Continuing Education sessions are scheduled from September to January 2019. Programs include a virtual reality (VR) showcase with libraries demonstrating their respective VR projects, roundtables for various communities of practice, and the beginning of a series on library management topics. The first program, a day-long session on strategic planning for public libraries, is scheduled for November.

G. Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Rhode Island Hub

Formative work for a DPLA hub in Rhode Island continues, with meetings and the establishment of a Steering Committee. OLIS will be represented on the Steering Committee. With a DPLA Hub for Rhode Island content, researchers around the world will be able to access the rich cultural heritage of the state through a single digital object portal.

H. Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) – Train the Trainer pilot

OLIS is one of five state library agencies selected to participate in the YALSA pilot cohort of Transforming Teen Services, Train the Trainer project. Danielle Margarida, OLIS Youth Services Coordinator and Rebecca Ott, Teen Librarian, Tiverton Public Library, will represent Rhode Island in Chicago, IL, in October where the cohort will be trained to design and facilitate training for library staff in their state. Participating in the pilot of TTS will enable OLIS to further build out the skills of youth services librarians to ensure that computer science and career readiness are being addressed in intentional ways in communities throughout Rhode Island. The project is being implemented by YALSA in partnership with the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) and is funded by IMLS.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA)

The federal MLSA, sponsored by Senator Reed, provides the legislation that provides for Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding. The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) are seeking an increase in the base grant to states. LSTA funding consists of a standard base allotment to all states (\$680,000) and an additional allotment based on population; with its small population, Rhode Island's allotment is relatively small. There has been no change in the base grant since 2009. In years when there are unallocated or additional LSTA funds, which most recently happened in 2017, small states like Rhode Island realized a very small increase because the additional distribution is formulated based on the population of each state. Senator Reed is supporting a change to the base allotment.

B. There are no state legislative updates.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Dr. Hopper

Dr. Hopper reported that the efforts of Rhode Island higher educational institutions to bring Open Educational Resources (OER) to students was highlighted in a spring issue of the Providence Business News. The OER initiative is a project of the Office of Innovation with a steering committee of librarians from academic libraries. OER supports the Governor's goal to reduce the cost of higher education in Rhode Island.

B. Ms. Amedeo

United Way, of which 2-1-1 is a part, has a new Chief Executive Officer. The 2-1-1 annual meeting is scheduled for October 11 and Library Board members are welcome to attend. Open enrollment for Medicare Part D is commencing shortly and the staff at 2-1-1 are available to come to public libraries to offer sessions to facilitate enrollment.

C. Mr. Bucci

Mr. Bucci noted a recent article in the New York Times that notes that public libraries are key social infrastructure and critical in forming positive social connections

D. Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo

Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo asked about access to Overdrive for Talking Books Library patrons and if the books in Overdrive could be read using a Victor Stream Reader. Mr. Coutu provided background on Overdrive and Ms. Mellor will refer the question to the Talking Books Library to determine the interoperability of Overdrive with assistive technology.

Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo also commented on the high cost of the MLS degree and asked if free tuition or state funding can be made available. She further commented that New York University Medical School is waiving tuition to offset declining. She wonders if a similar program could be implemented at URI to attract MLS students.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Regulations for State Aid to Institutional Libraries

The regulations for State Aid to Institutional Libraries are on track for finalization. The draft regulations were posted and opened for comments on the Secretary of State's Open Government website and on the OLIS website on July 18. The public comment period ended on August 31. A comment and a question were received and responded to, but neither will impact the regulations. The new regulations for State Aid to Institutional Libraries will be promulgated as law in October.

B. Board Strategy for Support of School Libraries

The School Librarians of Rhode Island (SLRI) are meeting later in the week. Sarah Hunicke, the SLRI Advocacy Committee Chair will provide an update at that meeting. East Greenwich High School is now staffed with a librarian. Some librarians in Warwick schools were laid off because of two school closures. Two Cumberland Middle Schools do not have a professional

librarian. The Coventry Middle School Library is closed, and South Kingston High School now has a full-time teacher in the Learning Commons but has hired a librarian to work 45 minutes daily Monday through Thursday.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

The April meeting was rescheduled for April 8, not the 15th as in the original schedule.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Ms. Amedeo

Seconded by: Mr. Coutu

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
October 15, 2018
At the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Heidi Blais, John Bucci, Aaron Coutu, Melody Drnach (Chair), Annette Feldman, Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Marcus Mitchell, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Leslie Page, Amanda Richman, Robert Sloan

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Kenneth Findlay, Phyllis Lynch (ex officio), Joan Ress Reeves (Emeritus)

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

Guests: Walter 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 17, 2018 meeting

Moved by: Dr. Hopper

Seconded by: Ms. Blais

The meeting minutes were approved with edits.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Welcome/Introductory Remarks

Ms. Drnach welcomed the Board and stated that she is honored to serve as Board Chair and encouraged feedback from Board members.

The Chair offered her compliments to Ms. Mellor, and the OLIS team, for their work on this summer's Futures conference and series. Ms. Drnach attended some of the Futures events and found them to be interesting, creative, and informative. Congratulations were also extended to OLIS for the positive feedback received from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) from the August site visit.

B. Future LBRI Meeting Venues

Ms. Drnach proposed that the LBRI hold at least a third of their meetings at various libraries.

C. New England Library Association Conference (NELA), October 21-23

NELA will hold their annual conference in conjunction with the RI Library Association (RILA) on October 22-23 at the Warwick Crowne Plaza.

A reception honoring LBRI Member Emeritus Joan Ress Reeves will be held at the Crowne Plaza on October 21 from 6-7 pm. Senator Jack Reed will present an award from the American Library Association (ALA) to Ms. Reeves for her 35-years of dedicated library advocacy work. Former LBRI Chairs, Mark McKenney and Tom Viall, will attend, as will the current LBRI Chair. Members of the Board are invited to attend.

D. Chair for Legislation Committee

Ms. Drnach appointed Aaron Coutu as the Chair for the LBRI Legislation Committee. Board members were invited to join the committee. The Committee's work is primarily from January to June when the Legislature is in session.

Ms. Mellor noted that the LBRI Chair is an ex officio member of each LBRI committee.

E. Election of Vice-Chair

The LBRI was asked to consider candidates for the position of LBRI Vice-Chair, and to contact Ms. Drnach or Ms. Mellor by October 31 with their recommendations. The Board will vote to fill the position at the November 19 meeting.

Ms. Mellor advised that the main responsibility of a vice-chair is to conduct LBRI meetings when the chair is unable to attend the meeting.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. Staffing

Lauren Plews, the State Data Coordinator, resigned her position due to her family's relocation, and will leave OLIS in mid-November. Ms. Plews improved and advanced the processes of OLIS' data collection, research, and analysis. She also served as the OLIS Continuing Education Coordinator.

OLIS staffing was reduced by one FTE in the 2020 budget process; the eliminated position is currently vacant due to an internal promotion and had been redefined as the Digital Services Coordinator. OLIS previously had 13 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, with two vacancies.

OLIS will focus on filling the State Data Coordinator immediately because of federal requirements for reporting data.

ii. State Budget

The proposed 2020 budget funds OLIS services at the current service level, including full funding for statewide delivery, which was achieved through savings from staff vacancies.

B. Summer Reading Statistics

Preliminary statistics for Summer Reading show an increase in participation in 2018. Slightly under 16,000 participated in 2017 and almost 17,000 in 2018. OLIS is waiting for data from the Providence Community Library, which partnered with the Providence School Department. The OLIS' Youth Services Coordinator attributes some increases in summer reading participation to school partnerships and the ongoing transition to a greater focus on summer learning. In Providence, benchmarks were created to measure the impact of summer reading program on summer learning; project data is forthcoming.

Several libraries served as summer meal sites and others worked with their local recreation departments to provide summer meals, more than doubling participation in the Summer Meals program from 2017. The summer reading program is shifting its focus to program outcomes to benefit as many children as possible and stabilize or increase their reading abilities.

C. Annual Survey

The Annual Public Library Survey process is concluding, and Ms. Plews will focus on its completion before her departure. Once completed, OLIS can project Grant-in-Aid (GIA) for 2020.

There were a few issues this year with reporting on local tax-based expenditures; these issues are being reviewed to determine if the problem is systemic or isolated cases. OLIS will review Annual Survey training and report instructions as accurate data is critical for GIA funding determination.

D. Library Directors' Meeting

A Public Library Directors' Meeting was held on September 27 at Cranston Public Library with over half of public libraries represented. Outside speakers who want to partner with libraries gave presentations on diverse topics.

A speaker from the RI Holocaust-Genocide Education Committee, established by the RI General Assembly in 2016, presented their collaboration with the RI Department of Education (RIDE) to develop school curriculum about the Holocaust and genocides in Armenia, Cambodia, and Africa. A unit on the genocide of Native Americans is in process. Generating holocaust and genocide curriculum is the first stage in implementing bills passed by the General Assembly in 2016 mandating that RI middle and high school students complete coursework on the subject.

Denali Tiller, a filmmaker from the RI School of Design (RISD), spoke about her documentary, *Tre Maison Dasan*, that tells the story of three young boys with incarcerated parents. The film focuses on how the children respond to their parent's imprisonment; some filming took place at the RI Department of Corrections (DOC). The film has been screened in several public libraries.

A representative from the RI Computer Museum discussed technology available for loan to libraries. 3D printers, subtractive printers, and other technology may be borrowed, and

qualified instructional staff can be on hand to assist. RI Computer Museum is a regular participant in the Summer Reading Program.

E. 2019 Work Plan

The OLIS 2019 Work Plan is in progress; Ms. Mellor will present the plan at the November LBRI meeting.

F. Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA)

Ms. Mellor attended the COSLA meeting in Bismarck, ND in early October; 44 states and one territory were represented. The group discussed its initiative to increase the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Grants to States funding to equal \$1 per capita.

The COSLA eBooks working group is reviewing the escalating costs and increasingly restrictive licensing of eBooks for libraries. A survey conducted with state libraries determined that Overdrive is the primary provider of eBooks nationally. The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) is creating an eBooks marketplace to supplement current providers and COSLA, along with other interested parties, is exploring how states can come together to work with publishers and aggregators to reduce costs and provide more availability.

The Director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped gave an extensive report about service changes. They conducted a recent national survey about the need for the service, patrons served, and how to improve services. They have developed a refreshable Braille reader for patrons and are investigating ways to use voice-user interfaces in future iterations of Talking Books machine.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

i. Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA)

The MLSA, introduced into the Senate by Senator Reed on September 28, includes the new provision to increase the base allotment for the Grants to States program. Currently the base allotment to each state is \$680,000, and the balance of the grant is determined based on state population. Rhode Island receives approximately \$1,082,000 for this fiscal year. Two years ago, the IMLS received \$4 million in additional funding for the Grants to States program, and RI received \$12,000 of that funding. The base allotment has not been increased since 2007; the MLSA language was updated to increase the base allotment to one million dollars for each state. There is good support from COSLA members for this initiative.

The proposed MLSA also includes a provision to allow funds to be used for disaster recovery for libraries, a provision to enable more Native American tribes to participate in IMLS funding, and support for greater use of data-driven tools.

ii. Rhode Island Library Association Advocacy

Mr. Coutu reported that RILA is creating issue briefs for elected officials to showcase RILA positions on issues relevant to libraries.

Ms. Mellor added that RILA's Legislative Action Committee issue briefs outline four key issues including funding state grant-in-aid (GIA) at 25%, full funding for the AskRI databases, school library support in the Basic Education Plan, and Net Neutrality.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Bucci

The RI State Archives is offering a pop-up exhibit series that explores RI's history. Archive staff will deliver and set up the exhibits for libraries.

B. Ms. Blais

Recent opportunities for librarians were the RI Festival of Children's Books at Lincoln School, on Saturday, October 13, and the RI Latino Arts author dinner, held the night before.

The School Librarians of RI (SLRI) have been working on a documentary, funded through a Kickstarter campaign, to be used as an advocacy tool. The documentary, *It's on Us*, spotlights five school librarians in RI. There will be a screening next week at the Connecticut School Library Association conference on Monday, October 21, and a screening at the NELA conference on Tuesday, October 22.

The President of the American Library Association (ALA), Loida Garcia-Febo, will be visiting Cranston High School East Library in conjunction with her attendance at the NELA conference.

C. Ms. Richman

The New England Region of the National Network of Library of Medicine is offering funding up to \$15,000 to support public libraries and outreach programs that involve information and education about the "All of Us" program.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Minimum Standards for Institutional Libraries

Ms. DiMichele reported that the draft regulations were posted on the Secretary of State's website and one question and one comment were received. Neither impacted the regulations as proposed. The final regulations are ready to be submitted to the Secretary of State and will be effective 20 days after posting. The regulations govern eligibility for state aid for state institutions with libraries, which currently includes the Adult Correction Institution and the RI School for the Deaf.

B. Board Strategy for Support of School Libraries

Ms. Blais reported that the Feinstein Middle School, and both Cumberland middle schools do not have librarians. In addition, three of the Cumberland elementary school libraries are being covered by teachers and not by certified school librarians. Davies Vocational School has eliminated their librarian position. In Cranston, an elementary school librarian position

was eliminated, and Hope Highland Elementary School's librarian is only available three days per week. At Cranston East, Ms. Blais is required to cover classrooms when a substitute teacher is not available.

SLRI is joining forces with RILA to form an advocacy task force about the issues, and their three priorities are the adoption by RIDE of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) School Library Standards, drafting school library legislation, and identifying library advocates in communities.

Ms. Drnach requested volunteers for a LBRI School Support Committee to identify school library issues. Ms. Blais, Ms. Page, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Sloan, and Mr. Coutu volunteered to be on the Committee. Ms. Blais will structure the committee's charge and goals.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Standards Revision

The Chair called for a committee to review and recommend revisions to the LORI Standards. Dr. Hopper, Ms. Blais, Mr. Bucci, Mr. Coutu, and Ms. Feldman volunteered to be on the LORI Standards Committee with Ms. DiMichele serving as staff to the Committee.

Ms. Mellor noted that an outline will be available at the LBRI November meeting to define the structure of LBRI committees. LBRI committees are given an official charge, the LBRI Chair appoints committee members, and the committee holds meetings and reports to the Board.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for November 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. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Coutu

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

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Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Kenneth Findlay, Rosita Hopper, Joan Ress Reeves (Emeritus), Amanda Richman

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

Guests: Walter Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- Charge to the LORI Standards Committee (2018)
- OLIS Work Plan 2019 (October 2018-September 2019)

I. WELCOME

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

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the October 15, 2018 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Coutu

The meeting minutes were approved without edit.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. New England Library Association (NELA) Conference

The NELA Conference was held jointly with the Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) Conference at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick on October 21-23. Joan Ress Reeves, LBRI Member Emeritus, was honored at the well-attended Annual Conference reception on October 21. Senator Jack Reed paid tribute to Ms. Reeves, presenting her with an ALA award for her 35+ years of library advocacy.

Ms. Drnach also attended the awards banquet, where she had the opportunity to meet Chiefs from the other New England states and hear speaker Margaret Willison discuss the cultural relevance of popular fiction.

B. 2018 Election Results

The Chair noted the results of the recent local, state, and federal elections, and the election/re-election of several library supporters.

C. LBRI Meeting Venues

The chair continued discussion of alternate meeting locations. Ms. Feldman volunteered West Greenwich's Louttit Library to host the January 14, 2019 meeting. Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo expressed concerns about accessibility at Louttit Library for members with special needs and asked if RI Public Transit Authority makes stops at the library. Ms. Mellor advised that Louttit's accessibility will be investigated, and another location will be chosen if Louttit is not accessible.

D. LBRI Meetings, Monthly Topics

Ms. Drnach suggested adding a new agenda item to meetings, enabling the Board to explore and expand discussion on specific current issues or topics. Ms. Mellor suggested that on certain topics, guest speakers with expertise in the topic area may be brought in. Topics would be announced in advance. Ms. Drnach noted that she would like to learn more about eBooks and the issues surrounding them. Members may submit ideas for deeper study to Ms. Mellor.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. eBooks

Ocean State Libraries (OSL) is concerned about the increasing cost of eBooks and the inability of the consortium to secure enough eBooks at a reasonable cost to meet demand. OSL will be forming a committee to look at this issue in relation to the OSL budget. The issue concerns all types of libraries and links the Open Educational Resources Initiative to the question of how to provide more online access to digital resources. All types of RI libraries could benefit from a statewide discussion about eBooks.

B. New England Library Association (NELA) Conference

The conference was well-attended with many RI libraries represented. Numerous RI librarians, including four OLIS staff members, gave presentations at the event.

C. On-Going

i. Regulations for State Aid to Institutional Libraries

Ms. DiMichele reported that the regulations will go into effect on November 22, 2018. Ms. Mellor thanked the LBRI members who served on the committee to revise the regulations.

ii. Staffing

Lauren Plews, the State Data Coordinator, has relocated out-of-state and consequently left her position at OLIS; Ms. Mellor has submitted a requisition to fill the position. Ms. Mellor will attend the State Data Coordinators' annual meeting in Baltimore in December

to learn about updates to the federal Public Library Survey and the State Library Administrative Agency biennial report.

D. Summer Reading Program (SRP) Statistics

The Summer Passport Program at the Providence Community Library had a 19% increase in participation from the prior year; however, overall statewide SRP statistics trended slightly downward. The Providence School Department measured student reading abilities at the end of the school year, and again when they returned to school. When the data analysis is completed, it may be useful in measuring the effectiveness of the summer reading program. While overall participation in the Summer Reading Program declined slightly, it was noted that libraries that participated in the summer meals program and provided meals in conjunction with summer reading program activities showed increased attendance, as did sites like Providence Community Library that focused more on learning activities.

E. Public Library Grant-in-Aid (GIA)

All GIA applications for public libraries have been processed; applications were submitted in conjunction with the annual report. Any outstanding issues with reporting have been resolved. Payments will begin going out at the end of November, while payments for libraries with issues that delayed the processing of their applications will be completed by the beginning of the new year.

F. 2019 Work Plan

Ms. Mellor reviewed the OLIS Work Plan for 2019 which is based on the 2018-2022 OLIS LSTA Five-Year Strategic Plan. The annual work plan outlines the projects in which OLIS will engage over the course of the year to meet the goals of the strategic plan; those goals are access, learning, and engagement. The work plan spans the federal fiscal year (October 1 – September 30).

OLIS' budget for FY19 is \$2.6M, revised to \$2.5M due to federal grant adjustments. The budget lists 13 fulltime equivalent (FTE) positions, with 11.5 positions funded; one position will be filled in the second half of the year.

The Rhode Island Reads campaign, an initiative of the Governor's Children's Cabinet to promote the value of childhood reading, will run the week of November 26. The campaign encourages people to share their favorite childhood books on social media using the hashtag #RIREADS.

OLIS is partnering with Reach Out and Read RI to promote early childhood literacy and library use. When a child has their 5-year wellness visit at selected pediatric care practices, they receive a free book and a bookmark, which entitles the child to receive a second book at their library, where they may sign up for a library card. Libraries in Warwick are participating in this pilot project.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Mr. Coutu reported on US Senate Bill S.3639, submitted by Connecticut Senator Richard Blumenthal; the bill would prohibit the circumvention of control measures used by Internet retailers to ensure equitable consumer access to products and for other purposes. The bill will be important to follow in the event that its scope changes and it affects other issues such as Net Neutrality.

The Legislation Committee currently includes Ms. Drnach and Mr. Couto. LBRI members interested in joining the committee may contact the Chair.

Ms. Mellor reported that the federal Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA) was introduced in the Senate and House at the end of September. The legislation will reauthorize the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Senator Reed introduced the bill in the Senate and his office is hopeful that the bill will pass in the current legislative session. A key element of the reauthorization is that it will increase the base allotment for states from \$680,000 to \$1,000,000. The funding formula for states includes the base allotment and a percentage based on state population.

If the legislation passes with the base allotment increase, the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) will move forward with their 'Dollar Per Capita' initiative to increase funding for the Grants-to-States program from \$165,000,000 to \$325,000,000; representing one dollar for every American.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Bucci

Mr. Bucci reported that the Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) is officially a section of the RI Library Association (RILA) and has revised its bylaws and strategic plan to reflect the change. The RILA Annual Meeting will now include a COLA Annual Meeting. Cheryl McCarthy has resigned as Chair of the COLA Board and Sharon Lux is the new Chair.

B. Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo

Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo reported on a new app to assist the visually-challenged. 'Be My Eyes' connects individuals with visual impairment with volunteers who provide visual assistance through a real-time video call. Over 100,000 volunteers aid app users.

Books Are Wings will have a Donor Reception in the Hope Artiste Village in Pawtucket on Thursday, November 29 at 6:30pm.

C. Mr. Mitchell

Mr. Mitchell asked if libraries were advised of a program that provides free Narcan available at libraries in the event of patron opioid overdose. Ms. Feldman reported that Louttit Library staff has trained on the procedure. Ms. DiMichele stated that libraries have been

informed of the program and reported that approximately 250 RI library staff were trained to administer naloxone (Narcan) through projects supported by the RI Department of Health.

D. Ms. Blais

Ms. Blais reported that the President of the American Library Association (ALA), Loida Garcia-Febo, visited the Cranston High School East Library on October 22 and talked with the students. Information and photos from the visit are posted on the Cranston High School East Library's and ALA websites.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Standards Revision

The Charge to the LORI Standards Committee was reviewed by Ms. Mellor. The LORI Standards and Regulations (the Standards) govern resource sharing and address criteria for participation in the network and material sharing. The LORI Standards were last revised in 2015, and OLIS has experienced some challenges implementing and enforcing certain Standards, especially with regard to staffing.

Dr. Hopper, Ms. Blais, Mr. Coutu, Ms. Feldman, Ms. Richman, and Mr. Bucci have volunteered to serve on the committee to review the Standards. Ms. DiMichele and Chaichin Chen, OLIS' Network Service Coordinator, will serve as staff for the committee. OLIS will augment the committee with members of the library community representing different types of libraries and the LORI Resource Sharing Working Group to ensure that all types of libraries are represented.

Ms. Feldman noted that sharing electronic materials has become a challenge and should be considered when reviewing the Standards. Ms. Mellor will amend the charge to incorporate electronic material sharing.

Ms. Blais suggested that committee members study the Standards through a shared document in December and hold the first meeting in January. Ms. DiMichele will set-up a Google Drive to share documents and will also send members a Word version of the current standards for review.

B. Board Strategy for Support of School Libraries

Ms. Drnach previously has established a LBRI committee to examine what actions the LBRI can take to support school libraries. Ms. Blais recommended that the President of the School Librarians of RI (SLRI) be consulted to determine the steps that SLRI has previously taken to address issues pertaining to school libraries. Ms. Blais, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Coutu, and Ms. Page are the current committee members.

Ms. Mellor recommended that Mary Moen of the University of Rhode Island's (URI) Graduate School of Library and Information Services (GSLIS) be invited to join the committee. Ms. Lynch was asked to provide data from the RI Department of Education (RIDE) about school librarians; Ms. Lynch will inquire about available information.

Ms. Mellor recommended that RIDE's Basic Education Program (BEP) be reviewed to determine what regulations are in effect for school librarians.

Ms. Drnach requested that a charge for the committee be put forward at the December meeting when additional members can be finalized. The committee can begin work in January. Mr. Coutu requested that Ms. Lynch provide him with a copy of the previous BEP for comparison to the current one.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Vice-Chair

Ms. Drnach proposed Dr. Hopper as the Vice-Chair of the LBRI and requested a motion to approve.

Moved by: Mr. Coutu

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

The LBRI unanimously elected Dr. Hopper as the Vice-Chair. The LBRI Vice-Chair conducts LBRI meetings when the Chair is unavailable.

B. Ethics Filings

The RI Ethics Commission has issued a notice that annual financial disclosure statements will be posted on the Commission's website.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for December 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. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

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 17, 2018
At the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Heidi Blais, John Bucci, Aaron Coutu, Melody Drnach (Chair), Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Lynch (ex officio), Doug Norris, Leslie Page, Amanda Richman, Robert Sloan

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Louise Herrington, Marcus Mitchell, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Joan Ress Reeves (Emeritus)

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

Guests: Kate Lenz, Director, RI Center for the Book

Materials Distributed:

- Charge to the School Library Committee (2018)
- 'Dollar Per Capita' Resolution (draft, RI Library Association)

I. WELCOME

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

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

Moved by: Mr. Coutu

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Welcome/Introductory Remarks

Ms. Drnach congratulated Dr. Hopper for her election to the position of LBRI Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair presides at LBRI meetings in the Chair's absence.

Ms. Mellor welcomed Kate Lenz, Director of the RI Center for the Book (RICFB) to the meeting.

B. Family Code Night, Cranston Public Library

Ms. Drnach attended Family Code Night at Cranston Public Library on December 11. The event was a good opportunity to witness learning in a public library setting. John Pearce, Executive Director of Family Code Night, based in California, was the facilitator of two sessions of the program. Ms. Mellor attended the Family Code Night training session for librarians.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Family Code Night

Family Code Night has been implemented in schools across the country to encourage intergenerational family learning. Valerie Karno, Director of the University of RI Graduate School of

Library and Information Studies (URI GSLIS), received a grant from Infosys Foundation USA to implement the program in public libraries. Cranston Public Library, Adams Library in Central Falls, and the Providence Community Library are the pilots for the initiative. A total of 50 librarians, including URI GSLIS students, attended the two December 11 training session for librarians.

B. OLIS Staffing

The State Data Coordinator and Digital Resources Coordinator positions were posted in December. The Data Coordinator application period closed on December 13 and the Digital Resources Coordinator position application period closes on December 25. This new position will focus on network services, digital resources, and digital initiatives, including the statewide initiative to create a RI hub for the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). OLIS is working with Brown University Library and other libraries to coordinate the development of a RI DPLA hub.

C. State Aid to Libraries

All applications for state aid to municipalities for public library services have been approved and the estimates for 2020 grant-in-aid have been developed. If total grant-in-aid is level funded in state fiscal year 2020, 16 communities will receive increased funding, with state aid to libraries funded at 21.63% of local appropriations and expenditures. Applications for grant-in-aid are submitted through the Public Library Annual Report. The State budget, which includes funding for State Aid to Libraries, will be released by the Governor in late January; the General Assembly generally votes on the amended budget in June.

D. State Program Report for LSTA Funding

OLIS is completing the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) State Program Report for federal fiscal year 2018 (October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018), which is due on December 30. The report will close out OLIS' reporting for the 2017 LSTA Grant.

E. NASA @ My Library

OLIS applied for a NASA @ My Library partnership and was notified in November that it received the award for a workshop. The objective of the workshops is to train and support public librarians to effectively facilitate science-focused learning experiences to underserved audiences. OLIS will host a one-and-a-half-day workshop for librarians at Cumberland Public Library in March. The NASA @ My Library program will provide two facilitators, supplies for hands-on activities, a package for each participant with NASA resources and guides for all the activities, and meals and snacks. The theme of the 2019 Summer Reading Program is 'A Universe of Stories' which makes the NASA workshop very timely.

F. Census 2020

Earlier this year, RI was the national test site for Census 2020. Census staff will conduct a Census Solutions Workshop with OLIS and RI libraries at the beginning of March, in partnership with the Department of Administration (DOA) Statewide Planning Division and select RI community organizations.

G. State Data Coordinator Annual Conference

Ms. Mellor attended the annual State Data Coordinator conference in Baltimore, MD, during the first week of December. Topics included potential new data elements, updates on the Measures that Matter project, especially in the areas of improving data collection and data use, and IMLS tools for mining public library data.

H. Dollar Per Capita Initiative

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) initiated a 'Dollar Per Capita' initiative which seeks to increase total LSTA Grants to States funding from the current \$165,000,000 to \$325,000,000, an amount equal to \$1 for every resident of the US. The Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) passed a resolution on Tuesday signaling their support of the initiative; approximately one dozen state library associations have passed similar resolutions.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Mr. Coutu reported that Senate Bill S.3530, Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA) of 2018 introduced by Senator Jack Reed on September 28, has passed in the Senate but is being held by the House. The American Library Association (ALA) is lobbying for its passage. If the bill does not pass in the legislative session that ends in December, it will need to be reintroduced in the next session.

VI. SPECIAL TOPICS: RHODE ISLAND CENTER FOR THE BOOK (RICFB)

Kate Lenz, Director of the RI Center for the Book, described the organization's mission, goals and initiatives. RICFB is committed to the promotion of reading, writing, and sharing books through a variety of programs and partnerships. Each state has a Center for the Book; some reside under the umbrella of their state's library agency and others reside within another organization or are independent. All Centers for the Book are affiliates of the national Center for the Book at the Library of Congress in Washington DC. The RICFB has been an affiliate since 2003.

Annually, the RICFB chooses a book for the Reading Across Rhode Island (RARI) program and produces events at a variety of venues to discuss the themes of the book. The 2019 RARI book is *What the Eyes Don't See* by Mona Hanna-Attisha. RARI programming will begin in January 2019. RARI books and resource guides are distributed to schools to promote learning and teaching. Since 2009, RICFB has partnered with OLIS for the annual Kids Reading Across RI (KRARI) program.

The current RI Poet Laureate, Tina Cane, and RICFB have partnered to form the RI Youth Poetry Ambassador initiative. The program created a Youth Poetry Laureate position to be filled annually via application by a RI high school student.

Beginning in January 2019, RICFB will operate as an independent entity, with an office at Salve Regina University's Pell Center in Newport, RI. For the past 11 years, RICFB has been a program of the RI Council for the Humanities, but that relationship ended in October 2018. The organization has a staff of one, Ms. Lenz, and over one hundred active volunteers, with an annual budget of \$124,000 funded through grants, donations and membership dues. OLIS will be providing a grant of \$10,000 to RICFB in FY2019.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Dr. Hopper

HELIN is hosting the Association of College and Research Libraries' Research Data Management Roadshow at Bryant University on January 15, 2019. Registration is free, and space is available.

B. Mr. Coutu

The RI Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) and Cornucopia of RI (CORI) are now sections of RILA. Members of RILA may join the sections in conjunction with their membership. Current members of these organizations will be encouraged to transition to RILA membership and will receive all benefits

of RILA membership. Membership applications are available on the RILA website.
<https://rilibraries.org/membership>

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Library of RI (LORI) Standards Committee

Ms. DiMichele reported that the LBRI Committee to review the Library of Rhode Island Standards and Regulations will have its first meeting on January 23, 2019 at 3:30, at a location to be determined. Documents for the committee to review are on Google Drive. The Committee will meet every third week.

B. School Libraries Committee

Ms. Mellor presented and reviewed a charge for the School Libraries Committee. Dr. Lynch advised that she will provide school library data to the committee as available and assist the committee in locating relevant information collected by the RI Department of Education (RIDE).

IX. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

XI. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2019, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the **Warwick Public Library, Idea Studio, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI 02886-3998**. Directions to Warwick Public Library will be sent to members before the meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Findlay

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

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
January 14, 2019
At Warwick Public Library,
Idea Studio,
Warwick, RI 02886-3998

Members Attending: Heidi Blais, John Bucci, Aaron Coutu, Melody Drnach (Chair), Annette Feldman, Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Lynch (ex officio), Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Leslie Page, Amanda Richman, Robert Sloan

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Kenneth Findlay, Marcus Mitchell, Joan Ress Reeves (Emeritus)

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

Guests: Chris LaRoux, Director, Warwick Public Library; Jana Stevenson, Deputy Director, Warwick Public Library; Walter Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- Venkatraman, Padma. (2019, January 11) Deeply distressed by fate of library. *The Providence Journal*.

I. WELCOME

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

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the December 17, 2018 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Coutu

The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Welcome/Introductory Remarks

Ms. Drnach extended her gratitude to Mr. LaRoux and Ms. Stevenson for hosting the LBRI meeting and providing refreshments.

B. Museum & Library Services Act

The Museum and Library Services Act of 2018 (S.3530), sponsored by Senator Reed, was signed into law by the President on December 31, 2018.

C. Narragansett Public Library Construction Project

Ms. Drnach thanked Mr. Sloan for bringing attention to the January 11 Providence Journal article by Padma Venkartraman. The article highlights issues and controversies surrounding the planned library construction project in Narragansett.

IV. SPECIAL TOPICS: Virtual Worlds at Warwick Public Library

Ms. Mellor introduced Christopher LaRoux, Director of Warwick Public Library, and Jana Stevenson, Deputy Director, and thanked them for hosting the LBRI meeting.

Mr. LaRoux welcomed the LBRI. He discussed several recent improvement projects at the library: Biographies have been relocated to their own section and Radio-Frequency Identification barcodes (RFID) have been added to all library materials. RFID improves inventory control and media security, provides for faster material check-in, and is instrumental in locating items. Copies of the 2018 Warwick Public Library Annual Report were provided.

Ms. Stevenson presented the library's virtual reality project and Idea Studio. In 2017, she attended the Futures Conference in Atlantic City through an OLIS scholarship and saw a Virtual Reality (VR) presentation by Oculus where she learned that VR applications are not confined to gaming but used in a variety of disciplines, including scientific research and the arts. While VR providers are eager to move their products into the mainstream, most individuals and libraries don't have access to VR because the cost of the equipment is prohibitive.

Inspired by the presentation, Ms. Stevenson applied for a Studio Rhode grant to purchase VR equipment. Her goals for the acquisition were democratizing access to technology and building empathy. The library's book group read a series of books about immigration and refugees, and then used the library's VR equipment to virtually experience an actual refugee camp. In a second project, which was intended to promote teamwork, a group of teenagers used the VR equipment to create a virtual model of the Warwick Public Library in Minecraft, an online game where players build virtual worlds.

Ms. Stevenson has been speaking about the equipment and programming at various conferences in RI and Connecticut. The Library's VR equipment is available two days per week for 1 ½ half hour sessions, and programming demonstrations are available. The library's portable VR system is available for loan to other libraries. Policies are being created to govern use of the equipment, including age-restriction policies as necessary. Ms. Mellor reported that other libraries are experimenting with VR, and medical students, artists, and researchers are using VR tools in a variety of learning situations.

LBRI members took turns using various VR modules. Ms. Dzialo inquired about accessibility of the equipment for the visually-impaired; the equipment currently is only accessible for sighted individuals. To encourage patron interest in the equipment, Warwick library staff are promoting it in main library areas to encourage patron use.

Ms. Mellor thanked Ms. Stevenson for her presentation and demonstration of the Virtual Reality equipment, and Mr. LaRoux for his ongoing support of library programming.

V. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. Staffing – State Data Coordinator, Digital Resources Coordinator Interviews

OLIS staff are currently conducting interviews for the State Data Coordinator and Digital Resources Coordinator positions. Ms. Mellor will provide more information about the positions at the February meeting.

B. Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Rhode Island Hub

OLIS, in partnership with Brown University, Providence Public Library and other academic and special libraries and historical societies, is seeking to establish a Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Hub in Rhode Island. Ms. DiMichele and staff from Providence Public Library prepared and distributed a survey to cultural heritage institutions statewide to identify digital collections that may be ready for DPLA and interest in the project. They are currently analyzing the data collected.

C. Summer Reading Program (SRP)

The Summer Reading Program Performer's Showcase was held at Warwick Public Library on January 10. The showcase included presenters for children and teen programs, which is the first time OLIS has combined the two showcases into one. OLIS pays annually for two presentations, children and teen, at each public library and Meeting Street School. The Performer's Booking meeting will be held on January 31 at Warwick Public Library.

D. Continuing Education Schedule (CE)

Ms. DiMichele reported on highlights of the current OLIS Continuing Education programming through February 2019. She will report on upcoming CE events on a monthly basis.

Among the CE programs scheduled in the next six weeks are: Interacting with and Responding to Homeless Individuals; Adult Services Roundtables, Supporting Small Business and Encouraging Entrepreneurship and Facilitating Community Conversations; BARD-Braille and Audio Reading Download: Downloading to All Devices; and I'm Not a Lawyer or Doctor: Providing Patrons the Information They Need While Keeping Your Professional Integrity and Sanity.

Ms. Mellor encourages LBRI members, librarians, and library staff to sign up for the programs; 30 programs are scheduled for the Spring session. Information is available on the OLIS website.

E. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

i. State Program Report

The annual State Program Report was submitted to the Institute of Museum and Library Services prior to the December 30 deadline. Ms. Mellor will present an overview of the report's findings at the February meeting. The Governor's budget will be released on Thursday, January 17 and will be used in the Chief's February report on OLIS' 2020 budget.

ii. 2019 Library Services and Technology Act Funding

OLIS received its 2019 LSTA funding award from IMLS: Rhode Island will receive \$1,086,913. The award is an increase of approximately \$4,800 from 2018; while LSTA was level-funded in 2019, OLIS received an increase as a result of redistributed funding from states that did not meet their Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirement.

iii. Federal Government Shutdown

The IMLS is not impacted by the federal shutdown, and OLIS' grant funding from the federal government is intact. However, OLIS' upcoming Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) workshop with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), scheduled for March at Cumberland Public Library, is currently on hold because NASA presenters are affected by the shutdown. The two-part workshop will be rescheduled when the NASA team is available to proceed. OLIS will keep the program on the CE calendar and maintain a list of registrants.

F. Census 2020

Governor Raimondo has established a Complete Count Committee for Census 2020; OLIS will have a seat on the committee. Libraries will be critical partners for the upcoming census. OLIS is partnering with Census personnel to present a Census Solutions Workshop for Rhode Island on April 10 so that libraries can better understand and prepare for the Census, especially in the area of increasing participation in hard to count areas.

G. Construction Reimbursement

An updated construction application and support resources that align with the new construction regulations promulgated in the Summer of 2018 will be added to the OLIS website in the coming months. Library construction support was previously provided by an OLIS library program specialist whose position is currently vacant. The person hired for the position will provide support to applicants for public library construction and oversight of ongoing projects.

Narragansett voters approved a \$5.8M bond in 2016 to purchase and retrofit the former Belmont Market as the new building for Narragansett's Maury Loontjens Memorial Library. Currently there is dissent on the Town Council about whether to move forward with the project at the former market. According to the Town, the bond was passed specifically to retrofit the Belmont Market and cannot be used for another location. The November 2018 election resulted in a shift of membership on the Council and support for the library project, wherein a majority of the Council now oppose the project. A town-wide campaign has begun to advocate moving the project forward, and a candlelight vigil was held recently with approximately 100 library supporters.

Ms. Mellor will attend the Narragansett Town Council work session tonight to answer questions about library construction reimbursement funding. The RI Library Association (RILA) is aware of the project debate and has offered support to the library's director.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Mr. Coutu reported on a RI bill that includes a clause for Net Neutrality; he will provide more information about the bill to Ms. Mellor. The OLIS website page that tracks RI Legislation is being updated to reflect current legislation.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Coutu

Mr. Coutu announced that the Cumberland Public Library 4th Annual Book Lover's Local Authors Expo will be held on February 16 from 1-4 pm in the community room. Board members are invited to attend.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Library of RI (LORI) Standards Committee

Ms. DiMichele reported that the first meeting of the LORI Standards Committee will be held at Warwick Public Library on January 23. Information about the meeting has been emailed to members, an agenda will be forthcoming, and the Chair will be elected at the first meeting.

B. School Libraries Committee

The LBRI School Libraries Committee members include Ms. Drnach, Mr. Mitchell, and Mr. Sloan. Mary Moen, Assistant Professor at the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, and Maura Keating, Research and Instruction Librarian at Bryant University, will represent academic libraries. School libraries will be represented by Ms. Blais and Deanna Brooks from Cranston Public Schools, Lisa Girard from Gallagher Middle School in Smithfield, and Judy Paolucci, Superintendent of Smithfield Public Schools. Ms. Page and Mr. Coutu will represent public libraries, and Ms. Mellor will represent OLIS.

Dr. Lynch reported information about educators currently employed who have a school librarian certification; Rhode Island has 330 schools of various configurations. Of the certified librarians listed in the RI school system, 209 are using their librarian certification, and 341 are not. Of the 341 non-users, 156 individuals are over 70 years old, and 185 are under 70 years old. Dr. Lynch offered to provide the committee with information that may be needed for their work, as available from the RI Dept. of Education.

Ms. Mellor advised that the Charge to the School Libraries Committee issued in December is solidified and will stand as issued. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

XI. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2019, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Barrington Public Library, Trustees' Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, 281 Barrington Road, Barrington, RI, 02906.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Coutu

Seconded by: Ms. Blais

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
February 11, 2019
At **Barrington Public Library,**
Trustees Meeting Room, 2nd Floor
281 County Road,
Barrington, RI 02806

Members Attending: John Bucci, Aaron Coutu, Melody Drnach (Chair), Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Leslie Page, Amanda Richman, Robert Sloan

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Heidi Blais, Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Lynch (ex officio), Marcus Mitchell

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

Guests: Kristen Chin, Director, Barrington Public Library; Jessica D'Avanza, Community Engagement Librarian, Barrington Public Library; Lisa Lesinski, Head of Children's Services, Barrington Public Library; Walter Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- Legislative Committee Report, February 11, 2019
- OLIS Expenditures, Federal Fiscal Year 2018 (October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018)
- Barrington Public Library Calendar of Events January – June 2019; *It's Time We Talk: Connecting the community through a series of discussions and events promoting emotional well-being*
- Barrington Public Library February 2019 Adult Events Calendar
- Barrington Public Library Webpage Notice; American Creed: A Film Screening & Community Conversation; American Creed bookmark

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:18 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the January 14, 2019 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Bucci

Seconded by: Ms. Feldman

The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. Welcome/Introductory Remarks

Ms. Drnach recommends that the board continue to meet monthly at public libraries; visiting libraries is both informative and enjoyable.

B. Providence Public Library Construction

Ms. Mellor and Ms. Drnach viewed renovations in process at the Providence Public Library, on a tour facilitated by the library administrative team. Ms. Drnach encourages members to see the renovations.

C. LBRI Sub-committees

Ms. Drnach attended sub-committee meetings this month and commended committee members for their ongoing efforts.

IV. SPECIAL TOPICS: Barrington Public Library Renovation

Kristen Chin, Director of Barrington Public Library, presented an overview of the library, including a summary of programs and statistics, and an overview of the recent renovation of the second floor. Jessica D'Avanza, Community Engagement Librarian, discussed the library's various partnerships, programs and community support.

The Board toured the 2nd floor where Ms. Chin and Ms. D'Avanza described the renovations. Lisa Lesinski, Head of Children's Services, explained the various changes made to the children's area and collections since the renovation.

V. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. Staffing –State Data Coordinator, Digital Resources Coordinator

Candidates for both positions have been identified through the interview process; more information will be available at the next meeting.

ii. Continuing Education (CE)

Ms. DiMichele reported on February/March CE programs. The Children's Sensory Story Time support group will meet to share best practices; the program focuses on serving special needs children.

Two Young Adult Roundtable (YART) programs, Connected Learning and Computational Thinking, are grant-funded through the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA). An outgrowth of a YART program, Facilitating Community Conversations, will be presented by the Adult Services Roundtable.

Opening Up the RI Historical Society Film Archives is a Special Collections Roundtable program, and 3D Modeling in TinkerCad and Fusion 360 is presented by the Digital Innovation Roundtable.

More detailed information about CE programs is available on the OLIS website.

iii. Federal Government Shutdown

The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) workshop with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will be held March 5-6 at Cumberland Public Library.

iv. News Literacy Program

To train librarians to better help patrons identify fake news, OLIS will partner with the RI Library Association (RILA) on a News Literacy series of programs. The program kicks off at the annual RILA Conference scheduled for May 22-23 at Bryant University.

B. OLIS Federal Fiscal Year 2018-in-Review, October 2017-September 2018

Ms. Mellor provided highlights from the federal state program report, submitted to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in December. An overview of expenditures for OLIS projects and staff time was presented. To assist with federal reporting on personnel costs and accurately account for staff time spent on projects, OLIS uses a time-tracking system. The Library of RI (LORI) delivery service and related activities, and the Talking Books Library, account for the largest single project expenditures, a total of 59% of all OLIS expenditures.

C. Complete Count Committee; Census Workshop

Governor Raimondo has created a Complete Count Committee to prepare for the 2020 Census. The committee met on February 4 and represents a diverse array of Rhode Island organizations and community groups. Ms. Mellor will serve as co-chair of the Strategic Partnerships and Recruitment Committee and serves on the over-arching Governance Committee. A Census Solutions Workshop, coordinated by OLIS, is planned for April 10.

D. Construction Reimbursement

i. Narragansett

The Narragansett Town Council has voted to sell the building purchased in conjunction with a 2016 voter-approved bond for a new library. Library advocates are opposed to the proposed sale. OLIS will monitor developments and provide updates.

E. Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA)

Ms. Mellor attended the COSLA meeting in January during the American Library Association (ALA) Mid-winter meeting held in Seattle.

i. Dollar Per Capita Initiative

COSLA members addressed various ALA committees to gain support for the 'Dollar Per Capita' initiative to increase funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services' (IMLS) Grants-to-States program from \$165,000,000 to \$325,000,000, representing one dollar for every American. Over 22 state library associations have issued resolutions in support of the initiative. COSLA and ALA advocacy efforts will initially focus on increasing funding of the Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA) to the authorized

amount of \$232 million. MLSA authorizes funding for the Library Services and Technology Act, which funds IMLS.

ii. National Library Legislative Day (NLLD)

NLLD will not be held this year because ALA's annual conference will be in Washington in June. In late February, ALA is staging a fly-in for members from various states to press ALA's agenda. Ed Garcia from Cranston Public Library will attend the fly-in for RI.

iii. RI Library Legislative Day

RI Library Legislative Day will be held at the State House on April 10 from 2:30-4:30. Library organizations will be on hand to distribute information to legislators and the public.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Mr. Coutu reviewed legislation related to libraries, and he and Ms. Mellor provided details about bills relating to school libraries (S114), Net Neutrality (S40), the manufacture of 3D printed guns (S84), and proposed changes to the RI Constitution, Article XII (SR42, HR5252). RI legislative information and updates are available on the OLIS website.

B. LORI Standards Revision

The LORI Standards Committee met at Warwick Public Library on January 23. Committee Chair Aaron Coutu reported the team is focused on defining document language to provide clarification and determine measurements. The group will also explore consequences to libraries for failure to meet the standards.

C. School Libraries Committee

The School Libraries Committee met on February 6 at Cranston East High School. On behalf of Committee Chair Heidi Blais, Ms. Mellor reported the committee is gathering data to illustrate how school libraries are critical to student success. The group will also review the RI Department of Education Basic Educational Plan (BEP) and national standards to develop recommendations for school library standards to include in the BEP. With the assistance of the School Librarians of RI (SLRI), a survey will be distributed to assess the current status of libraries and library staffing in RI schools.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Norris

Mr. Norris announced that the RI Family Initiative, based at Providence Public Library, was awarded the RI Center for the Book's annual 'Library of Congress Award', for its work in adult literacy.

B. Ms. Nazareth-Dzialo

The United States ratified the Marrakesh Treaty. The Marrakesh Treaty allows exceptions to copyright laws, so print books may be converted into formats accessible to visually-impaired people. The Treaty expands the amount of materials that can be made accessible to readers with visual and/or physical disabilities.

C. Mr. Coutu

SLRI has become a section of the RI Library Association (RILA). The RI Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) and Cornucopia of RI (CORI) also recently became sections of RILA.

D. Ms. Feldman

Louitt Library received a Champlin Grant and will use the funds for building improvement and safety projects, including ground water abatement and the acquisition of LED lighting.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. LORI Grants

Ms. Mellor announced OLIS will provide approximately \$200,000 for a round of LORI Grants this spring. More information will be released soon.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

XI. FUTURE MEETINGS

LBRI members want to continue to meet at public libraries. When chosen, the next meeting location will be communicated to the board.

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2019, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Coutu

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
March 18, 2019
At the RI Department of Administration,
Conference Room B, 2nd Floor,
One Capitol Hill,
Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Heidi Blais, John Bucci, Aaron Coutu, Melody Drnach (Chair), Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Lynch (ex officio), Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Leslie Page, Amanda Richman, Robert Sloan

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Marcus Mitchell

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

Guests: Walter Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- StudioRhode Booklet: Toolkit for Next-Generation Libraries
- LBRI Legislative Committee Report – March 18, 2019

I. WELCOME

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

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the February 11, 2019 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Bucci

Seconded by: Mr. Coutu

The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Welcome/Introductory Remarks

A. LBRI Subcommittees

Ms. Drnach thanked subcommittee members for their hard work and continued efforts.

B. American Creed: A Film Screening & Community Conversation

The LBRI is invited to attend a screening of the PBS documentary film, American Creed, at Barrington Public Library on March 28 from 6:30-8:30 pm; a community discussion follows.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

- i. Staffing –State Data Coordinator, Digital Resources Coordinator

OLIS has 12 filled full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, and 13 budgeted FTE positions. Jason Ackermann, hired as Digital Resources Coordinator, began March 4. His prior employers were the Kansas State Library, the Redwood Library and Athenaeum, and Somerset Public Library in MA. He will attend a future LBRI meeting to report on digital resources.

Kelly Metzger, currently employed by the Bristol/Warren school system, will join OLIS on April 15 as the State Data Coordinator.

ii. Continuing Education (CE), Ms. DiMichele Reporting

Ten OLIS CE programs are scheduled between March 20 and April 25 including: Public Library Records Management; Addressing Barriers to Effective Communication: Sensitivity Training; Adult Services, Digital Innovation, Special Collections Roundtables; a Census Solutions Workshop, Multi-type Reference Group Roundtable, Providing Consumer Health Information, Supercharged Storytimes, and a Young Adult Roundtable that will integrate concepts from the YALSA grant project in which OLIS is a participant.

OLIS offered a workshop on laws relating to Open Meetings and Access to Public Records, presented by Lisa A. Pinsonneault, Special Assistant Attorney General, on March 13. Attorney General Peter Neronha made a special guest appearance and addressed the 14 librarians in attendance. He spoke about the important role that the public library had in his life and career and emphasized that he and his staff are accessible and ready to assist should libraries have any questions about these or other laws.

Thirty-five youth services librarians from RI and MA public libraries attended the NASA STEM workshop at the Cumberland Public Library on March 5 and 6. The workshop was part of a collaboration between the Collaborative Summer Library Program, NASA@My Library, STAR Net, the Lunar and Planetary Institute, and the National Center for Interactive Learning to support the 2019 Summer Reading Program theme "A Universe of Stories."

More information about CE programs is available on the OLIS website.

iii. Library of RI (LORI) Annual Certification, Ms. DiMichele Reporting

169 libraries completed the annual Library of Rhode Island certification process. Fifty-four libraries completed a full certification, which includes a policy review and certification of compliance with LORI regulations, and 115 completed the Annual Update. All libraries submit annual interlibrary loan statistics and a technology scan listing electronic resources, hardware, instruction and learning modules, and information technology decision processes. Eight libraries are pending full certification due to missing documents or policies.

iv. News Literacy Initiative

OLIS is partnering with the RI Library Association (RILA) on a news literacy initiative to help librarians develop approaches to media misinformation and bias and to promote

literacy in media consumption. The initiative allows will kick-off at the annual RILA conference May 22-23 at Bryant University. The conference keynote speaker is Michael Spikes of Stony Brook University in NY.

B. Library of RI (LORI) Grants

OLIS will award approximately \$200,000 in LORI Grants, in \$5,000 - \$50,000 increments, to libraries for innovative, replicable projects that advance library services. Awards will also include Studio Rhode projects that incorporate innovative uses of technology and smaller grants, \$1,000-\$2,000, for Summer Learning and Connected Learning projects. The funds are funded through OLIS' 2018 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant; all projects and related reporting will be completed by September 30, 2019.

All types of libraries may apply for grants; applications are due March 18. Grant reviewers are requested to evaluate applications for conformance to grant requirements. Ms. Drnach, Mr. Norris, and Ms. Blais volunteered to review grant applications; other volunteers may contact Ms. Mellor or Ms. DiMichele. OLIS will announce grant recipients at the end of March.

C. Senator Jack Reed Visit, April 1

To celebrate the reauthorization of the Museum and Library Services Act of 2018 (MLSA), Senator Reed will host a town hall meeting at Cranston Public Library; the meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 1 from 9-10:30 am. Kit Matthew, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), will also be in attendance. The town hall format will enable the Senator and Director to gather local stories about the importance of federal funding for libraries and support the Senator's work to fully fund MLSA at its authorization level of \$232 million.

After the meeting, Senator Reed and Director Matthew will visit Providence Public Library to discuss the library's IMLS grant.

D. Federal Budget

The federal budget was released last week and provides \$23,000,000 for the orderly closure of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Congress declined to approve this closure request in the last two federal budgets. OLIS will create a webpage to showcase Rhode Island's LSTA funding distribution and work with RILA to promote awareness about the proposed elimination of IMLS.

E. Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)

The DPLA Committee met on February 26 and reviewed survey data from December that identifies libraries with digital collections and digitization projects. Next steps will be to create a framework and standards for digital content inclusion in the RI DPLA hub. The first phase of the project will focus on harvesting content from libraries that already have robust digital collections that meet standards for inclusion. A future phase of the project will provide support to libraries to prepare content for inclusion in RI DPLA.

F. Complete Count Committee; Census Workshop

A full day of Census Solutions workshops and meetings will be held on April 10 at Warwick Public Library. Librarians and community agencies will participate in the morning session, and the Governor's Complete Count Committee will participate in the afternoon session, concluding with its regular meeting after the workshop. The focus of the workshops will be creating strategies to reach hard-to-count populations and encourage census participation.

G. Construction Reimbursement, Narragansett Maury Loontjens Memorial Library Update

The Narragansett Town Council issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an architect to assess the current library for renovation to meet state standards. The Library Board of Trustees had previously undertaken a professional assessment of the building and determined that renovations to the current structure was not feasible or financially viable. The council voted to request that the library relocate some programs to other town facilities.

A Narragansett grassroots organization, 'Love Your Library', has initiated legal action against the town council. The Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) and the RI Library Association are monitoring the situation and have written letters of support for the library. OLIS will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates to the Library Board of RI.

Narragansett's library has received several waivers in the past few years for failure to meet the Minimum Standards for RI Public Libraries; libraries must meet the Standards in order to be eligible for state grant-in-aid. Waivers are not approved indefinitely; a plan must be in place to bring the library into compliance with the standards.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates

Mr. Coutu reviewed updates to library legislation. A hearing for HR 5252 (a resolution to update Article XII of the RI Constitution, which relates to libraries), and companion bill SR 42, has been postponed at the sponsor's request. S 0327 was introduced as a companion bill to H 5355 (amends definition of "public body" to include the boards of directors of public libraries). H 5423 (training for cultural competency) and H 5468 (recording public meetings) have been held for further study.

Ms. Mellor reported that S 0285 proposes to increase state GIA to distressed communities in an amount equal to their annual Ocean State Library consortium fees. There is no indication of how this will be funded, opening the possibility that this bill would result in a redistribution of state aid to libraries from non-distressed municipalities to the eight distressed municipalities. RI Library Legislative Day is April 10 from 2:30-4:30 pm at the State House.

More information about library legislation is available on the OLIS website.

B. School Libraries Committee, Ms. Blais Reporting

The committee meets March 27 and April 9 at Cranston East High School; current work is focused on gathering data to support the committee's objectives. A RI Basic Education Plan (BEP) copy from the 1980s has been located and the School Librarians of RI (SLRI) are working with the RI Department of Education (RIDE) to understand library requirements in the current BEP. The committee will conduct a survey to RI school librarians based on similar surveys from Colorado and other states.

Dr. Lynch noted that opening the BEP to revise library requirements will open all BEP aspects for potential revision and is unlikely. She noted that the Commissioner of Education may issue an advisory opinion on a specific situation in a district, much in the way that the OLIS' Chief of Library Services may issue an interpretation of library law.

C. LORI Standards Committee, Mr. Coutu Reporting

The group is focused on identifying terms and phrases that require clarification in the Standards. It is also reviewing the collection development policy to ensure it provides appropriate guidance and reviewing staff requirements to determine a minimum standard of professional staffing at all LORI libraries, while taking into account the different operational frameworks at different types of libraries.

The committee will work to define non-compliance with standards and make recommendations for corrective action in resolving non-compliance issues.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Bucci

COLA is monitoring Narragansett's library construction situation. At RILA's annual conference, Kieran Ayton of Rhode Island College will be honored as COLA's 'Sweetheart of the Year', and Cheryl McCarthy will be honored with COLA's Certificate of Merit. The School Librarians of RI will also make their awards at the event.

B. Ms. Richman

The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) is teaming up with the National Institute of Health to promote the Precision Medicine project. Funded for ten years, it will create a researcher database to assess community health with 1,000,000 participants. Mobile teams at libraries will gather data and participating libraries will qualify for funding.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No new business.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Mellor reported that OLIS initiated a book group at the Department of Administration. The 'Capitol Reads' book group is facilitated by Nicolette Baffoni, OLIS' Adult Services Coordinator. This month's book, *What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an*

American City, written by Mona Hanna-Attisha, tells the story of the Flint, Michigan, water crisis. It is the 2019 Reading Across RI book selection of the RI Center for the Book.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2019, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m., at a location to be determined. Ms. Mellor recommended Cumberland Public Library; Mr. Coutu will notify Ms. Mellor of Cumberland’s availability.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

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
April 08, 2019
At Cumberland Public Library,
2nd Floor, Community Room
1464 Diamond Hill Road,
Cumberland, RI 02864

Members Attending: Heidi Blais, John Bucci, Aaron Coutu, Melody Drnach (Chair), Kenneth Findlay, Doug Norris, Leslie Page, Amanda Richman

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Annette Feldman, Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Lynch (ex officio), Marcus Mitchell, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Robert Sloan

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

Guests: Melissa Chiavaroli, Cumberland Public Library, Reference Services Coordinator

Materials Distributed:

- LBRI Legislative Committee Report – April 08, 2019
- 2019 Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Grant Awards
- Spring Rhode Island Teachers of English Language Learners (RITELL) Conference Handout

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:28 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the March 18, 2019 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Coutu

The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Welcome/Introductory Remarks

Ms. Drnach thanked Cumberland Public Library (CPL) Staff for hosting the meeting.

A. StudioRhode Next Generation Toolkit Booklet

The *StudioRhode Next Generation Toolkit* booklet, available at the March LBRI meeting, was interesting and informative; members are encouraged to read it.

B. Library of RI (LORI) Grant Review Process

Ms. Drnach reviewed LORI grant applications and thanked other members who volunteered as reviewers.

IV. SPECIAL TOPICS: Cumberland Public Library Presentation: The Browse Method

Melissa Chiavaroli, Cumberland Public Library's Reference Services Coordinator, presented an overview of the 'Browse Method'; an adult nonfiction classification system adopted and implemented at Cumberland. The new method originated from patron frustration with the Dewey cataloging system, as identified through a patron survey. The Dewey system, designed in the 1800s, is difficult to navigate and does not accommodate modern topics.

With her experience as a bookseller, Ms. Chiavaroli and library staff adapted the Browse Method to create a patron-friendly system based on bookstore models. Customizable and functional in multiple languages, it modernizes classifications, locates materials three ways, and provides 9 major subject categories; a future update will include 2 more categories. Color-coding is optional, and costs involve mainly new label purchases. Free to all, 8 US libraries currently use the system.

Library staff reports easier collection management, 376% faster material retrieval rates, shelving rate increases of 425%, and improved patron satisfaction. The system was showcased at the New England Library Association and American Library Association (ALA) conferences and will be presented at April's Connecticut Library Association Annual Conference.

V. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

Ms. Mellor extended her gratitude to Mr. Coutu, Cumberland Public Library's Assistant Director, for coordinating today's meeting. The library received a past OLIS Public Library Construction Reimbursement grant, and Mr. Coutu described renovations from grant funds.

A. Ongoing

i. Staffing – Digital Resources Coordinator

Kelly Metzger, currently the librarian at Kickemuit Middle School in the Bristol/Warren school system, will join OLIS on April 15 as State Data Coordinator.

ii. Continuing Education (CE) (Ms. DiMichele reporting)

CE programs scheduled between April 9 and May 20 include Supercharged Storytimes, Sensory Storytime Support Group, Census Solutions Workshops, Providing Consumer Health Information at Your Library, and Multi-type Reference, Young Adult, Digital Innovation, and the Adult Services Roundtables.

More detailed information about CE programs is available on the OLIS website.

iii. Kids Reading Across RI (KRARI)

The 10th annual KRARI Summer Reading Program kickoff is May 4 from 2-4pm at the State House. The 2019 theme is 'A Universe of Stories' and the book selection *Sanity & Tallulah* by Molly Brooks; the author will speak and sign books at the event. OLIS partnered with the RI Center for the Book (RICFB) to provide over 1,100 copies of the book to public and school libraries.

iv. RI Children's Book Award (RICBA)

The 2019 RI Children's Book Award Winner is *Sergeant Reckless: The True Story of the Little Horse Who Became a Hero* by Patricia McCormick and illustrated by Iacopo Bruno. The selection was made by students from grades 3-5, who read three books from a list of 20 and voted for their favorite. Over 7,300 students from 94 schools and libraries submitted votes, an increase from 2018.

B. 2019 Library of RI (LORI) Grants

Ms. Mellor thanked LBRI members who participated in the grant review process. 20 LORI grant applications, a total of \$300,000, were submitted to OLIS for consideration. OLIS awarded \$192,000 to 15 applicants; grant recipient information is posted on OLIS' website. Grants were awarded in three categories; General LORI grants for various projects, Learning and Connected Learning grants to support learning projects, and StudioRhode grants for innovative digital technology projects.

RI Center for the Book (RICFB) received a LORI grant for their One Book, One State 'Reading Across RI' (RARI) program. RICFB's 2019 RARI book, *What The Eyes Don't See*, by Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, is a first-hand account of the Flint MI water crisis. On April 11, RICFB will conclude with an author event from 6-9pm at Salve Regina University's Bazarsky Lecture Hall in Newport; the RI Departments of Health and Environmental Management will host the author at the Providence Marriott from 9:30am-12pm.

C. Senator Jack Reed Visit

Senator Jack Reed hosted a town hall meeting with 40 librarians and trustees at Cranston Public Library on April 1, with special guest Dr. Kathryn K. Matthew, Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services. The visit celebrated the reauthorization of the Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA). and provided the opportunity for the Senator and Director to hear from librarians about innovative programs and services happening in RI libraries. After the meeting, the visitors toured the on-going renovations at Providence Public Library.

D. Complete Count Committee; Census Workshops

Two Census Solutions Design Thinking workshops will be held this Wednesday at Warwick Public Library; 60-70 attendees are anticipated. The morning session will bring together librarians and community organizers to learn about 2020 Census objectives, as well as brainstorming methods to obtain accurate counts of hard-to-count (HTC) populations. 25% of Rhode Islanders are in HTC communities. The afternoon session will be conducted for the RI Complete Count Committee.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates (Mr. Coutu reporting)

Library organizations and advocates will celebrate RI Library Legislative Day at the State House on April 10 from 2-4pm. The event provides discussion opportunities with legislators about the importance of libraries and library programming.

State Bills S0084 and H5786, about the manufacture of weapons undetectable by metal detectors, including 3D printed guns, were held for further committee study. Ms. Mellor attended a March 28 hearing for Bill S0285 that increases state grant-in-aid (GIA) for distressed communities; the bill was held for further study. The RI Library Association (RILA) voted to oppose S0285 because the bill does not identify a funding source for increased GIA distressed community funds.

The proposed federal budget recommends the elimination of the Institute of Museum & Library Services. Federal Resolutions 1006 and 1096, which provide for internet openness without defining broadband as a Title II service, were introduced in February and referred to the House Energy & Commerce Committee for further study.

B. LORI Standards Revision Committee (Mr. Coutu reporting)

A final meeting will be held on April 11 when the committee will discuss recommendations for penalties for libraries that do not meet the standards. The draft of the revised standards will be presented at the May meeting.

C. School Libraries Committee (Ms. Blais reporting)

A school survey is being created to gather information about RI school libraries; it will be finalized this week. The committee is also reviewing standards and best practices. The committee anticipates presenting their report at the June meeting.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Norris

The spring Rhode Island Teachers of English Language Learners (RITELL) Conference will be held May 11 from 8:30am-12:45pm in RI College's Gaige Hall. The conference theme is 'Reflecting Bilingual Learners' Lives Through Literature', and the keynote speaker is author Jane Fleming, Director of Literacy for Chicago Public Schools. The conference will showcase relevant English-learner literature in three parts, an on-hand reference librarian, RI libraries' books, and a librarian-compiled booklist for distribution. The organization welcomes new members; all are invited to attend the event.

B. Mr. Bucci

Twenty sets (400 copies) of *What The Eyes Don't See* have been distributed to various groups, including high schools, by the RI Center for the Book Reading Across RI committee.

The RILA annual conference is May 22-23 at Bryant University. The program schedule is being finalized; early bird registration begins Wednesday, April 10, and registration ends May 10.

C. Mr. Findlay

LexisNexis will soon be available to Adult Correctional Institution (ACI) inmates to provide access to legal resources. The database will be accessible on stand-alone computers and updated monthly.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No new business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

XI. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2019, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m., at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Bucci

Seconded by: Mr. Findlay

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
May 20, 2019
at the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Heidi Blais, John Bucci, Aaron Coutu, Melody Drnach (Chair), Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Amanda Richman, Robert Sloan

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Phyllis Lynch (ex officio), Marcus Mitchell, Leslie Page

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

Guests: Ellen Kooima, Trustee, Maury Loontjens Memorial Library (Narragansett); Karen Shabshelowitz, Trustee, Maury Loontjens Memorial Library (Narragansett); Walter Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- LORI Standards Revision Draft
- LBRI Legislative Committee Report – May 20, 2019
- Grow with Google RI Library Tour Informational Brochure

I. WELCOME

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

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the April 08, 2019 meeting

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Welcome/Introductory Remarks

A. Senator Jack Reed, Enlightenment Award

In recognition of his long-term support of libraries, Senator Jack Reed was presented with Providence Public Library's Enlightenment Award at their annual gala on May 10. Ms. Mellor and Ms. Drnach attended the event. The Adult Commons area of the library will be named for Senator Reed.

B. RI Library Association (RILA) Annual Conference

The RILA annual conference is this week, May 22-23, at Bryant University in Smithfield.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. RI Library Association Annual (RILA) Conference

OLIS is a longtime sponsor of the annual RILA conference. This year's conference will kick-off yearlong programming on News Literacy that explores how to identify potential bias and misinformation in the news.

B. Ongoing

i. Continuing Education (CE) Programs

On June 4, the Young Adult (YA) Roundtable will review new YA books and collection development at Lincoln Public Library. The Children's Sensory Support Time Group will meet at North Providence Union Free Library on June 11 to discuss sensory activities and program ideas.

RILA's Financial Literacy Roundtable will host John Clarkson, Vice President of Security and Fraud for Pawtucket Credit Union, at Coventry Public Library on June 12 for 'Financial Crimes & the Latest Scams', a program designed to help people avoid financial schemes and scams that often originate online and target older citizens.

The Digital Innovation Roundtable (DIRT) on June 19 at Bristol's Rogers Free Library will discuss current year activities and initiate plans for the 2019/2020 season.

More detailed information about CE programs is available on the OLIS website.

C. Complete Count Committee; Census Workshops

60 people attended two Census Solutions workshops at Warwick Public Library on April 10. The morning program informed librarians and other attendees about the importance of an accurate census count. The Complete Count Committee met in the afternoon and is working to ensure maximum participation in RI's 2020 Census count, especially in hard-to-count communities.

D. Library of RI (LORI) Grants

Library of RI grant projects are underway at 15 libraries; projects must be completed by the end of August. If possible, some LORI projects may be showcased at the September board meeting.

E. Summer Reading Program (SRP)

More than 200 people attended the 10th annual Kids Reading Across RI (KRARI) Summer Reading Program (SRP) kick-off event at the State House on May 4. Seven libraries provided children's activities, and 8 organizations sponsored programming that included astronomy from Skyscrapers, virtual reality from the RI Computer Museum, and a coloring robot from the RI Museum of Art and Science.

The SRP theme is 'A Universe of Stories', and the KRARI book is the graphic novel, *Sanity and Tallulah*, by Molly Brooks. OLIS will sponsor 140 library programs this summer, one each for children and teens at each public library; SRP program activities begin mid-June.

F. Marrakesh Treaty

The United States ratified the Marrakesh Treaty, which permits exceptions to copyright laws to allow reproduction of print books in alternate formats for blind or visually-impaired people. The National Library Service, which provides services through Talking Books Library, is exploring how they can leverage the Treaty to make more materials available to patrons.

G. Diversity Summit

OLIS will host a Diversity Summit in mid-July at the University of RI (URI) to discuss ways to help libraries become more responsive and reflective of the communities they serve. Tentative topics include implicit bias and immigrant and refugee experiences. A committee of members from URI Graduate School of Library and Information Studies (GSLIS), Cornucopia of RI, the RI Library Association, public libraries and OLIS are developing the program. The summit will be followed by a series of programs throughout the year.

H. Grow with Google Tour

'Grow with Google' workshops will be held at Providence Public Library on May 29, and Newport Public Library on May 31. Google is partnering with the Public Library Association (PLA) to coordinate free workshops at libraries in all 50 states over 18 months to promote Google tools that enable jobseekers, small business owners and others to develop their digital skills. Google will provide technology, library staff training, and small grants to libraries that want to delve deeper into digital skills training.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates (Mr. Coutu reporting)

Senate Bill S0040, about public utility and carrier internet providers and Net Neutrality, passed in the Senate and was referred to the House Corporations Committee. Bills S0042 and H5252 that propose changing the section of the RI State Constitution referencing public library service was held for further study. Ms. Mellor attended a hearing for S0327 that re-defines library requirements under the public body definition in Open Meeting requirements, the bill was held for study. Bill H5158, which determines if a nonfiction book qualifies for tax exemption, was held for further study.

Several federal bills to expand national internet connectivity are moving through Congress. Senate Bill 1167, the Digital Equity Act of 2019 that establishes two National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) grant programs to promote nationwide digital equity and expand broadband access, has been referred to Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation.

Ms. Mellor reported that a \$17,000,000 increase for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding that would fully fund the increased base grant for states at \$1 million passed House Appropriations. It may be a greater challenge to pass such a bill in the Senate.

B. LORI Standards Revision Committee (Mr. Coutu reporting)

A draft of the revised LORI Standards has been prepared for presentation to the board. Mr. Coutu thanked the committee members for their hard work and the professionalism exhibited during discussions about contentious issues.

Ms. Drnach recommended that further discussion about the revised standards be held for today's Unfinished Business agenda item.

C. School Libraries Committee (Ms. Blais reporting)

The committee completed and issued a school library survey to which 157 school libraries have responded; a 61% response rate. Non-responsive libraries have been contacted and encouraged to respond before the survey closes this week. Best practices and research on the importance of school libraries in a child's education will also be included in the report.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Norris

Mr. Norris extended his gratitude to Ms. Mellor and Mr. Coutu for their assistance with the Rhode Island Teachers of English Language Learners Conference held May 11. 160 people attended, and 2 librarians, Martha Boksenbaum, Youth Services Librarian from Cranston Public Library's Auburn Branch, and Bonnie Lilienthal, Senior Children's Librarian at Providence Public Library, assisted attendees. Librarians from around the state contributed booklists, display books, and other materials. The RI Library Information Network for Kids (RILINK consortium) provided information about their 'Read Aloud' program, for which they recently received a LORI grant.

B. Mr. Bucci

Registration for this week's RILA conference is still open. Keynote speakers will be Wanda Brown, 2019-20 American Library Association President-Elect, G. Wayne Miller, Visiting Fellow at Salve Regina University and Providence Journal reporter, and Michael Spikes, Consultant, Center for News Literacy at Stony Brook University. The Coalition of Library Advocates and School Librarians of RI will host a reception at the conference and will present their annual awards.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Review of the Revised LORI Standards

Mr. Coutu reported that revisions were made to clarify library terms, including the definitions of a library and librarian. Staffing requirements were outlined for different types of libraries, the process to submit complaints was detailed, and language was added to denote library compliance to RI general laws.

Ms. Mellor noted that the review would also align library definitions throughout all library regulations.

Motion: Dr. Hopper made a motion to accept the draft LORI Standards and post them for public comment.

Seconded by: Ms. Richmond

The LORI Standards draft was approved as presented.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Narragansett Public Library Funding

Ms. Mellor reported that a 2016 bond was approved by Narragansett voters to purchase a building to renovate for a new library; the building was purchased in the fall of 2018. The town council elected in November 2018 voted to sell the purchased building in January 2019. In April 2019, the town council made a motion to cut the library budget by more than half. RI General Law 29.6.3 specifies that municipalities must level fund their libraries in order to be eligible for state grant-in-aid (GIA).

The RI Library Association, the Coalition of Library Advocates, and other RI library advocates and organizations are aware of the situation and have expressed their support for the construction of a new library for Narragansett through letters to the Town Council.

Motion: Ms. Blais made a motion for the LBRI to send a letter supporting the Narragansett Library to the Narragansett Town Council and Town Manager.

Seconded by: Mr. Bucci

The motion was approved, and Ms. Drnach will draft a letter of support.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Maury Loontjens Memorial Library Trustees, Ms. Ellen Kooima and Ms. Karen Shabshelowitz, thanked the board for supporting the Narragansett Library and discussed new library developments. Questions about the library situation may be directed to Laurie Kelly, President, Narragansett Library Board of Trustees.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2019, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m., at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Coutu

Seconded by: Ms. Blais

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

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND
The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
June 17, 2019
at the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: John Bucci, Aaron Coutu, Melody Drnach (Chair), Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Louise Herrington, Rosita Hopper, Marcus Mitchell, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Leslie Page

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, Heidi Blais, Phyllis Lynch (ex officio), Doug Norris, Amanda Richman, Robert Sloan

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

Guests: Deanna Brooks, President, School Librarians of RI; Mary Moen, Assistant Professor, University of RI Graduate School of Library and Information Studies; Esther Wolk, School Librarian, Coventry Elementary School System; Walter Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- LORI Standards Revision Draft
- LBRI Legislative Committee Report – June 17, 2019
- LBRI Report of School Libraries Draft –June 17, 2019

I. WELCOME

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

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the May 20, 2019 meeting

Moved by: Ms. Page

Seconded by: Mr. Coutu

The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Ms. Drnach welcomed the board to the final meeting before the summer break.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. State Budget

The House Finance Committee passed the state budget out of committee on June 14. Library grant-in-aid (GIA) was level-funded and a general grant of \$100,000 for the RI Library Association (RILA) was included as a line item for GIA. The OLIS budget is unchanged from the budget proposed by the Governor in January and includes 13 full-time employees (FTE). OLIS has one vacant position, Library Program Manager. The budget will move to the House for consideration, and once passed, to the Senate and the Governor.

ii. Continuing Education (CE) (Ms. DiMichele reporting)

The Adult Services Roundtable will meet on June 19 for a planning session for future meetings. The Special Collections Roundtable program “Security Measures for Special Collections” is scheduled for July 11 at the Jamestown Library, with an optional tour of the Jamestown Historical Society Vault and Museum.

More detailed information about CE programs is available on the OLIS website.

iii. Summer Reading Program (SRP) (Ms. DiMichele reporting)

The 2019 Summer Reading Program begins this month. OLIS coordinated 365 programs for children and teens at 69 libraries; OLIS will pay for 135 of the programs. OLIS also

coordinated an incentive program of free admission to ten RI museums and nature centers for children who meet local reading goals. Libraries with adult summer reading programs also offer opportunities arranged by OLIS for adults to earn free admission to four museums.

The 2019 SRP theme is A Universe of Stories. A free summer library program, "From Earth to the Moon!", is donated and presented by Renée Gamba, Director of the Museum of Natural History and Planetarium at Roger Williams Park and 2019 Kids Reading Across Rhode Island (KRARI) honorary chair. The program will be offered at 17 public libraries statewide as part of the 2019 SRP and KRARI program.

B. OLIS Diversity Summit

OLIS, in partnership with the RI Library Association (RILA), the URI Graduate School of Library and Information Studies (GSLIS), and Cornucopia of RI (CORI), will offer a Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Summit on August 7 at URI. The daylong event will include a keynote speaker, group breakout sessions and a panel of representatives from organizations serving diverse populations. The Summit begins the discussion about diversity and inclusion by examining implicit bias and considering ways libraries can serve and reflect the diverse communities they serve, and initiates a series of programs on equity, diversity and inclusion. Registration for the Summit will be available on the OLIS website.

C. Summer 2019

i. Continuing Education (CE) Planning

On July 25 OLIS professional staff will attend a daylong offsite planning session for CE programming. In advance of the session, OLIS will conduct a survey to collect data on the library community's CE needs.

ii. Fall Events

a. Project Outcome

Project Outcome, a Public Library Association (PLA) toolkit, is designed to help public libraries across the nation gather data on the impact of library services and programs. Project Outcome data can be consolidated to provide OLIS with survey data on library programs and services at libraries across the state. The Project Outcome toolkit is updated and improved regularly. OLIS will deploy the toolkit in the Spring of 2020.

b. Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Institute (Ms. DiMichele reporting)

In partnership with YALSA, a division of the American Library Association (ALA), OLIS is offering the Teen Services with Impact Institute. The program will give participants the skills to explain the value of teen programs, teach them how to apply social, emotional, and YALSA competencies to teen activities, and understand the development of teen services and programs.

Linda Braun, consultant for YALSA will be the facilitator and presenter. The institute is open to librarians from Connecticut and Massachusetts.

V. Special Topics: Overview of Interlibrary Loan and Technology Use in RI Libraries

Chaichin Chen, OLIS Resource Sharing Coordinator, and Jason Ackermann, OLIS Digital Resources Coordinator, presented an overview of interlibrary loan (ILL) and technology in RI libraries. Highlights of data gathered from the 2019 LORI Certification were presented. Ms. Chen and Mr. Ackermann demonstrated visualizations of the survey data, which can be configured by users of that data, which is presented by OLIS using Power BI. Interactive Google Maps were used to indicate RI libraries that provide creative spaces.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Federal & State Legislative Updates (Mr. Coutu reporting)

Federal library legislation is unchanged with no activity to report.

Senate Bill S84, prohibiting manufacture of weapons undetectable by metal detectors, including 3D guns, which could be made in libraries, passed in the Senate and was referred to House Judiciary.

House Bill H5355 amends the definition of 'public body' to include boards of directors for libraries whose operational budget is funded by at least 25% of public funds in the prior state fiscal year. The bill passed and was referred to the House for consideration.

Senate Bill S978 requires "[school] library-media programs outlined in section G-13-1.3.11 of the RI Basic Education Plan (BEP) be staffed by a librarian with certification from an American Library Association (ALA) accredited program" and sets standards for school libraries and school library services, "including the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) national standards." The bill was introduced on June 13 and scheduled for a June 19 hearing.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

No board member reports.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Approval of Revised Library of RI (LORI) Standards

Ms. Mellor thanked LORI Standards Committee members for their participation and reviewed the revisions made to the LORI Standards since the May meeting.

Motion to approve: Mr. Findlay

Seconded by: Mr. Mitchell

The LORI Standards were approved as presented.

B. Review of School Libraries Committee Report

Ms. Mellor thanked the School Libraries Committee members for their participation, and reviewed the draft report. Three charges were given to the committee:

- Review the current status of school libraries, including library facilities, library staffing, and librarians' duties in Rhode Island's K-12 institutions;
- Identify challenges to the inclusion of successful school library media programs in Rhode Island schools; and
- Make recommendations in a written report to the Library Board of Rhode Island for actions that would strengthen school library media programs in Rhode Island schools.

Ms. Mellor will send the report draft to the board for review during the summer break. Recommendations for further revisions may be submitted to Ms. Mellor. A vote to accept the report will be held at the September meeting. Following approval, the board will determine additional actions.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

XI. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2019, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m., at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI. The board will establish the 2019-2020 meeting schedule at the September meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Bucci

Seconded by: Mr. Coutu

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.