

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.