

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND
The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on
January 13, 2020
at the Department of Administration,
2nd Floor, Conference Room B,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908-5816

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

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

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

Guests: Walter Dzialo

Materials Distributed:

- Legislative Report, January 2020
- OLIS Expenditures Report: Federal Fiscal Year 2019

I.WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:22 p.m.

II.APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the December 16, 2019 meeting

Moved By: Mr. Coutu

Seconded By: Mr. Bucci

III.REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. National Library Legislative Day

Board members are encouraged to join Ms. Drnach and Ms. Mellor for National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) on May 4-5 in Washington, DC.

IV.CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Library Reports Published

The [School Libraries Report](#) and [OLIS' Annual Year-End Summary](#) are published to OLIS' website.

B. State Budget

Governor Raimondo will present the State of the State address on January 14 and the State Budget on January 16.

It is anticipated that OLIS will be funded at the current level of service in the FY21 budget, with 13 fulltime equivalent (FTE) positions. Ms. Mellor recently received approval to fill the vacant Library Program Manager position.

C. Director, RI Department of Administration (DOA)

Michael DiBiase has left his position as DOA Director; Brett Smiley, Governor Raimondo's former Chief-of-Staff, is acting DOA Director.

D. Online Tools

i. Library Presenter Directory

The Library Presenter Directory (LPD) for children, young adult, and adult programs is being populated with presenter and program information. The LPD will launch at the "Summer Reading Program Planning: Performer Discussion" workshop on January 28.

ii. Library Jobline

OLIS' new LibraryJobline, a project in partnership with Library Research Service at the Colorado State Library, was launched in January; the changeover from the previous OLIS Jobline was seamless. Employers are adding jobs and taking advantage of available features to promote jobs and connect jobseekers with their library.

E. Revised Library of RI (LORI) Standards

The revised Library of Rhode Island Standards and Regulations became effective on January 3 for all LORI libraries.

F. LORI Certification Changes

OLIS is moving the LORI Certification period from January through March to July through September to align with the public library survey reporting period, and academic and school schedules. The shift will also give libraries time to comply with the revised LORI Standards. Libraries currently certified will remain certified until August 2020. The certification process will be embedded in the annual public library survey. Other libraries will access the LORI Certification as a stand-alone survey.

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

OLIS is offering three programs to support libraries' engagement with Census 2020 and be better positioned to assist patrons. The Census 2020 Solutions Workshop is an interactive, design-thinking workshop for developing ideas for Census 2020 outreach. The Children's Services Roundtable: 2020 Census is a discussion about how youth services librarians can help children and families be counted and embed census information into services already in place in the library. Children from birth through age 4 are among the most undercounted populations and programs such as SNAP, Medicaid, school lunches, Head Start, WIC, and Title I use Census data to calculate and distribute federal funds. Census 101 for RI Libraries will be presented as a webinar and will provide an overview of the 2020 Census, consider ways the census will intersect with Rhode Island libraries, and address frequently asked questions.

Support Small Businesses: Discover the RI Business Portal, is a program to demonstrate resources available in the portal, including an exploration of the RI Business Data Hub. The program will be offered in conjunction with the Office of the Secretary of State on January 29 at South Providence Community Library. LORI Resource Sharing Procedures Review is February 6 at Cranston Public Library and repeated on February 19 at East Greenwich Free Library.

The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Book Club will discuss "So You Want to Talk About Race" by Ijeoma Oluo on February 12. "The Public", a film about serving the homeless in libraries, will be shown and followed by a facilitated discussion at Warwick Public Library on February 13. Summer Reading Program Planning for "Imagine Your Story" will be held on February 25, and Records Management for Public Libraries is on February 27.

H. LORI Learning Grants

Libraries have until midnight January 13 to submit applications for the LORI Learning Grants. OLIS has received nine applications, totaling \$15,900 in requests.

I. Maury Loontjens Memorial Library (Narragansett)

Maury Loontjens Memorial Library did not meet eligibility requirements to receive FY20 grant-in-aid funding due to a maintenance of effort (MOE) issue; the Town of Narragansett did not appeal the decision.

OLIS will designate Narragansett's unallocated funds, approximately \$186,000, to benefit library users statewide. Considerations underway include a library application tool, additional eBooks to mitigate long hold lists for eBooks, and additional resources for the Statewide Reference Resource Center.

Ms. Mellor welcomed additional ideas from board members. One suggestion was that the remaining fund balance, once certain expenditures for statewide resources and tools were made, could be divided among public libraries in accordance with the funding formula.

Mr. Coutu asked if OLIS could fund a statewide online summer reading system. Ms. Mellor said funds must be expended and programs implemented by the end of the state fiscal year; it would be difficult to identify and implement an appropriate technology solution in such a short period of time. OLIS is also reluctant to engage in new services that cannot be sustained. Ms. Mellor will update the board on funding plans at the next meeting.

J. OLIS Year-in-Review

Ms. Mellor gave an overview of expenditures and programs as reported in the FY19 Annual Federal Report for October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019, the second reporting year of OLIS' 2018-2022 strategic plan.

Program expenditures were drawn from \$1,082,194 in federal funds, an increase of \$12,000 from FY18, and \$1,325,590 in state funds, a decrease of \$32,000 from the previous year. The change in state funding was a result of decreased expenditures for personnel due to vacancies.

Grant-in-Aid to public libraries, which is administered by OLIS but not included in OLIS' budget, totaled \$8,598,411. The Statewide Reference Resource Center, hosted by Providence Public Library, received \$701,052, and public libraries were reimbursed \$2,176,470 for construction projects.

Library of RI (LORI) expenses make up the largest portion of OLIS' budget, at \$855,765; LORI includes the statewide interlibrary loan (ILL) delivery contract. Talking Books Library was the second largest expenditure at \$441,305. The highest staff time expenditures were Talking Books Library at 20.4% of personnel expenditures, LORI at 18.8%, and Library Development at 15.2%.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

State Bills S2004 and H7085, prohibiting the manufacture, importation, sale, shipment, delivery, possession or transfer of any undetectable firearm, including 3D-printed firearms, are moving forward. State H7096 requests that the Governor designate a Statewide Broadband Coordinator and establish a RI Broadband Advisory Council. The RI Library Association is advocating that the legislation is amended to include a representative from the library community on the Council.

Federal Bill H5243 will amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish a mobile hotspot grant program; the bill currently has few sponsors.

The US Senate approved Crosby Kemper, Director of the Kansas City Public Library, as the Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

No board member reports.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. School Library Report

Ms. Blais inquired about next steps for the School Library Report. Ms. Mellor said the published School Library Report will be presented with the 2019 LBRI Annual Report to the Governor and RI Legislature. Mr. Coutu recommended the School Library Report be presented to the RI Library Association (RILA) Board. Ms. Mellor will present the report to the RILA Board at their meeting tomorrow. Ms. Drnach requested a conference call be convened with the School Library Committee to bring closure to committee activities.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Library Trustees Manual

OLIS' Public Library Trustees Manual requires updates. The manual provides an overview of trustee duties, library operations, and RI library laws. OLIS has completed a draft and is now seeking additional input on the document.

Ms. Mellor requested a board committee to review the draft and provide input. Ms. Page, Mr. Findlay, and Mr. Coutu volunteered to participate in an ad hoc committee in the spring. Ms. Mellor will develop a committee charge and provide the current manual revision to the committee.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2020, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m., at the Department of Administration, Conference Room A, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By: Mr. Findlay

Seconded By: Mr. Sloan

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.