

Steering Committee Meeting, November 18 & 30, 2005

Cranston Public Library

1. The committee met twice in November, 18th & 30th.
2. The recommendation of the the One Catalog Working Group is that a statewide bond issue be sought for \$7,500,000 to provide hardware, software, and staff to implement a statewide catalog over 5 years. Bond issue to be on the ballot November 2006.
3. LibFutures chair requested that Database Work Group and Life Long Learning Work group determine if they wanted funding included in a bond issue for their program activities.

Both groups have since indicated support for a bond issue but believe that this financial mechanism would not provide the degree of financial performance they desire.

4. Steering Committee raised questions regarding our ability to plan an effective bond issue campaign by the Fall of 2006 and could a bond issue be successful for only one catalog or should funding be included for the other two activities as well.
5. Interest continues in a library commission to develop a strategic plan for library development in the state. Uncertainty remains on how to get around the separation of powers issues which has prevented General Assembly members from being appointed to the commission.
6. General agreement that the time has come to request some "political" advice on the above issues. Will occur by the end of the year.

Proposed that a second town meeting be held the afternoon of January 10, 2006 (in conjunction with HELIN meeting) to review progress since last years town meeting and discuss future direction.