

Minutes

LIBFUTURES MEETING JUNE 20, 2006

CUMBERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Attendance:

Janet Levesque
David Macksam
Joan Ress Reeves
Cheryl Banick
Donna Longo Dimichele
Mary Ann Slocomb
Patricia Redfearn
Jackie Lamoureux
Bob Aspri
Gale Eaton
Cindy Mohlback
Carol Howard

Meeting was called to order at 3:10PM.

It was announced that Beth Perry has been named acting director of OLIS, and will represent OLIS.

Gale Eaton from GSLIS will represent Michael Havener, who has stepped down as the head of GSLIS.

I. It was reported that at the last meeting everyone was hopeful that the funding request for the bond issue would go through. While it seemed as though it might indeed happen, at the last minute approval was not achieved. The feeling is that there is good support in the General Assembly for such a bond issue, and that we just started the ball rolling too late to achieve our objective. So now the decision is: do we tag along on someone's else bond issue, or do we maintain our own separate package, which would involve a major publicity effort. If we are a part of another bond issue, publicity would/could be shared.

II. David Macksam pointed out that we got a good, positive response at the hearing. We were able to attract a small bit of the General Assembly's attention, with two members agreeing to

sponsor the bond issue request. Those members were Representatives Dennigan and Naughton.

III. LibFutures Commission

House Bill H7166 should be passed by the end of this week. This would appoint the members of the commission. Once the commission is established formally it will need to determine its structure, officers, schedules, etc.

Then the question becomes “what will happen to the LibFutures Standing Committee once the LibFutures Commission is established?”

The first meeting of the Commission should determine if a facilitator is needed, eg Maureen Sullivan, who could help to identify the issues the Commission is facing. David Macksam pointed out that RILA could pay for this, since the commission represents all RI libraries, as does RILA. He has spoken to Cindy Lunghoffer, RILA president, about this and will do so again.

It was asked how is the Commission going to become aware of the wishes and recommendations of the Standing Committee, who has already done a tremendous amount of work through its committees. The reports of the committees already have recommendations of what needs to be done. OCLC can provide a trial for the one catalog that, for instance, could be demonstrated to the Commission as a goal the libraries are heading for. This raised the issues of products and who is going to look at them.

The consensus was that the first meeting, which will be held at CRANSTON, TUESDAY, JULY 25, AT 1:00 pm, should be a joint meeting of the Legislative Commission and the Steering Committee to discuss the future roles and structure of the Commission.

Meeting adjourned 4:00PM.

Respectfully submitted

Patricia Redfearn
George Hail Library,
Warren

