

Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting

February 16, 2023

10:00 am Business Meeting via Zoom

Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** President Doug Lord called the meeting to order at 10:02 am,
Approval of Minutes: February meeting minutes
A motion to approve the January meeting minutes with change made as stated by Alessandra was made by Kate Byroade and seconded by Lisa Karim. Motion approved. No abstentions.
2. **Old Business**
 - a. **President's Report** – See attached.
 - b. **Treasurer's Report** – Margaret reports we are on a good track with spending and revenue. We are closing in on Conference and that is the bulk of our expenses and income. We are still at a steady membership. We received almost \$5,000 in donation, more than we budgeted for. Chairs & Co-Chairs should start thinking of their budgets for the next fiscal year. Margaret has an April 21st deadline to have the budgets due. The website will also have an updated form. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Margaret.
3. **New Business**
 - a. Resolution on eBooks – Doug hopes this will make a difference with the Legislative efforts. A motion to accept the Resolution on eBooks was made by Colleen Bailie and seconded by Kate Byroade. Motion approved.
 - b. Legislative Update
 - c. Election 2023 – Colleen reports that we will be looking for a Vice President and Secretary this year. There are other positions that will need to be voted on for those who came in mid-year so please reach out to Colleen if you are interested.
 - d. Reports

Representative Reports:

- **CT State Library: Deborah Schander:** See attached
NELA: Heloise Nana: NELA met on 1/27 and approved the NELLS facilitator contract. Will be held in Stowe, VT, for 4/24-27. Applications were due 2/17. Approved the annual 10/20-22 for 2024 for NELA Conference in Portland, ME. The 2023 Conference will be in Springfield, MA 10/15-17. They are looking at filling some positions for 2024. Those positions are Vice President, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large.
ALA: Kate Byroade: See attached
ALA EDI Assembly: Kristina Lareau: Kristina attended the last meeting. There were about 50 members from various ALA affiliated groups and committees. January's meeting focused on Accessibility. March will have discussions on Intellectual Freedoms and Social Justice. Meetings are open to anyone who wants to join, you don't have to be a representative.
FOCL: Debbie Misiaszek:
ACLB: Denise Stankovics: ACLB is planning their upcoming meetings. Board Basics & Freedom

Information. For September of 2023, Sam Lee will do a program on Intellectual Freedom. They plan to make a donation to CLA for a scholarship.

ACLPD: Alyssa Dansinghani: See attached

Region 1: Karin Goodell: See attached

Region 2: Shana Shea: See attached

Region 3: Leslie McDonough: Absent

Region 4: Erin Dummeyer: See attached

Region 5: Emily Rush: See attached

Region 6: Madhu Gupta: See attached

CLC: Ellen Paul: Julie Yulo-Medeiros reported for Ellen who could not attend that CLC has a new contract for library equipment and technology. They have done one training and will have another upcoming. They just opened their supplies bid. If you work with a vendor that you wish was on contract, let CLC know. They will reach out to them to see if they are interested to bid.

BCALA: Robert Kinney: Absent

CAS-L: Kym Powe: Kym reports that CAS-L is on the list of possible presenters with CLA for collaborations with public librarians. We will find out soon. CAS-L also considering getting a booth as vendor at Conference. **Commission on Ed Tech: Colleen Bailie:** No report

Library Connection: Laura Horn: No report

SCSU: Arlene Bielefield: No report

Association Committee Reports:

ADA: Maria Bernier: Maria thanked the Conference Committee for accepting ADA's proposal for Conference. They will be hosting Alana Sherman talking about the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Archivist: Gerald Seagrave: No report

Awards (as needed): Awards are up on the website. They want to thank John Casiello for helping them and working on finalizing the details on the ceremony with the Conference committee

Career Development: Sunnie Scarpa & Andy Forsyth: No report

Conference 2023: Scott Brill & Andy Forsyth: Andy and Scott absent. Alessandra reported that registration is up as of this week. Yesterday, they notified all the speakers whether they were accepted or not. They had a lot of proposals, so they asked people to consider proposing again next year if they did not get accepted. If you know someone who submitted, but did not get a response, please let Alessandra know. The preliminary schedule is available and will be updated as things change. The keynotes have been confirmed. Monday is Michael Crumpton from UNCG. Tuesday's keynote is John Chrastka from EveryLibrary. Awards ceremony will be Tuesday morning at 8:15 in hopes that award winners will be able to have family and friends attend to see them get their awards. They've taken in about 35,000 already between exhibitors, sponsors, and ads, and their goal is 50,000 so they are doing well. They have about 36 exhibitors so far. Look at the special events on the website, as well. Annual meeting will be after the awards ceremony (Awards 8:15-9:15, breakfast during that), then after that the Annual meeting and John's keynote will start.

Intellectual Freedom: Sam Lee & Lindsay Delligan: See attached

Grants/Fundraising: Alessandra Casiello: Alessandra reported that she has tried to gear everyone towards using donation features on website. They've taken in over \$5,000 this year already. Alessandra created a catalog through StarChapter and one of those items is a general item of "put in your own amount." Alessandra uses that as something to add for each meeting if you are creating one for CLA. You can add it in as a ticket, including the general donation of \$10, \$15, or \$20 tickets. Several fundraisers will be going on at Conference. Check those out on the Conference website.

Legislative: Kate Byroade & Olivia Scully: Kate added they had 6 regional events between January and February. They had about 12 legislators attend. The presentations and interactions were very good. There was also very good turnout from librarians in the regions that gotted a good conversation started around advocacy. Looking to do those again in the future.

Membership: Trish Tomlinson: Absent.

PEG: Mary Etter: Absent

Procedures: Lisa Karim: Lisa has been working with Lisa on this year's upcoming elections.

Publicity & Communications: John Casiello: Working on updated SWAG with new logo for Conference. Please make sure to spread the word about awards.

Section Reports:

Children's: Alex Klaus & Sage Gentry: Absent.

CLASS: Vacant

College & University: Vacant

JEDI: Mary Richardson & Sam Connell: They are excited to combine forces and they are going to try to plan something for this year. They need to look at their bylaws to update them with their combined section.

Public Libraries: Jennifer Sullivan: Jen thanked Doug Lord, Mary Etter, Sam Lee, and Olivia Scully for attending the Public Libraries meeting on reframing "Banned Books Week" They had 32 people attend and it was a great start to the conversation. They are planning on doing these discussions monthly. If you want to be involved with the rebranding of that week in the fall, contact Jen.

Reference & Adult Services: Christie Mitchell & Rachel Leff: Both their proposals were accepted. One is on CT Judicial Libraries' Resources. The second is an innovative way for Friends groups to hold book sales and employ people with disabilities.

Resource Sharing: Matt Earls: Absent

Technical Services: Vacant

YA: Jackie Bush & Stephanie Smith: They are looking forward to their programs at Conference.

4. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn at 11:02 was made by Kate Byroade and seconded by Alessandra Casiello. Motion passed. No abstentions.

Present: Deborah Schander, Jen Sullivan, Doug Lord, Colleen Bailie, Laura Horn, Lisa Karim, Margaret Khan, Kristina Lareau, Kate Byroade, Bob Scheier, Maria Bernier, Emily Rush, Jerry Seagrave, Allison Murphy, Sarah McCusker, Heloise Nana, Alessandra Casiello, Christie Mitchell, Erin Dummeyer, Olivia Scully, Sam Lee, Kym Powe, Shana Shea, Julie Yulo-Medeiros, John Casiello, Danielle Valenzano, Jackie Bush, Alyssa Dansinghani, Mary Etter, Samantha Connell, Steven Bernstein, Rachel Leff, Mary Richardson, Stephanie Smith, Madhu Gupta

President's Report
February 2023
Douglas Lord

Thanks go out to members ...

- Kymberlee Powe from the CT State Library who has agreed to represent CAS-L as its new representative
- Emily Rush, E.C. Scranton Memorial Library is the new Region 5 representative
- Allison Murphy (East Haddam PL) is conference co-chair for 2024-2025

I'm planning on attending the CCM annual meeting of municipal association leaders and legislative committee chairs on 2/24.

DeliverIT

update

The #1 area of concern for membership continues to be physical delivery. CLA had a productive conversation with the state library on DeliverIT during January and here the formal update. The state librarian and her staff hear you; the state library is taking your concerns seriously. There are multiple factors involved in delivery, it is not a problem that one can throw money at to fix, and bear in mind most of these issues predate Deborah Schander. I have asked the state library for an official update for CLA at a future date and predict that it will be in the months after the budget and legislative season wind down.

Legislative

There are two opportunities for helping with upcoming legislation. One regards eBooks, the other is a 'thanks and' opportunity. There is much information about both on the CLA Advocacy pages. Please recognize the Legislative Committee's fine work on these issues.

The CLA Resolution regarding eBooks is a sound, official step to take prior to the eBook legislation discussions. Annual conference The schedule was released yesterday and it looks to be an outstanding conference. This has been an enormous amount of work on the committee of Alessandra, Scott, Andy, Kym, John, Sarah, Sam, and Allison.
Additions

Several regular attendees could not be at the meeting, here are brief updates.

- The Association of CT Library Boards (ACLB) executive committee is planning two zoom programs in the spring, dates tbd. One is a Freedom of Information session with Tom Hennick, former FOIA commissioner, the second is the highly regarded 'Board Basics' training.
- ACLB needs CLA's group memory to help with details of contributing to a CLA scholarship; any insights are welcome. I'm glad to relay the information back to Denise Stankovics or feel free to contact her at dejost@att.net.
- Awards Nominations are open and information is up on the website. The committee is working on finalizing the details of the ceremony with the Conference Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Lord
President

State Librarian Report

February 2023

Deborah Schander

The Governor's proposed budget was released on February 8. In addition to personnel salary adjustments, it also included a proposed inflation-related increase to the CT Digital Library appropriation. This line funds not only the state-wide ResearchIT databases, but also FindIT, RequestIT, the Palace app, eGO, state-wide ebooks, and related services, each of which are highly utilized by public, special, and academic libraries. This is truly an opportunity to demonstrate to the legislature that CT libraries support each other in their testimony in support of this increase. It is also vital that, should CLA pursue a "yes, and" funding request during public testimony as it has done in past years, legislators do not interpret that request as an "or" and choose to allocate funds to other appropriations instead of CT Digital Library. Additionally, Jennifer Matos recently joined the State Library as the new Administrator of the Museum of Connecticut History and visitors can expect to see small and large changes coming to the Museum soon.

I attended LibLearnX in New Orleans January 27-30.

ALA Council held a Bylaws Revision Convention on the afternoon of the 27th. This was preparatory to a final bylaws revision to be held at ALA Annual in June which will dissolve ALA's Constitution and revise six of the ALA's eighteen bylaws articles. We reviewed and discussed proposed changes to amendments. Probably the most significant proposed change was to reduce the number of councilors-at-large from 100 to 50, however various working groups had suggested 18. Eventually we voted in favor of changing the number to 36, which will allow for 12 members to be elected each year. We voted to allow for virtual/hybrid Council meetings, but not to require them.

We narrowly (68-62) voted that the Intellectual Freedom Committee should be a standing committee of the organization, along with various administrative committees.

The theme for Banned Books Week 2023 was announced, "Let Freedom Read."

Privacy Field Guides have been completed and are available online. <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/privacy/fieldguides>

There were many calls for people to join or support EveryLibrary, the Freedom to Read Foundation, and contribute to the Merritt Fund to support librarians and library workers who need financial assistance due to censorship issues. Membership in the Freedom to Read Foundation is critical and I'm pleased that Connecticut is a member.

We voted to approve Literacy Nation, Inc. as an affiliate of ALA.

We voted unanimously to issue a Resolution on Human Rights and Freedom of Speech and Expression in Iran.

We voted to approve an honorary member, but I'm not allowed to tell you who! However, it is EXCITING and it was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Kate Byroade, ALA Chapter Councilor

CLA BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 15, 2023

ACLPD FEBRUARY 2023 REPORT

Submitted by Alyssa Bussard

I. researchIT CT – Connecticut Digital Library Advisory Board

107 libraries are active in the Palace Project App. Content is being shared with over 1,500 patrons. There are 101 school sites active in the eGO program.

II. State Statutes Pertaining to Public Libraries in CT

A series will be launched that pertains to state statutes for public libraries in CT.

III. Leading from the Future: Being a Library Director in CT Series

A survey regarding professional development needs has been completed. There are movements to begin a new series regarding training.

IV. ACLPD Bylaws Revision Fact Sheet

The ACLPD bylaws needed to be updated to incorporate the Resource Sharing Committee as a regular committee for ACLPD. There were minor adjustments to language regarding the grant process. The process has changed for LSTA grants. The bylaws will be sent to the State Library Board at the March 2023 meeting for approval.

V. Statewide Digital Equity CORE Team Overview

They are in the process of hiring a Program Manager to develop the state-wide plan. A big part of the plan will be the inclusion of libraries with the Digital Navigator experience. Additionally, other funding for the Digital Navigator projects are being pursued.

CT Library Association
Region 1 News
February 2023

There are some exciting things happening around Region 1. After 2 ½ years of construction, the New Milford Public Library is opening its newly renovated facilities. The ribbon cutting is set for February 18th. Many congratulations to Lorna and the staff on their new digs.

The Scoville Memorial Library is featured in a new book, *Common Place: The Public Library, Civil Society, and Early American Values* by Thomas E. Johnson, Jr. The author completed case studies of 16 libraries around New England, commenting on their historical and social significance.

In January and February, the DM. Hunt Library in Falls Village, CT will host the art exhibition “Birds of the World” featuring the emerging artists of Lee H. Kellogg School. Including artworks in painting, drawing and sculpture by students from Kindergarten through 8th grade.

Brazilian music is coming to the Norfolk Library during Carnival season! The six-piece melodic ensemble Bossa Triba will perform on traditional Brazilian percussive instruments on February 18th from 7-8 PM. I might have to stop on my way home!

Submitted By:

Karin Goodell
Region 1 Representative

February 2023 CLA Meeting

Region

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Update,

Shana

Shea

Glastonbury

Barbara Bailey will be retiring, and Amy McCue will be the new director at Welles-Turner Memorial Library starting on February 27, 2023.

Manchester

Andy Geary, formerly of the Tolland Public Library, has joined the Manchester Public Library as a Librarian 1, Teen Services.

February 2023
Region 4
Erin Dummeyer

New Canaan Library opened on February 14th

Michael Ian Black won \$78,000 for Mark Twain Library on FOX's Celebrity Name That Tune!

Newtown's C.H. Booth Library is experiencing some tumult as the president and treasurer of the board of trustees resigned within ten days of each other. On the plus side, the board approved capital expenditure spend downs of \$243K for the immediate future which will be for interior upgrades and improvements to flexible space.

CLA Region 5 News: February 2023

Blackstone Library in Brandford,

- Blackstone Library is starting a seed library. They're working with a local gardener and have already gotten many donations of seeds to start off. Their Teen Advisory Group has created some seed library boxes to help keep things organized.
- Blackstone's Head of Youth Services is going to the **North Branford Libraries** as their new Assistant Director. Carly spent many wonderful years at the Blackstone and has meant a lot to so many in the community and on staff. Congrats to Carly! The Head of Youth Services position is open until March 3rd.

Henry Carter Hull Library in Clinton

- The HCH Library has a new interactive magnetic whiteboard wall in their Children's Room. Community members donated magnetic toys and supplies from the Library's wish list and Gifting Tree.

Derby Public Library

- The Derby Library is now accepting essay submissions for its 2023 Annual Scholarship Prize of \$1000. The subject of the essay is: "*The Role of Libraries in My Life.*" This essay competition is open to all high school seniors living in Derby, regardless of where they attend high school, who are planning to further their education.

East Hampton Public Library

- The East Hampton Library is in the process of developing its 2023-2026 Strategic Plan and hopes to distribute a survey to the public in the immediate future.
- EHPL also completed its Space Planning report indicating that it is time to pursue building expansion in one form or another.
- Library staff hosted 88 participants for TYCLD on 2/4 and are anticipating a large crowd for Violin and Valentines on 2/14.

E.C. Scranton Memorial Library in Madison

- Assistant Director/Head of Public Services Allison Murphy has been hired as the new Director of the **East Haddam Library System**. Congratulations to Allison and to East Haddam for scooping up a wonderful librarian. The Head of Public Services position at Scranton is currently open.

Wallingford Public Library

- Wallingford announced that *Now Is Not the Time to Panic* by Kevin Wilson has been chosen for the One Book, One Wallingford 2023.

Respectfully

Emily

Region

E.C. Scranton Memorial Library

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submitted,

Rush

Representative

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Region 6 Libraries
Madhu Gupta

East Lyme Library: The East Lyme Community Center that houses the East Lyme Public Library is undergoing a feasibility study to look into renovations and/or expansion of the library and other departments in the building.

Public Library of New London- Black History Film Festival is back in-person this year. The movie series which is held on Fridays in February is led by historian Lonnie Braxton. He has also created a Black History display in the Community Room at the library.

Co-chair Lindsay Delligan will be presenting on the Intellectual Freedom State of the State at the Children's section annual workshop on Feb. 23rd at Farmington Library.

Thank you to Public Libraries Chair, Jennifer Sullivan, and Julie Bartley for hosting a conversation on Banned Books Week rebranding. It was a wonderful conversation and I'm looking forward to seeing what direction it takes!