

Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting
July 12th, 2018
Middletown Library Service Center, Middletown
9:30am Coffee/10:00am Business Meeting

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Kate called the meeting to order at 10:00am
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **June 7th, 2018 meeting minutes:**

A **motion** to approve the minutes was made by Lisa Karim and **seconded** by Glenn Grube with the following correction:
Remove Gale Bradbury from the list of names of those cycling off the board
Motion was approved by majority. Dana Hanford abstained. **Motion passed.**
3. **Old Business**
 - a. **President's Report-Kate Byroade**
 - i. Directory of CT Libraries and Media Centers List: Kate announced that with the discontinued publication of this physical resource there is a possibility for CLA to add access to the database as a member benefit. She has found the information helpful over the years and if there is interest she'd like to form a small group to investigate moving forward. Arlene Bielefeld suggested that this could be a project for graduate students to undertake. Susan Ray expressed interest in pursuing the project.

Kate stated that the private firm, Library Systems and Services (LS&S), had a table at the most recent conference of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM). The Town of Ledyard then agreed to have a presentation last night, Wednesday, June 11th at 5pm. LS&S gave a canned presentation that they edited for Ledyard but included ideas that are already being provided by CT libraries. Kate was interviewed by a New London Day reporter ([article linked here](#)). Kate doesn't see how the company could make money by taking over the library other than firing and rehiring the staff at lower rate. Kate requested that if there are any towns other than Ledyard that are having a presentation by LS&S to contact her. Kate also suggested that it might be the time for CLA, CLC and the 3 automated library groups to have a table at the next CCM conference to address what libraries are already doing and how its saving money. In an effort to affirm the work that libraries are currently doing and the services they are providing, Ken Wiggin will be bringing SLB DOC 18-14, [Outsourcing and Privatization of Library Services](#), to the State Library Board for consideration. Gale Bradbury expressed her appreciation of support from the library world and the community and that she will remain vigilant in her efforts.
 - b. **Treasurer's Report-Kristina Edwards:** In Kristina's absence, Glenn shared information that the financial statements are accurate through the end of May, and that the end of year financials will be available soon. A reminder will be sent out, via email, about the financial process. The orientation for new board members will be held after the August 2nd meeting. Kristina invites members to reach out to her if they have a question. If anyone is planning a fall event, there must be a written quote for the venue and any speakers.
4. **New Business:**
 - a. **Financial Plan:** Scott Brill stated that the current document, posted on the CLA website, is from 2010. As per the document, it should be updated every year. The Executive Committee of 2017-2018 recently reviewed and corrected typographical errors and improved the clarity of the document. Frank Ridley believes there is a need for D&O (directors and officers) liability coverage but that it should be researched to be sure. Kate proposed the possibility of shifting the fiscal year, due to the difficulty caused by having the program and fiscal year coincide and suggests changing to a January-December FY. Carl asked if it would be beneficial to change the timing of the annual conference. Carl suggested changing the timing to June to take advantage of colleges with great conference facilities. Kate stated that any change would require a change to the bylaws.

- b. **CLA Today:** Jen Datum announced that the Editorial Committee doesn't exist anymore and has been changed to the Publicity and Communications Committee. Jen D. publishes the CLA newsletter every other month on the 15th, and is always looking for input, stories, and more. She passed out list of publication deadlines through June 2019. Jen D. will work with Leah and the new committee for new ideas. Please send photos to Jen for inclusion in the newsletter. Jen D. reminded members that the orientation for StarChapter will take place after the August meeting of the Board.

5. Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Reports:

ACLB: Denise Stankovics: Dawn stated that they are finishing up the ACLB handbook which will include an extensive legal section pertaining to FOI. Conference planning is underway and will focus on the nuts and bolts of being a library board and ethics training. Barbara McGrath will speak and there will be sessions on fundraising, advocacy, strategic planning, hiring practices, and board basics training.

ADA: Maria Bernier: none

ACLPD: Ramona Burkey: absent

ALA: Erin Shea: Erin reported that there are currently some controversies. One is the renaming of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award to the Children's Literature Legacy Award. The change was made to better align the award with ALSC's core values and was not meant to disparage Wilder. A change to the wording of the statement on the use of library meeting rooms that was intended to strengthen guidance. The full statement can be read [here](#). ALA would like to hold the vote online, but it may wait until Mid-Winter to allow for more discussion before the vote. Ken expressed his upset about the statement and suggests having the Intellectual Freedom Committee research the change. Connecticut doesn't have a definition for hate speech and the proposed changes will complicate people's lives. Glenn asked if the controversy is from the impact or the language and Ken explained that a lot of upset is caused by including the term 'hate speech' in the wording. The statement offers no guidance on how to say "no" to allowing the use of meeting rooms. Ken encourages everyone to read both the old and the new interpretation. Joe Grabarz advises that it is better to adopt a policy that removes the deciding of who uses a room. Carl attended the June ALA conference and announced that the following resolutions passed: Resolution to Honor African Americans Who Fought Library Segregation, Resolution to Reunite Detained Migrant Children with their Parents, and the Resolution on Providing as Many Gender Inclusive Bathrooms as Allowed by Current Contracts at ALA Conferences and Meetings. The FY-2019 Annual Estimates of Income passed, the establishment of the Graphic Novels and Comics Round Table passed, and a new steering committee was created by Jim Neal to "...work to align ALA's organizational structure, policies and rules with the association's 21st century values, key action areas and strategic directions." ([press release](#))

Archivist: Gerald Seagrave: None

Awards: Region Reps: None

BCALA: Vivian Bordeaux & Robert Kinney: None

Career Development: Richard Conroy & Laura Horn: Laura announced that on Friday, August 17th the committee will be hosting the Leadership Institute on the University of Hartford. Registration will be open until Friday, August 10th. The theme will focus around barriers to communication.

CLA Lobbyist: Gallo & Robinson: Joe Grabarz stated that there is a debate about the possibility of a special session but that most legislators are out campaigning. There may be a lame duck session in the fall. The budget, due to rules passed last year, requires that any excess revenue goes into the rainy day fund and cannot be used to address any issues. The new governor will have a \$2 million deficit and the State is currently over the bonding cap, as determined by Wall Street. The cap is determined as a percentage of the operating budget. The State currently employs only about 40,000 people. Joe encourages libraries to host "new elected official meet and greet" events statewide to invite elected officials to come into the library and learn what the library does and why. Approximately 1/3 of the legislature will be turning over, so newly elected officials usually say yes to the first couple of requests to attend events.

CLC: Jennifer Keohane: None

Commission on Ed Tech: Colleen Bailie: None

CSL: Ken Wiggin: Ken able to implement the State Library budget with no holdbacks. Dawn is pleased to announce that 6 teams for the 2nd cohort of the EXCITE Transformation workshops have been determined. The stand-alone camp will be held next week and the training for facilitators will be coming.

Children's: Kari Hamad & Alison Murphy: Absent

College & University: Julie Styles: Absent

CLASS: Carolann Slayton & Samantha Partney: Carolann announced that the conference planning is ahead of schedule. The theme is "Tell Your Story". The keynote is all set and a session will be held on data storytelling. The committee is thinking about bringing in vendors.

Conference 2018: Amanda Brouwer & Jennifer Rummel: Amanda is working on conference logo, the website and the keynote speaker. The conference will be in Mystic on Sunday, April 28 through Tuesday, April 30. The Mystic Marriott is being renovated and will offer new rooms. The conference theme is "Back to Basics".

Customer Service: Ellen Janpol & Shelley Holley: Shelley announced that they will be holding a conference on Friday, October 19th in Wallingford.

FOCL: Frank Ridley: Frank stated that they are doing document revisions and invited input from board members.

Grants: vacant

Intellectual Freedom: Sam Lee: Sam shared that the group is investigating tools to host files online and is looking at free online wiki formats. If anyone is interested in helping to update the manual, let her know.

Legislative: Carl Antonucci & Mary Etter: None.

Membership: Thomas Piezzo: Tom reported that the committee met in June. Membership numbers are down. The committee wants to create a new media and print presence and will be coordinating with the Publicity and Awareness committee. Tom called on all Region Representatives to advocate for CLA within their libraries. Tom raised the possibility of phasing out institutional and lifetime memberships to encourage more individual memberships. There have been decreases in engagement on the individual level, and after looking at the data, he would like to analyze and submit a proposal. Overall there is confusion on the overlap and focus of the Connecticut State Library, Connecticut Library Association and the Connecticut Library Consortium. The committee would like to be able to articulate the differences. They will also be looking to partner with SCSU to bring in student members and mentor/mentees through the Career Development committee. They will also look to vendors to augment membership. The committee created a new brochure and will be working on a new one. Glenn and Kate shared that there are 978 personal ALA members, more than the total CLA membership. Carl suggests reaching out to Jim Neal to find out more. Jen D. reported that there are 670 CLA members, 50 institutional members, and 13 retired members.

NELA: Christy Billings: Mary Etter shared that this is a NELS2 year, for library employees of 15 years or more, and will be held in August. There are still more spaces available.

Newsletter: Jen Datum: Jen D. announced that some people are not getting emails sent out via StarChapter and that she is trying to fix this issue. The problem could be affecting the membership renewal reminder. Board members need to be individual members. Jen reminded board members to check their information to make sure it's accurate.

PEG: Peter Ciparelli: Absent

Publicity & Awareness: Leah Farrell & Francie Berger: Leah met with Tom and Jen D. and the committee now has a list of projects to work on.

Procedures: Danielle Valenzano: None

Public Library: Maria Zervos: Maria announced that they are working on the fall meetup, most likely to be held in November, which will focus on dealing with the opioid crisis and mental health issues in the library setting.

Reference & Adult Services: vacant

Resource Sharing: vacant

SCSU: Arlene Bielefield: Arlene shared that two new faculty members will begin teaching in the fall. Brian Real will be teaching archives and the coordinator of internship program. Cindy Schofield will also be teaching.

Technical Services: Jackie Toce: Dana Hanford: None

Technology: Genevieve Francis: Gen shared that on Wednesday, August 15th they will be visiting the Guilford Free Library for a technology visit at 11 am.

Young Adult: Brittany Pearson & Alyssa Skorski: Brittany shared that the YA workshop will be held on Wednesday, November 14th in Wallingford and they are hoping to host authors. The committee is reaching out to those who shared ideas at annual.

Region 1: Matt Yanarella: Matt shared that summer reading programs are happening everywhere, for adults too. Beacon Falls is holding a movie trivia event and the Southbury Library is closing Sundays.

Region 2: Susan C. Ray: Susan shared that Southington Library will hold an "I Survived the Hindenburg Disaster" event with crafts and games on Tuesday, July 24th. The Burlington Public Library has a new website as well as a new building. The Granby Public Library is interviewing for a new director. The Windsor Locks library is holding two "Evolution of Rock and Roll" programs. The Kent Memorial Library is still in a temporary location and will have to replace approximately ½ of the collection due to PCB exposure.

Region 3: Amanda Brouwer: Amanda introduced herself to Region 3 libraries as the new representative.

Region 4: Geri Diorio: Geri reported that Easton PL is now offering Hoopla for its members and is holding a One Book, One Town program featuring Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*. Brookfield's new building referendum did not pass so they will be exploring other options. Brookfield is also holding a One Book, One Town program featuring *My Dear Hamilton* by Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie. New Canaan experienced a flood in the lower level of the building but had a successful goat yoga program outside in their garden.

Region 5: Chris Hemmingway: Chris reported that summer reading programs are continuing in Region 5 libraries and include many concerts and contests. Chester Public Library was nominated to represent Middlesex County as the Connecticut's favorite library building. Brainerd Library in Haddam will be hosting author Katherine Hauswirth. Yale's Beinecke Library is hosting a copy of the Declaration of Independence on loan from the Library of Congress.

Region 6: Gale Bradbury: Gale reported that Groton's Bill Library received a grant to do programming about our nation's founding titled "Revisiting the Founding Era". Waterford Public Library welcomed 2 new adult services librarians-Kim Feraco and Shannon Henson and Tyasha Pace to the children's department.

6. Adjournment

Kate reminded Board members to update their membership if it has lapsed. The status can be checked through StarChapter. Kate also reminded Committee/Section chairs that their reports are due. The reports are a summary of the past year.

A motion to adjourn at 11:26am was made by Carl Antonucci and seconded by Lisa Karim and was unanimously approved. Motion passed.

Present: Kate Byroade, Lisa Karim Glenn Grube, Cathy Potter, Erin Shea, Matthew Yanarella, Susan Ray, Amanda Brouwer, Geri Dorio, Christopher Hemingway, Gale Bradbury, Carolann Slayton, Samantha Partney, Maria Zervos, Dana Hanford, Genevieve Francis, Brittany Pearson, Maria Bernier, Richard Conroy, Laura Horn, Amanda Brouwer, Jennifer Rummel, Shelly Holley, Jen Datum, Sam Lee, Mary Etter, Carol Antonucci, Tom Piezzo, Danielle Valenzano, Leah Farrell, Gerald Seagrave, Joe Grabarz, Colleen Bailie, Ken Wiggin, Frank Ridley, Arlene Bielefield, Dawn Lavalie, Scott Brill