

**Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting
October 3rd, 2019
Middletown Library Service Center, Middletown
9:30 am Coffee/10:00 am Business Meeting**

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** President Lisa Karim called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

a. **September 5th, 2019 meeting minutes**

A ***motion*** to approve the minutes of September 5th, 2019 was made by Kate Byroade, and ***seconded*** by Beth Crowley, and was ***approved by a majority. Motion passed.*** Abstentions: Matt Earls

3. **Old Business**

a. **President's Report-Lisa Karim:** Lisa reported:

Welcome Kym Powe as the new Grants/Fundraising Chair

Thank you to Sam Lee, the Intellectual Freedom Committee and Tom for coordinating the first Banned Bands event last Saturday at Labyrinth Brewery. Attendance was good, everyone enjoyed themselves and funds were raised for CLA.

Macmillan EBook Embargo – Obviously this is an issue which we're tracking. I encourage each of you to sign the petition at eBooksForAll.org. I will be sending a statement of CLA's position to Macmillan CEO John Sargent on behalf of the organization.

Net Neutrality – Tuesday the US Court of Appeals unanimously ruled to uphold the FCC's repeal of the 2015 net neutrality regulations but that the FCC couldn't block states from enacting their own net neutrality protections. I encourage you to contact your legislators and urge them to support net neutrality efforts here in CT. I will be sending a letter on behalf of CLA to Governor Lamont urging him to support net neutrality.

Sustainable CT Community Match Fund – Sustainable CT is offering to match funding for sustainability projects through the Community Match Fund. Municipalities must be registered with Sustainable CT to be eligible. Registration is not an onerous process and there are no requirements for participation in initiatives. The Community Match Fund program is basically Sustainable CT matching dollar for dollar funds raised by the community to complete the project. 80 municipalities in CT are already registered with Sustainable CT. If your town is not registered this could be the library's opportunity to take the lead. Abe from Sustainable CT would like to attend our November meeting to speak in more detail and answer questions.

In preparation for the new website redesign, please review the current downloads section of the website that you or your section or committee is responsible for and work with Jen Datum to remove any unnecessary documentation. Suggestion – if there is a form which is used every year, such as the Faith Hektoen Award application, consider making one generic undated form.

Reminder that the CLA budget relies heavily on fundraising this year and all Legacy Fund donations made before December 31 will be matched. Thank you to those who have already contributed.

b. **Treasurer's Report-Kristina Edwards:** Kristina asked if everyone reviewed the August financials and if there were any questions or comments. She mentioned more talk about the financials will come in November and December after all the fall programming occurs if we are still on target. She reports that she plans to review the insurance policy to make sure it is up to date and noted the bookkeeping procedure in the Financials

needs to be updated and the Legacy Fund needs to be added. She plans to reach out to all sections to make sure they are on target and mentioned if anyone needs help to reach out to people who haven't paid yet, let her know because she can help.

4. New Business:

- a. **State Librarian Search Committee Update:** Beth reported that on there are five applications that were forwarded to the State Library Board on September 23rd. Ken reported that the first round of virtual interviews will be conducted with the five candidates on October 10th.

Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Reports:

ACLB: Denise Stankovics: Denise reported that they got 2 new people to help on their Executive Board. She reiterated that their Fall Conference will be Friday, November 8th, 2019. The fall newsletter went out last week, including Conference information. She encouraged board members and librarians to attend.

ADA: Maria Bernier: No report

ACLPD: Ramona Burkey: Absent

ALA: Erin Shea: Absent

Archivist: Gerald Seagrave: No report

Awards: Region Reps: No report

BCALA: Vivian Bordeaux & Robert Kinney: Vivian reported that the Connecticut Chapter of BCALA will be celebrating 50 years of existence. They are planning programs around literacy and diversity.

Career Development: Laura Horn: No report

CAS-L: Barbara Johnson & Mary-Ellen Minichiello: Mary-Ellen reported that their Fall Conference is October 20th and 21st in Hartford. They will also be holding a "Nerd Camp" in June 2020, which may include the Department of Education. CAS-L is thinking of holding it in a high need area and will buy books or donate money for library books. B&N will be giving 15% of their sales and RJ Julia will give 10% of their sales to the schools CAS-L is supporting. Mary-Ellen stated that more information is forthcoming.

CLC: Jennifer Keohane: Jennifer mentioned the CLC's Advocacy Boot Camps. CLC put a bid out for read-alongs and audio-enabled books, as well as for print serials management. In addition to contracts, she plugged a tie-in with NELA on Tuesday afternoon in Mystic Seaport Museum to get behind the scenes lecture about the JW Turner Collection & Exhibit, which includes a cocktail hour and tour of exhibit (free). Those interested should register with CLC and you do not need to be attending NELA to attend. She also reported that CLC is collaborating with Connecticut Storytelling Center to try to identify and understand how skills of storytelling might differ from storytime or how it can be used in different areas of librarianship. On October 18th, "Stories of Youth" will kick off its 4 part series. Visit the CLC website for more details. CLC will also be hosting a storytelling roundtable. CLC is also creating a vetted consultants pool in areas such as strategic planning or space planning. The process of doing so includes CLC creating a consultants pool survey which will be going out to help CLC prioritize which direction this goes in. She asks that you please respond to help CLC form this pool.

Commission on Ed Tech: Colleen Bailie: Colleen reported that Commission has embraced OER resources and learning materials, which more information at GoOpenCT.org. This makes CT one of 20 states embracing OER.

Commission has filed comments regarding the importance of and possible changes to Public, Educational, and Governmental Programming and Educational Tech Investment Account (PEGPETIA), aka PEG which would see the funding cut over the next few years.

CEN Conference in 2020 will be 2 days—May 7th-8th.

Sub-Committees continue to meet to discuss issues such as equity with new technology such as 5G, shared services, technology in learning, services such as EduRoam being expanded beyond school districts w a pilot being looked at in Hartford with Trinity College and the library.

Most relevant to CLA—Commission voted unanimously to pass a resolution on the Role of Libraries to Support Digital Equity. To summarize the resolution-- to include work by the Commission, the Connecticut State Library, and the Connecticut Library Association “to develop a comprehensive, statewide initiative to provide public libraries with equipment, software, and infrastructure to leverage their place in the community, their expertise, and their mission as a key means to facilitate access to digital capabilities and education in digital literacy to advance digital citizenship in communities throughout Connecticut.”

They are looking at a possibility of adding some members to the commission to represent the school community—such as teachers and superintendents.

CSL: Ken Wiggin: Ken reported that he submitted responses to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority's Notice of Request for written comments in connection the administrative guidelines for the Public, Educational and Governmental Programming and Education Technology investment Grant (PEGPETIA). My main point was that public libraries be named as eligible entities. Currently it is implied, but I thought it should be made clearer.

The federal budget for this fiscal year has not been finalized. The President signed continuing resolution to continue government operations through November 21st. The House numbers for IMLS are higher than the Senate, but the final amount will be worked out in conference.

The State Library Board welcomed two new members: Judge Henry Cohen from the Superior Court, representing the Chief Court Administrator and Miguel Cardona, Commissioner of Education.

State Agencies were asked to submit 1% reeducation options as part of the budget process. Following the State Library Board meeting Ken notified OPM Secretary McCaw that the Board agreed with him that there are no "realistic and achievable reduction options" that the State Library could propose.

ACLPD presented their CT Vision for Resource Sharing document to the State Library Board, after some discussion the Board placed the report on file and encouraged ACLPD to move forward with the framework that was laid out in the report.

The term of the Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services ended last month. Under the reauthorization of the Museum and Library Act, she can stay on for an additional year or until a successor is appointed. ALA has put forward Crosby Kemper, Director, Kansas City Library for the position and yesterday the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies submitted my name to the White House for consideration.

Ken introduced Christine Gauvreau the new LSTA coordinator in the Division of Library Development.

Children's: Allison Murphy & Michele Kaminski: Absent

College & University: Lisa Thornell: Absent

CLASS: Carolann Slayton: Carolann asked for any help to promote support staff at your libraries to attend the CLASS conference. The deadline for registration is tomorrow and as of today, they have 26 registrants.

Conference 2020: Stephanie Prato & Chris Carney: Stephanie reported that Conference program submissions have been posted. Submissions close November 22nd. She asked to please encourage others to submit proposals. The keynote speaker for April 29th has been confirmed – Lance Warner with a keynote: “Better Libraries and Stronger Communities through Kindness, Empathy and Love.” Visit the website for more information. Two sponsorships so far:

Apple Books and Rainbow Books. They are still actively soliciting sponsorships, but making progress. If you have any relationships with sponsors who might be interested, Stephanie asked that you get in touch with her or Chris.

CT Center for the Book: Lisa Comstock: Absent

Customer Service: Shelley Holley: Meeting 10/25 for Conference. Reg closes 18th. Keynote speaker is Brenda from Hartford Public Library. Ways to get through the day with customer service issues, panel with library and department directors

Development & Planning: Carl Antonucci: Absent

FOCL: Frank Ridley: November 16th Fall Conference topics such as membership and community relations and panel on how various friends groups are involved in community relations in their communities and a discussion on save it or shred it. Deadline is 11/8 More info on FOCL website

Grants/Fundraising: Kymerlee Powe: Kym reported that \$233 was raised for CLA at the Banned Band Fundraiser. Lisa and Kym drafted a thank you letter. The total in the Legacy Fund so far is \$1,953, which will be matched between now and December. Kym has talked with Lisa about other fundraising possibilities such as drinks with an author. Kym would like anyone with fundraising ideas to reach out to her. Her goal is to come up with active and engaging fundraising activities.

Intellectual Freedom: Sam Lee: Absent. Lisa reported for Sam: LinkedIn announced that they are pausing libraries' transition from Lynda.com to LinkedIn Learning. They're continuing their "listening tour" to libraries and will gather information from their customers. It seems like the push back from libraries was significant enough. Go us! They're not promising any specific changes. The Privacy Subcommittee is reaching out to LinkedIn to offer assistance.

Sam thanks everyone who came out to support the Banned Band Fundraiser. Especially Tom Piezzo for making Sam follow through with her cockamamie idea. And a huge shout out to Labyrinth Brewing for sponsoring CLA as well. They were generous, helpful and fun to work with – go support local breweries.

Sam has been getting more challenge support requests. Thank you to all the folks who put Sam's name out there as the intellectual freedom go-to to Connecticut. She is always happy to support other librarians and libraries dealing with challenges.

On Friday, November 15th, Intellectual Freedom is teaming up with Technology again a fall workshop – CryptoPartying with Lynda at the Wallingford Public Library. Elizabeth McKinstry will be presenting on cryptoparties in the morning and a privacy panel on the Lynda/LinkedIn in the afternoon. They are offering an afternoon only option for \$15.

Legislative: Beth Crowley & Mary Etter: Beth reported there was a meeting on September 9th that was attended by Lobbyist. There is a \$126 million surplus, but that will primarily go into a rainy day fund. The three things that will trigger spending: transportation lock box, helping municipalities support their teacher pension system, or a full out recession. It's a short session so no major legislation, individual legislators not allowed to put anything out in a short session, but CLA can still put issues out in February. Beth reported that it is time to book the LOB for next April. She will work on that with the Publicity committee. Their next meeting is November 4th at 3pm at MLSC. Beth reported that about 15-17 people have come to each Town Hall meeting so far and they are getting good feedback from the library community. Beth will put together a complete report for board in December. There are three more Town Hall meetings in November – information on those is available on the website. Library Legislative Days will be at Georgetown University and Beth will be coordinating. There is a new law about sexual harassment training, which was a surprise to many association libraries, and any organization with 3 or more employees now has to be sure to train everyone on sexual harassment. There is a link to a webinar, but not sure if this free training will cover the mandate. Beth and Ken are both looking into this.

LGBTQ+: Kristina Lareau & Marissa Bucci: No report

Membership: Trish Tomlinson: Absent

NELA: Christy Billings: Absent. The NELA Conference is October 20-22nd in Mystic. Check out the website for more information.

Newsletter/Website Editor: Jen Datum: Jen reported that the website redesign is on the way and should be happening within the next month. It is only for the front end website, not for StarChapter. There is CLC swag available for the fall programs and also a table cloth. Jen asked that you get any newsletter information to her. She reminded board members to check their member listings and update if you have changed your information. What you have listed in your member information is what shows on the board page. She encouraged people to also add a photo.

PEG: Peter Ciparelli: No report.

Publicity & Communications: Leah Farrell: Absent

Procedures: Catherine Potter: No report

Public Library: Maria Zervos: Maria reported that she is working on Passport to Connecticut Libraries and that registration will go out sometime in October to give people plenty of time to register and for Maria to get the list together for April. Maria is very excited about working on that program. The Fall program is November 8th and will include Genealogy resources from the State Library, as well as a professional Genealogist to talk about commercial DNA testing.

Reference & Adult Services: Matt Earls: No report

Resource Sharing: Steve Cauffman: No report

SCSU: Arlene Bielefield: Arlene reported that there is a stakeholders meeting on October 18th from 10:30-2 to share your ideas and comments about the MLIS program with the university administration and the faculty of the department. The department needs an RSVP by October 10th to Kay Opaenik at opalenikk1@southernct.edu or call 203-392-5781.

Technical Services: Dana Hanford: Steven Bernstein, the Vice Chair of Technical Services Section, reported that their Fall workshop is on October 24th at Wallingford Public Library on RDA and Bibframe with two speakers. More information is available on the website. The Donohue Group is sponsoring their program.

Technology: Genevieve Francis: Absent

Young Adult: Brittany Pearson & Samantha Connell: Introduced Samantha Connell who is the section's new co-chair. Their Fall workshop is November 11th at the Farmington Library with Jerry Kraft, author and illustrator of New Kid.

Region 1: Travis Feder: Travis reported that they held the Region One town hall meeting on Monday, September 30th at the Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury. Thirteen participated, including numerous public library directors, a school library media specialist, and a library board trustee.

Travis will be attending the Northwest Connecticut Library Directors' roundtable at the Beardsley Library on November 8th to update attendees on CLA activities and share some of the feedback from the town hall event for those who were unable to attend.

Beacon Falls: The library will host the Connecticut Paranormal Research Society (CPRS) on Tuesday, October 29th at 6:30 p.m. for *Haunted Happenings*. Attendees will learn about the researchers' experiences while investigating paranormal phenomena, see their evidence, and share their own experiences.

Bethlehem: The library will present *De-clutter Your Home the Marie Kondo Way* on Monday, October 28th at 6:30 p.m. The program will be presented by KonMari specialist Christine Thorn.

Cornwall: Deb Devins will lead a six-week Writer's Workshop starting on Wednesday, October 9th at 6:30 p.m. The library will hold its annual Columbus Day book sale on Saturday, October 12th through Monday, October 14th. Historian Pete Vermilyea will begin a six-part series on the Constitution and the right to vote, starting on Monday, October 28th at 5:30 p.m.

Falls Village (David M. Hunt Library): The library is holding its 18th annual Auction in the Village on Saturday, October 5th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The event will take place at the Center on Main (103 Main Street), with a silent auction between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. and a live auction beginning at 7:15 p.m.

Goshen: The library will host *Ghosts and Legends with Jeff Belanger* on Tuesday, October 8th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Emmy-nominated Jeff Belanger is one of New England's foremost storytellers and folklore researchers. He is the host, writer, and producer of PBS' *New England* series, the author of over a dozen books published in six languages, and the host of a popular weekly podcast, *New England Legends*.

Harwinton: The Harwinton Public Library seeks submissions of paintings, drawings, photographs, collages, or art in other 2D formats for its annual library exhibition and fundraiser. Works should not exceed 16" x 16" and will be priced at \$100, with 30% of each sale going to the library. Artworks must be framed or prepared for hanging and delivered to the library by October 26th; the exhibit will run throughout November and December with a preview party and opening reception on November 8th.

Kent: The Kent Memorial Library will facilitate a discussion between two candidates for the office of First Selectman, Jean Speck and Edward Matson. The event is free and open to the public. Kent residents may submit questions to the library, which will be presented for both candidates to answer. The event will be moderated by a member of the League of Women Voters of Litchfield County.

Litchfield (Oliver Wolcott Library): The library will host author Lisa Taddeo (*Three Women*) for a conversation facilitated by Joseph Montebello, former vice president and creative director of HarperCollins Publishers. The event will take place on Tuesday, October 8th from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. with a wine and cheese reception to follow. Books will be available for sale and signing.

Middlebury: The Middlebury Public Library will host a *Stranger Things 80s Night* for grades six through 12 on Tuesday, October 2^{9th} starting at 4:00 p.m. The event will include *Stranger Things* games, crafts, snacks, and an 80s movie.

Morris: The library will host author and composer Ron Kramer for a signing and discussion of his new book *Music Box*. The event will take place on Saturday, October 19th at 1:00 p.m.

Naugatuck (Howard Whittemore Memorial Library): The Howard Whittemore Memorial Library will celebrate its 125th anniversary with an open house on Saturday, October 19th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will include a free magic show, balloon animals, animal workshop, baking contest, refreshments, and more.

New Hartford: The New Hartford Public Library will host a Halloween Party on Sunday, October 13th from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. Families who register will receive a pumpkin to carve together, as well as snacks and crafts. The Licia & Mason Beekley Community Library will host Hamish Lutris, associate professor of History, Political Science, and Geography at Capital Community College for *Forgive Your Enemies, But Never Forget Their Names* on October 26th at 12:00 p.m. The talk will focus on the power of the presidency and the presidents who governed during the turbulent decade of the 1960s. Season 13 of *Nights at the Beekley* begins on October 27th with a concert by two-time Grammy nominee and member of the Songwriters Hall of Fame Beth Nielsen Chapman. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. with the concert starting at 7:30. The Bakerville Library Community Center is hosting *Stop the Bleed – Save a Life* on Tuesday, October 8th at 7:00

p.m. The program "...is intended to cultivate grassroots efforts that encourage bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives."

New Milford: Jodi L. Weisz, MLIS has been announced as the new director of the New Milford Public Library, effective October 1, 2019. She was most recently the East Side Branch Librarian at the Bridgeport Public Library. The library has also announced the hiring of a new part time children's associate, Darci Schriver, and a new bookkeeper, Lori Henry.

Norfolk: As part of the Haystack Book Talks series, the library will host Pulitzer Prize-winning author David Blight (*Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom*) and noted author Steve Luxenberg (*Separate: The Story of Plessy v. Ferguson, and America's Journey from Slavery to Segregation*) in *From Abolition to Segregation*, "a timely exploration of the fateful dynamic of idealism and betrayal that continues to shape the fundamental fabric of American society." Georgia Johnston will present a screening of her opera *The Collector* on Sunday, October 20th at 4:00 p.m. The opera premiered at the Royal Irish Academy of Music in Dublin, where Johnston is a student, and is based on a novel of the same title by John Fowles.

Oxford: The library will host paranormal investigator Barry Pirro on Saturday, October 19th at 6:00 p.m. for *Ghost Hunting 101*. He will share stories from his investigations, play recordings of ghosts, and share ghost hunting tips.

Plymouth (Terryville Public Library): Paranormal author Sydney Sherman will present *Understanding Your Paranormal Senses*, a discussion of how anyone can use their own five senses to connect to departed loved ones. The event will take place on Saturday, October 26th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Prospect: The Prospect Public Library will host storyteller and educator Monica Peterson on October 15th at 4:00 p.m. for *Spiders and Pumpkins: Tales of the Harvest*. Peterson shares tales from around the world, including stories of Anansi the Spider.

Roxbury (Minor Memorial Library): The Minor Memorial Library will host an opening reception for *Motion*, an art exhibition featuring work by Susan Monserud and Joe Gitterman. The event will take place on Saturday, October 5th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Hodge Memorial Library will host a Halloween-themed Pop-Up Pub event on October 18th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Salisbury (Scoville Memorial Library): Janet Newman, principal of Love Yourself Well Healing & Coaching will present *How to Create More Energy and Joy in Our Lives Using Simple Techniques* on Saturday, October 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Psychotherapist, meditation teacher, and yoga instructor Kathleen Voldstad will present *The Third Act: Exploring Transitions of Aging* on Mondays in October. The program will be an ongoing exploration of the benefits and challenges of aging.

Sharon (Hotchkiss Library): The library will host a three-part series on organization and decluttering on Sundays in October, starting with October 6th at 4:00 p.m. The program is presented by Jan Baltrush, who is a Residential Organizing Specialist certified by the National Association of Productivity and Organizing Professionals.

Sherman: The Sherman Library is hosting its annual meeting on Friday, October 4th at 6:30 p.m. featuring special program *How to Foster Rationality and Civil Discourse in an Era of "Fake News,"* presented by Jason Zweig, author and investing/personal finance columnist for the Wall Street Journal.

Southbury: The Southbury Public Library will host Jason Scappaticci, Associate Dean of Student Affairs at Capital Community College, for a presentation on the Connecticut Witch Trials, which took place more than a generation before the infamous Salem Witch Trials.

Thomaston: Valerie Rodgers, Lead Educator at the Mattatuck Museum, will discuss and present a series of images from the museum's current exhibitions on Wednesday, October 23rd at 2:00 p.m.

Torrington: The library will present *Consuming News in the Digital Age* on Thursday, November 7th at 6:30 p.m. Registration begins on October 15th. This news literacy program will be presented by Kevin Noblet, Deputy Managing Editor of Wealth Management at Dow Jones Newswire Holdings, Inc. Mr. Noblet also serves as Secretary and member of the Board of Governors at the Society of American Business Editors and Writers.

Washington (Gunn Memorial Library & Museum): Daniel C. Esty, Environmental Law Professor at Yale University, will present *Climate Change Progress: Global, National, State, and Local Perspectives* on Tuesday, October 8th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The 12th annual Washington Green Cemetery Tour will take place on Friday, October 25th at 6:30 p.m. The tour will begin at the Gunn Historical Museum.

Waterbury (Silas Bronson): The Silas Bronson Library will display works by the Western Connecticut State University Art Department in their front lobby display cases for the month of October.

Winsted (Beardsley Library): The Beardsley Library will hold a *Spooktacular* pumpkin carving program for teens on October 5th from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. The library will also host spiritual medium and TV personality Karen Kilmartin on Saturday, October 12th at 11:00 a.m.

Woodbury: The Woodbury Public Library reports that they are working on redesigning their website, and have launched a survey to solicit community input for their new strategic plan. They have also designed an excellent new logo.

Region 2: Susan C. Ray: Susan reported that work on the expansion and renovation of the Welles Turner Library in Glastonbury continues as new audio-visual equipment in the Friends community room was completed. This equipment includes a new projector, screen and sound system for events that will be held in the Friends Room.

Kent Memorial Library in Suffield will be hosting a SOCRATES CAFÉ on Monday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m. Come enjoy stimulating conversation and a thoughtful exchange of perspectives on the human experience. Challenge your beliefs, ask questions, hear ideas. Socrates, who took philosophy to the masses, is the inspiration for Socrates Café. A typical Socrates Cafe group is open to anyone who wishes to attend, and Socratically explores a question which is chosen by vote or which is announced shortly in advance. There are no prerequisites, and no reading or other preparation is required.

As part of the Lucy Robbins Welles 80th Anniversary celebration the Library will be hosting Sea Tea Improv on Sunday, October 20th at 2:00 pm. Join the cast of Sea Tea Improv Touring Company to help solve a literary mystery. Have fun as you deduce whodunit, in what literary location, and with what unlikely weapon. Only you can find out – by interrogating the suspects yourself!

She gave a reminder that Region 2's Town Hall/Listening Tour will be November 6th at East Hartford PL from 3-5 pm. CLA members who may not have been able to attend previous meetings have another opportunity to have their voices heard.

She thanked all who attended the Banned Bands program in Region 2 this past Saturday.

Region 3: Leslie McDonough: Absent

Region 4: Geri Diorio: Absent. Geri emailed to report that New Canaan Library will hold a "Discussion Lab" on Thursday October 10th from 10 – 11 AM. The climate of non-stop news cycles, over the top social media posts and in-your-face politics has tipped the scale to a point where we ask, "Is civility dying?" Asking that question, and looking at solutions, will be pastors of the local Methodist and Lutheran Churches.

The Ferguson Library in Stamford will have a fine free week at the end of October, in order to get materials

back and address equity issues. From their announcement: “For the second year in a row, we are hosting a special Halloween treat: From October 27 to November 5, when you stop by the Library and return your overdue material, your fines will be forgiven. We want to remove barriers for you to use The Ferguson Library. We also want to get materials back so others can borrow them. We also believe there is an equity issue around fines. In looking at overdue fines for children and teens, we found that most fines occur in areas of Stamford where you need to drive to get to a local branch. Many of these young ones are reliant on someone else for transportation! Here is your chance to return overdue items and have the fines waived or stop by the Library and take out more material without worrying about what is in your wallet.”

Region 5: Robbie Marshall: Robbie reported that:

- Wallingford will be hosting the CLASS “Staying Safe” Conference on 10/11/19.
- Acton will be hosting the Region 5 Legislative Town Hall Oct. 28th at 5pm
- Deep River is working with the Town to provide a digital library of the Historic and Architectural Resource as well as maps of nearby towns. The Library would like to add scans of historical postcards and photographs of the town's schools and classes and have reached out to the public to obtain some to scan.
- East Hampton and Hamden libraries offer video arts and crafts classes via Creativebug.
- Ivoryton library offers language classes.
- New Haven Free Public Libraries have developed partnerships like with Orchid Café and has in-residence entrepreneur & creative persons.
- West Haven has announced it's 1000 books before kindergarten program.

Region 6: Gale Bradbury: Gale reported that Colchester is at the beginning stages of a website update—they hope to have their new look in place this winter.

Groton Public Library: Bumpers and Books Sat Oct 18— a twist on the holiday Trunk or Treat. Staff and friends will decorate their vehicle to celebrate a beloved author and give out treats. Children are encouraged to dress as their favorite book character. In the spirit of Halloween they will host Richard Maule, author of *The Witch's advocate* on October 23 and Witchcraft: an evening of song with Julie Harris and Stephen Roane on October 24. They are also offering a teen book discussion group on Queer Lit – celebrating the LGBT community

Waterford Library and Otis Library in Norwich: Will host a paranormal presentation in October

Mystic and Noank Library's annual fundraiser with wine tasting and tapas will feature a performance by Yale University's The Whiffenpoofs on Thursday, October 24.

5. Adjournment

A *motion* to adjourn was made at 11:04 am by Shelley Holley am, and was **seconded** by Tom Piezzo, and was **unanimously approved. Motion passed.** No abstentions.

Attendance: Lisa Karim, Tom Piezzo, Danielle Valenzano, Kristina Edwards, Kate Byroade, Travis Feder, Susan Ray, Gale Bradbury, Carolann Slayton, Kristina Lareau, Maria Zervos, Matt Earls, Steve Cauffman, Steven Bernstein, Brittany Pearson, Samantha Connell, Maria Bernier, Laura Horn, Stephanie Prato, Shelley Holley, Jen Datum, Kymberlee Powe, Beth Crowley, Cathy Potter, Peter Ciparelli, Gerald Seagrave, Vivian Bordeaux, Jennifer Keohane, Colleen Bailie, Ken Wiggin, Frank Ridley, Arlene Bielfield, Mary-Ellen Minichiello