

**Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting
October, 15 2020 10:00 am
Business Meeting**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: President Tom Piezzo called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. September meeting minutes:

A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Mary Etter, and was seconded by Alessandra Petrino, and was unanimously approved. Motion passed.
Abstentions: Kate Byroade.

3. Old Business

a. President's Report – Tom Piezzo:

- Tom thanked everyone who volunteered their Zoom accounts for CLA to use.
- Tom updated the board on NELA/Admin services. The entirety of Liberty bank balance transferred to Citizens and new address is catching. Bob will be sending out a communication regarding a W9.
- Tom is working with Karen Tartaka towards coming up with a structure for a crowd-sourced CLA help desk beginning with an email, taking load off Star Chapter off Kristina & Leah. Invitations will be forthcoming in November for those interested in helping.
- Tom thanked all those planning fall workshops.

b. Treasurer's Report – Kristina Edwards:

- Continue to work with NELA Admin to finalize processes and procedures
- For the next meeting, Kristina will be doing a little fine tuning to the reports to make them more in line with what the board is interested in
- Asked two questions and comments indicated that reports were fine as they are

4. New Business:

Kenya from CT Governments Roundtable talked about her group (CTGoDort). She is trying to increase engagement in the library community and looking to enhance their work with government information. The focus right now for the group is on the education of librarians first before the public. The series is called "About Connecticut" with guest speakers, coming up is CT digital archive. <https://ctgodort.home.blog/> Their next meeting is October 29th at 3pm.

Reports:

ACLB: Denise Stankovics: Working on self-assessment tool for library boards. Meeting scheduled in November and fall newsletter is postponed because there is not much news to report.

ADA: Maria Bernier: No report

ACLPD: Ramona Burkey: Absent

ALA: Erin Shea: Forward Together meetings about restructuring the organization in preparation for virtual council meeting on November 5th.

Archivist: Gerald Seagrave: No report

Awards: No report

BCALA: Kym Powe & Robert Kinney: Member meeting held last month that worked out really well. Holding a committee fair for up to date members on October 29th. Typically participate in New Haven's MLK event, not sure if it is being held, trying to find a way to disseminate

information. Trying to put together info to hand out at farmer's markets and other outdoor venues.

Bibliomation: Carl Demilia: No report

Career Development: Janet Flewelling: No report

CAS-L: Barbara Johnson & Mary-Ellen Minichiello: Absent

CLC: Jennifer Keohane: Take Your Child to the Library Day 10th anniversary this February, holding a national meetup for that on October 21st at 1pm, over 120 people who will be attending, using that to shape some planning for this February. CLC has been focusing on bids for library supplies (archival materials and STEAM materials & equipment), rebidding non-print media. Thank you to Katy McNicholl for reenergizing the fundraising and development roundtable which will be on October 29th.

Commission on Ed Tech: Colleen Baille: No report

CSL: Maureen Sullivan: Developing plans for opening more to the public, proceeding carefully. State Librarian search is coming to a close, the process is moving forward and hopefully and announcement soon. Working closely with the library directors for those who received money from the government "Everybody Learns" initiative to extend services in municipalities. Working on the budget Partnership between CT Academic Library Directors and CCSU directors administered survey and survey results will be released this afternoon.

Children's: Michelle Kaminski & Cathy Potter: Planning for their workshop with same numbers of last year, sent out info to new publicity team for promotion.

College & University: Lisa Thornell: Absent

CLASS: Still vacant

Conference 2021: Christopher Hemingway: Absent

CT Center for the Book: Lisa Comstock: Absent

Customer Service: Shelley Holley: Absent

Development & Planning: Carl Antonucci: Absent

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI): Olivia Scully: Planning a fall workshop dual pronged approach, secure a speaker to set a baseline for the CT library community discussing foundations of EDI and why it is important and to have a community praxis component – discussing how CT libraries are already doing the work to continue applying these principles to every day library work.

FOCL: Frank Ridley: Absent

Grants/Fundraising: Alessandra Petrino: Two fundraisers Nov 1 – Jan 1, online (BOONE supply, gives 40% back to anyone who uses the CLA link), Nov 1st writing workshop with Zora Baskin offering a workshop to CLA for free and those who register will be paying for the fundraising, 4 Tuesdays 6-7:30, <https://www.boonsupply.com/collections/all>

Intellectual Freedom: Sam Lee: Committee meeting upcoming, but nothing to report right now

Legislative: Beth Crowley & Kate Byroade: Held the first meeting on September 29th and during the meeting got an update on the state of CT from Gallo & Robinson, One of the ways they will make up the deficit, the Governor can cut up to 5% of any one line without any approval. In addition there is also an ask for a possible 10% cut, significant advocacy work to do coming into this next session. Not sure if this will be in person or virtually. If anyone has any ideas from constituents please send to Beth.

LCI: Laura Horn: Absent

LGBTQ+ Section: Kristina Lareau & Marissa Bucci: Need someone to take over the chair or co-chair of section.

LION: Joe Farara: Absent

Membership: Trish Tomlinson: Looking to get with publicity to discuss how to get the message across of being a member.

NELA: Christy Billings: Absent

PEG: Mary Etter: No report

Publicity & Communications: John, Lauren, Adam: Set-up short term and long term goals, looking to meet with everyone if possible to talk about goals, newsletter/website/social media.

Procedures: Peter Ciparelli: Absent

Public Library: Maria Zervos: Absent

Reference & Adult Services: Matt Earls: Absent

Resource Sharing: Vacant

SCSU: Arlene Bielefield: Absent

Technical Services: Steve Bernstein: Violet Fox will be speaking about ethical implications of authority, cataloging and classification on November 19th in the afternoon. They are working out the details.

Technology: Genevieve Francis: Absent

Young Adult: Samantha Connell: Meet-up will be in the winter this year. They are working on planning it now.

Region Reps

Region 1: Travis Feder: See attached for report.

Region 2: Sarah McCusker: Absent

Region 3: Leslie McDonough: Absent

Region 4: Doug Lord: See attached for report

Region 5: Robbie Marshall: See attached for report

Region 6: Vicky Coffin: Absent

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 11:14 am, Kate Byroade, and seconded by Alessandra Petrino, and was unanimously approved. Motion passed.

Present: Tom Piezzo, Colleen Baillie, Kristina Edwards, Danielle Valenzano, Lisa Karim, Beth Crowley, Maureen Sullivan, Cathy Potter, Robbie Marshall, John Casiello, Steven Bernstein, Douglas Lord, Alessandra Petrino, Jennifer Keohane, Kymberlee Powe, Erin Shea, Maria Bernier, Denise Stanckovitz, Janet Flewelling, Kristina Lareau, Olivia Scully, Robert Scheir, Adam Wisniewski, Leslie, Colleen Bailie, Sam Lee, Lauren (Meriden), Michelle Kaminski, Travis Feder, Jerry Seagrave, Carl DeMilia, Mary Etter, Trish Tomlinson, Kate Byroade, Kenya Flash, Samantha Connell

Connecticut Library Association
Region One Report
October 15, 2020

A major topic of conversation has been the grant of \$2.6 million in Coronavirus Relief Funds to public libraries in Connecticut. Based on information from the Interim State Librarian, public libraries in Region One received \$442,116. Congratulations to the recipients:

- Beacon Falls (Beacon Falls Public Library): \$23,811
- Canaan (David M. Hunt Library): \$20,874
- Hartland (Hartland Public Library): \$20,801
- Naugatuck (Howard Whittemore Memorial Library): \$35,672
- North Canaan (Douglas Library): \$21,991
- Oxford (Oxford Public Library): \$26,449
- Plymouth (Terryville Public Library): \$28,564
- Southbury (Southbury Public Library): \$34,113
- Thomaston (Thomaston Public Library): \$29,099
- Torrington (Torrington Library Association): \$37,151
- Waterbury (Silas Bronson Library): \$74,190
- Watertown (Watertown Library Association): \$33,215
- Winchester (Beardsley & Memorial Library): \$27,830
- Wolcott (Wolcott Public Library): \$28,356

The Finance & Infrastructure Committee of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities' Board of Regents met on October 7th to discuss FY 2021 budget revisions. To address budget deficits while also increasing funding for its own system office, the Committee has stated that "everything is on the table," including reductions to library hours at the community colleges. This possibility is not limited to the community college campuses in Region One, and any cuts to library hours would negatively impact student outcomes across the state.

Naugatuck Valley Community College's Max R. Traurig Library received a nomination from Congresswoman Jahana Hayes for the IMLS' National Medal for Museum and Library Service, and is working toward completing the application materials. Libraries and museums from any region may self-nominate, with the deadline of November 2nd approaching.

In more news from Naugatuck Valley Community College, Jodee London has been hired as the new library associate (circulation supervisor). Jodee is a former student library worker at NVCC and ECSU who most recently worked at the Yale Libraries. In addition, librarian Liz Frechette has announced her retirement after 25 years at Naugatuck Valley, effective February 1st. Liz has been a pillar not only of the library, but of the entire campus community. She will be deeply missed.

Respectfully submitted,

Travis S. Feder
Region One Representative

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Lisa Oldham, **New Canaan Library** reports she just promoted two wonderful librarians into new parallel roles in our Adult Services team: Kayla DelBiondo is now Coordinator Adult Programs and Community Outreach, and Samantha Connell is now Coordinator Reference, Instruction and Digital Services. Additionally New Canaan is recruiting for Full time Children's Librarian.

The **C.H. Booth Library** wrapped up a successful Census project funded by a grant from the ALA, is steadily regaining hours open to the public, and is working on wrapping up capital improvement projects beginning with work on six leaky chimneys.

Yvonne Cech reports that the **Brookfield Library** has done away with appointments and is open 24 hours per week with resultant heavier computer use.

Curbside service continues at 44 hours per week, as does outdoor and virtual programming. We have a door monitor (provided by the town) who asks health screening questions and collects contact tracing information (a requirement from the Brookfield Health Department for us to open). We closely guard the contact tracing lists, keeping them in a safe and shredding them at 30 days.

Our Friends of the Library held an outdoor book sale on Sunday, which was very well attended. Social distancing and mask wearing were required.

We have been focusing on voter registration and information on the local candidates in our programming. We hosted a Meet the Candidates Zoom event which exceeded the 100 person registration limit so we added a youtube live link and ultimately had 172 attendees that evening. We will have an event each week to keep the message going and hopefully get people out to vote.

Our outdoor storytimes have been full to capacity (12 families) each week. We are getting numerous requests (which we can't fill) for private study and work space, since so many people are working and studying remotely.

And, we are working on gathering patron testimonials as we are embarking on round two of a new library campaign shortly.

Reported by Region 4 Representative Douglas Lord, C.H. Booth Library

Region 5 Report: October 2020

- East Haven's Hagaman Memorial Library provided an update on their outside Wi-Fi antenna installation. The Internet connection had 3,000 sessions for September, its first full month in operation. When the Library evaluated how to upgrade its Internet to fiber optic cabling 4-5 years ago, the consultant stated the area was an "Internet desert" with not enough Internet available. This may be what is driving the number of sessions taking place, but time will tell on how the outside Wi-Fi usage develops.
- Milford is looking at ways to increase hours and services. The Director asked for more detail on the Governor's announcement on COVID funding for public libraries. Her concern is that although they are a municipal library, the PPE supplies are coming out of their existing library budget - and at this rate will have a substantial impact on other spending.
- Cheshire Library is offering 2 fun online programs: Switch it up at CPL! Super Smash Bros. Ultimate (Grades 6-12) Nintendo Switch owners can join in at CPL's Smash Ultimate arena to play against friends and folks from all across Cheshire. And Kids Cook Dinner: Pizza (Ages 7-14) Katie, a Registered Dietitian from Food Explorers, will demonstrate how to make homemade pizza in one hour. Best for kids and teens ages 7-14 with adult supervision.
- Henry Carter Hull in Clinton is offering special programs in October including: "Pumpkins on Parade" whereby they provide the pumpkins for carving and then display the illuminated results when they are carved and returned, Tarot Card Reading, and Essential Oil spray creation.
- Derby Library's virtual programming and pick up crafts include: Escape Room puzzles and activities, Teen Graphic Novels, Scavenger Hunts, Youth Yoga, Busy Bee Activity Bags, and S.T.E.A.M. Ahead workshops.
- East Hampton now has 5 hotspots available for checkout and New Haven has also begun offering them.
- Hamden's Miller Branch has set up an Outdoor Computer lab. Public computer access on socially distanced laptops are available outside (weather permitting) Monday-Thursday 10-1 pm.
- East Haddam, Ivoryton, Killingworth, Portland, Wallingford, Westbrook, and West Haven [Elm Street location] have re-opened and permit limited browsing time following state Covid-19 guidelines.
- Shelton's Plumb Memorial has opened but the Huntington Branch remains closed.
- Acton Library is open for browsing by appointment and just started booking study room times.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Marshall