

Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting

April 15, 2021

10:00 am Business Meeting via Zoom

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** President Tom Piezzo called the meeting to order at 1002 am.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

a. March 18th, 2021 meeting minutes:

A motion to approve was made by Beth Crowley, seconded by Kate Byroade, and was approved by majority. Motion passed with no abstentions.

(Legislative report: Numbers of people who testified be 12 speakers and 44 written testimony)

3. **Old Business**

a. **President's Report** – New CULS Chairperson Matthew Sheehan from Albertus Magnus College Sustainability Committee met earlier this month. Proposing a bylaws revision for sustainable If you have any thoughts on it, let Tom know.

-Conference registration is up

-Lisa told Tom she extended her thanks to the Publicity Committee for their help on the candidates promotional piece which will be out later this week.

b. **Treasurer's Report** – Kristina has updated the nonconference budget request form. It is on the CLA website now. Tentative due date of May 7 to start gathering information to be able to discuss next year's budget at the June meeting. Kristina will email everyone information with new form, speaker request form, and notes Kristina put together on logistics of program expenses. If you need more time or more information, please email Kristina.

-A motion to approve paying \$500 towards 2021 NELLs was made by Trish, seconded by Beth, and was approved by the majority with no abstentions.

4. **New Business:**

- a. Laura Horn & Janet Flewelling reported on working on Compensation Benchmark as CLA wanted to make sure the salaries were comprehensive. Discussion ensued among the board on how this is a positive thing that will help give more value to our members. The board is in support of this project. Tom proposed that we commit to 1/3 of the cost each year so when we have the expense as long as we can afford it. Tom thanked Career Development. A motion was made by Leslie McDonough to move forward with the project, seconded by Kate Byroade, and was approved by the majority with no abstentions.

Committee/Section/Representatives Reports:

ACLB: Denise Stankovics: On hold with many activities due to the pandemic, but working on their website.

Encouraging Library boards to do their own assessments and tool is available on their website under the Resources tab.

ADA: Maria Bernier: No report

ACLPD: Ramona Burkey: Absent

ALA: Erin Shea: No report

Archivist: Gerald Seagrave: No report

Awards: Region Reps: Travis reported that they will have 6 winners and will share them shortly.

BCALA: Kym Powe & Robert Kinney: The 11th National Conference for African American Librarians, will be virtual July 28-August 1

Bibliomation: Carl Demilia: Absent

Career Development: Janet Flewelling: Other than the compensation benchmarking project, they are happy with the scholarship process this year. The Leadership Institute will be held virtually this fall – they want to make sure they do not conflict with other workshops from the fall. Tom will check with Colleen and asked that any plans for fall workshops, even preliminary, to please send to Tom and copy Colleen.

CAS-L: Barbara Johnson & Mary-Ellen Minichiello: Office slates for 2021/22, they will be voting May 1-May 15 with new term starting July 1.

CLC: Jennifer Keohane: Next Tuesday Coffee Talk about programming – virtual and in-person. May Coffee Talk will be with Sharon Streams Webjunction President and coordinator for REALM project to give an update on the findings. In the midst of their strategic planning – committee will be holding focus groups, let CLC know if you are interested in participating. Rolled out a lot of bids recently.

Commission on Ed Tech: Colleen Bailie: Absent

CSL: Deborah Schander: No update on Governor's Budget Proposal for this year. They will be holding information sessions for grant sessions for ARPA.

Children's: Michele Kaminski & Cathy Potter: Absent

College & University: Matthew Sheehan: Emailing with the members of the Section about new opportunities.

CLASS: Samantha Saliter: Looking to have a meeting soon.

Conference 2021: Susan Ray & Chris Hemmingway: Getting ready for Conference.

CT Center for the Book: Lisa Comstock: Absent

Customer Service: Vacant

Grants/Fundraising: Alessandra Petrino: Absent

FOCL: Frank Ridley: Newsletter in the mail recaps the chats had in January and also points out next series of chats on May 1 sign-up on website, holding annual meeting as required by bylaws at May 11th at 10am. The meeting will be very short. Invitations have been sent out. Registration must be done in advance. Immediately following the board will be meeting in person in the Meriden PL.

Development & Planning: Carl Antonucci: Absent

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI): Olivia Scully: Thanked the Conference Committee and CLA for hard work with EDI to arrange Conference speakers. Dr Seuss program was a huge success.

Intellectual Freedom: Sam Lee: Gave Kudos to Olivia for all her work on the Dr Seuss program

LCI: Laura Horn: No report

Legislative: Beth Crowley & Kate Byroade: Completed all 6 Town Hall Meetings. Total of 119 participants. Thanked Deborah Schander for her help and attendance. Huge thank you to publicity committee for the video.

LGBTQ+ Section: Kristina Lareau & Shay Glass: Absent

LION: Joe Farara: Absent

Membership: Trish Tomlinson: If anyone is having trouble becoming a member or getting into their account, Trish wants to send an email to let people know she is available to help. Committee meeting upcoming.

NELA: Christy Billings: Absent

PEG: Mary Etter: Absent

Publicity & Communications: John Casiello, Lauren Thompson, & Adam Wisnieski: Thank you to everyone who shared the video. Please keep sharing.

Procedures: Peter Ciparelli: Absent

Public Library: Maria Zervos: Absent

Reference & Adult Services: Matt Earls: No report

Resource Sharing: Vacant

SCSU: Arlene Bielefield: Absent

Technical Services: Steve Bernstein: No report

Technology: Genevieve Francis: Absent

Young Adult: Samantha Connell: Absent

Region 1: Travis Feder: No report

Region 2: Sarah McCusker: Absent

Region 3: Leslie McDonough: No report

Region 4: Doug Lord: Absent

Region 5: Robbie Marshall: See attached

Region 6: Vicky Coffin: There is a new Children's Assistant in Waterford and starting some outdoor storytimes in May, in Lyme Director Teresa Connelly is retiring

5. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn at 11:29 was made by Kate Byroade, seconded by Erin Shea, and was unanimously approved. Motion passed.

Present: Tom Piezzo, Beth Crowley, Danielle Valenzano, Laura Horn, Adam Wisnieski, Deborah Schander, Erin Shea, Janet Flewelling, Kate Byroade, Kristina Edwards, Leslie McDonough, Maria Bernier, Mary Minichiello, Trish Tomlinson, Bob Scheier, Sam Lee, Jerry Seagrave, Susan Ray, Tim Kellogg, Vicky Coffin, Jen Keohane, Erin Shea, Kym Powe, Matt Earls, Matthew Sheehan, Olivia Scully, Steven Bernstein, Travis Feder, Denise Stankovics, Frank Ridley, Robbie Marshall, Samantha Saliter

Region 5 Report: April 2021

Opening Status

- Ansonia allows short browsing, computer use, and copying by appointment.
- Bethany Clark Memorial: As of April 9th, will be open for 20-minute browsing Fridays 2-5.
- Branford Blackstone opened computer lab & reading room March 15th: all services by app't
- Chester is open by appointment only.
- Cromwell re-opened March 29th with limited hours, continued curbside, & no computer use
- Deep River re-opened on April 12, with 45-minute limits, & discontinued curbside pickup.
- Derby is open by appointment only and continues pickup.
- East Haven: Varies until April 19th then browsing and check-out services by appointment.
- Essex is now offering all modes of service.
- Guilford resumes pre-pandemic hours by June 21st - appointments only for study or PCs.
- Hamden is re-opening for limited hours beginning April 19th
- Ivoryton is open for short visits; Children's Room requires appointments.
- Middlefield Levi E. Coe offers browsing, computer use, and pickup per guidelines.
- Middletown Russell resumed walk-in services March 29th.
- New Haven expanded its opening March 29th with limited hours for tech use & browsing. The Stetson branch remains closed due to repairs but curbside is available.
- North Branford: Both libraries are open with curbside available.
- North Haven re-opened April 5th with computer use by appointment, & curbside.
- Portland re-opened April 1st with browsing, appointments, curbside, and computer hours.
- Seymore re-opened April 12th with all services available M-F.
- West Haven is open as of April 8th with limited hours and by appointment.

Programs and Announcements:

- Poetry: Acton Old Saybrook's Annual contest, Cheshire Zoom readings & Poetry Tree, Clark Bethany Story Walk, Brainerd Haddam Zoom readings, & Ivoryton Zoom CT poet
- Branford Blackstone Friends spring book sale is May 14th-16th offsite. Their Friends Virtual Book Cart is an online application called Collectorz.com Book Cloud.
- Clinton Henry Carter Hull: Outdoor Spring Craft Fair will support the library & local businesses: Sat. 4/17 10 – 4. All shoppers receive a free tote! Rain date: Sat. 4/24.
- Derby is offering Midnight classic graphic novel readings for tweens & teens.
- Durham's spring programs include: Perennial garden design, Food Explorers, French speaking, and Oscar winning film viewing and discussions.
- East Haven Hagaman qualified for an Everybody Learns Wi-Fi Initiative Grant. Connecticut Network installs free outside Wi-Fi access points to select urban & rural areas. With this grant 2 more outside Wi-Fi access points will be added, covering all sides of the library.
- Guilford begins online musical instrument tutoring by highschoolers for 2nd to 8th graders.
- Middletown Russell Library will hold an online month-long event for seniors. Tuesdays: May 4, 11th, 18th & 25th 10-11 "**Eat Smart, Live Strong**" - With Angela Suroweicki, Community Nutrition Educator. This exciting series will provide easy ways to make smart food choices and exercise; focusing on changing behavior by learning, planning, goal setting, and practicing new skills. A fun bag of materials can be picked up.

- Madison Scranton Memorial: We're looking forward to starting outdoor, in-person programming this month thanks to a beautiful new tent over our patio donated by the Friends. This will make it possible to safely hold outdoor programming through to the fall.
- Milford Public Library is very happy to announce that their LSTA funded renovation project is done! They have an expanded and improved Children's Section, as well as 2 new meeting rooms. They continue to expand open hours, as well as add back services.
- Westbrook Public Library is hiring a new Children's Librarian in preparation for the retirement of their beloved long-time Children's Librarian. They're also finishing development of the new teen tech space, the **Lew Daniels Technology Center**.

Respectfully submitted,
Robbie Marshall