

Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting
September 16, 2021
10:00 am Business Meeting via Zoom
MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** President Colleen Bailie called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. August 19th, 2021 meeting minutes: A motion to approve was made by Kristina Edwards, seconded by Doug Lord, and was approved by majority with the corrections presented. Motion passed. Abstentions: Kate Byroade, Tom Piezzo, Sam Lee
3. **Old Business**
 - a. **President's Report** See attached
 - b. **Treasurer's Report** – Kristina reviewed the forms needed for program expenses. If you are not paying an Honoria for your speaker, you only need to get the speaker form. If you are paying an Honoria for your speaker, then you need to have a W9, a filled out expense form, and a speaker form. Has been updating old orientation materials created by Jen Datum, our former CLA editor and Star Chapter support person. Requested volunteers that would like to help with proofreading the orientation materials, place their emails in the chat. Hoping to create a collection or notes and instructions that we can build upon for future orientations.
4. **New Business:**
 - a. Kate Byroade Lobbying Day proposing to send two people to Lobbying Conference, week of October 25. Makes a motion to send two representatives to the Lobbying Conference (prior to knowing what the cost is, it has not yet been posted) to see general response: Motion for CLA to send 2 people to attend annual CT Lobbying Conference – Olivia Scully and someone else.
A motion to approve was made by Tom Piezzo, seconded by Mary Etter, and was approved by majority pending cost. Motion passed.

Committee/Section/Representatives Reports:

ACLB: Denise Stankovics: No update this month because they haven't yet met this month. Hoping to have more information next month.

ADA: Maria Bernier: Reminds all committee/section chairs, as you are planning fall workshops, please remember to include the accommodation wording in your registration materials. https://ctlibraryassociation.org/ADA_Resources
Any questions, please get in touch with Maria. Get practice with Zoom settings, make sure live transcriptions are set-up for all meetings and workshops.

Bob Scheier reminds everyone to check with him asap for NELA Zoom and settings to make sure it is available.

ACLPD: Vacant

ALA: Erin Shea: LibLearnX, the Library Learning Experience that was going to be the "new Midwinter," originally scheduled to take place in San Antonio in January, will take place virtually. The reason ALA provided was the ongoing pandemic, but a lot of members were also upset about Texas's recent anti-choice legislation.

Archivist: Gerald Seagrave: No report

Awards: Region Reps: No report

BCALA: Robert Kinney: Absent

Bibliomation: Carl Demilia: Absent

Career Development: Janet Flewelling and Sunnie Scarpa: Virtual leadership institute begins tomorrow. Register asap for any sessions. Planning an info session with Laura Horn in October for the Compensation Benchmarks.

CAS-L: Barbara Johnson & Mary-Ellen Minichiello: No report

CLC: Jennifer Keohane: Working on book bid currently, if anyone is interested in serving on an evaluation committee, it will be two half day sessions in November. Looking for people to represent an entire library type and help evaluate the bid responses to determine who is in and who is out and what they should be looking for to make bid proposals better. Survey out regarding bid – please take a look and fill it out, trying to get a feel to make sure they invite as many publishers/jobbers that libraries are using to be on the contract. Revised Coffee Talk – called Community Collaborative – this afternoon – extending this beyond COVID to other issues. Focusing today’s conversation with Sam Lee about banned book issues.

Commission on Ed Tech: Colleen Bailie: Quarterly meeting was held on Monday, September 13th. There are four new members to the commission. There was discussion on the various funding initiatives that are within the state and at federal level for digital equity including Emergency Broadband Benefit for individuals and the Affordable connectivity fund. Libraries have been integral piece of getting the word out on the Emergency Broadband benefits. 37 million was requested from CT schools and libraries for the Emergency Connectivity fund for technological updates. There will be a second window to apply through October 13th. These funds can also be used for past expenses.

CSL: Deborah Schander: The State Library recently awarded four grants to support digital navigator pilots at East Hartford Public Library, Ferguson Library – Stamford, Hamden Public Library, and Hartford Public Library. Deborah is also engaging in conversations with other state library chiefs about how to address digital inequity at a national level, as well as how we can support local and state efforts. As a continuation of the NASA @ My Library initiative, the State Library will be participating in a new partnership with two other state libraries, select public libraries, and Cornerstones of Science to build equitable and inclusive STEM-related library services. And State Library staff member Kevin Johnson is featured on the latest episode of the Grating the Nutmeg podcast, discussing his roles as William Webb and Jordan Freeman.

Children’s: Cathy Potter & Alex Kraus: Children's Fall Workshop will be held on Friday, November 5 9am-3pm. We're finalizing the details and will add it to the calendar. Monthly Children's Section meetings will take place on the 2nd Wednesday of the month beginning on October 13. Based on survey results, programming will be a mainstay on the agenda and each month will feature a hot topic to discuss.

College & University: Matthew Sheehan: Absent

CLASS: Samantha Saliter: Absent

Conference 2022: Kari Hamad & Shannon Angelone: The Conference will be in-person in 2022 May 3 and May 4 at Hartford Convention Center, “Back to the Future” Call for proposals will go out by October 1.

CT Center for the Book: Lisa Comstock: Absent

Customer Service: Lisa Karim: No report. Stepping down as Chair and looking for someone to fill the role.

Grants/Fundraising: Alessandra Petrino: Positive feedback for the Be Happy event, planning first in-person fundraiser, October 2 at Labyrinth Brewery with Intellectual Freedom, from 4-8pm. Free event with suggested donation of \$10 per person, free snacks and selling some CLA merch. Finishing creating Café Press Shop. If you have any graphics that you think would be fun on a shirt or bag, send to Alessandra or Publicity.

FOCL: Frank Ridley: Absent

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI): Kym Powe: Fall workshop on 11/1 between 10-2:15 (Email Kym for schedule)

Intellectual Freedom: Sam Lee: Banned Bands Sat. 10/2 4pm at Labyrinth Brewery with Slacktown Duo performing banned/censored music. There was a threat of doxing made against a librarian after an auditor visited a library. Sam has some experience scrubbing information from data broker sites and more than happy to provide assistance to anyone who needs help. On 9/23 - CEN Quarterly Training Session - AI, Proctoring and Alternative Assessments <https://ctedunet.net/engagement-events/#>

LCI: Laura Horn: Absent

Legislative: Kate Byroade & Olivia Scully: Had first meeting and off to a great start.

LGBTQ+ Section: Mary Richardson: Working on a survey to send out to figure out what people want from their section. No date yet for anything in the fall.

LION: Joe Farara: Absent

Membership: Trish Tomlinson: Absent

NELA: Christy Billings: See attached.

PEG: Mary Etter: Creating a PEG award to honor Peter Ciparelli.

Publicity & Communications: John Casiello & Lauren Thompson: Absent

Procedures: Vacant

Public Library: Jennifer Sullivan: Absent

Reference & Adult Services: Christie Mitchell & Rachel Leff: Decided on a program idea involving climate change and libraries, plan to have speakers with no fees involved, will be November or January – checking calendar and will report back.

Resource Sharing Matt Earls: No report

SCSU: Arlene Bielefield: Absent

Technical Services: Steve Bernstein: Absent

Technology: Vacant

Young Adult: Jackie Bush and Stephanie Smith: Brainstorming ideas for informal fall meeting – reaching out to members to get ideas.

Region 1: Karin Thomas: Absent

Region 2: Sarah McCusker: Absent

Region 3: Leslie McDonough: Absent

Region 4: Doug Lord: See attached

Region 5: Robbie Marshall: See attached

Region 6: Vicky Coffin: Absent

5. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn at 10:56 was made by Kate Byroade, seconded by Doug Lord, and was unanimously approved. Motion passed with no abstentions.

Present: Bob Scheier, Kristin Edwards, Danielle Valenzano, Colleen Bailie, Lisa Karim, Denise Stankovics, Jerry Seagrave, Kym Powe, Mary Etter, Cathy Potter, Kari Hamad, Doug Lord, Erin Shea, Alessandra Petrino, Deborah Schander, Kate Byroade, Tom Piezzo, Janet Flewelling, Christie Mitchell, Jennifer Keohane, Shannon Angelone, Sam Lee, Jackie Bush, Travis Feder, Maria Bernier, Alex Klaus, Stephanie Smith, Mary Richardson, Christy Billings

CLA Presidents Report – Colleen Bailie
September 2021

As I'm sure most of you are aware, Peter Ciparelli passed away a couple of weeks ago. He was a long-standing CLA board member and worked in a number of CT libraries. He will be sorely missed. In time, CLA will look to the best way to honor Peter's memory and his contributions to CLA.

Insurance—CLA has been operating underinsured for a number of years. Thanks to Bob for bringing it to the exec. Board's attention. After looking at a number of options, we went with USLI; with an annual premium of \$1216. This will cover the association for all of our events and Directors & Officers insurance.

As mentioned last month the Info Lit conference will be going their own way; outside of CLA. All expenses will be incurred directly through them. After looking into the history, the Info Lit conference was many years ago its own entity, and was folded into CLA about 10 years ago. This brings it back to their roots, and wish them the best of luck.

NELA Report - Christy Billings
September 2021

NELA has had a great turn-out for the first two virtual conferences....

Still time to register for the the third virtual conference on October 1st Leadership/Management Sessions

<https://nela2021.godaddysites.com/10%2F1-lead%2Fmanage>

There will be an in person event at Holy Cross. Participants must show proof of vaccination, and wear a mask.

#NELA2021 IN-PERSON UNCONFERENCE: COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS: OCT. 18TH, 9:30AM - 4:00PM

<https://nela2021.godaddysites.com/event-info>

Finally:

NELA Licensing Electronic Resources Seminar Registration is Open

LICENSING ELECTRONIC RESOURCES SEMINAR (Virtual)

October 14th & 15th (2-day virtual event)

Instructor: Tomas Lapinski

By the end of the 2-day event participants will:

- Identify the key copyright use rights that licenses often compromise and how to recognize the license provisions that compromise those rights.
- Understand other rights that license often restrict or impact such as patron privacy or speech rights.
- Distinguish basic terms and conditions found in license agreements.
- Examine and assess license provisions (using examples from actual agreements) that can pose a pitfall to licensees and their users.
- Review, identify and understand the function and effect of terms and conditions from at least two license agreements in use in libraries.

Presented in two convenient afternoon sessions with time for Q&A at the end of each virtual session. Your registration will give you access to BOTH days of the event. This event will NOT be recorded.

To Register go to: <https://nela2021.godaddysites.com/10%2F14-%26-10%2F15-licensing>

Registration can be as a stand-alone event or as an add-on to your NELA Annual Conference registration.

CLA Region 4 Report for September, 2021

The EDI-themed lawn sign exhibit at the **Easton Public Library** was taken down improperly – possibly a politically motivated occurrence.

The **Ferguson Library**, Stamford reported a series of programs around Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and winning two major grants:

- A \$96K Digital Navigator grant that will address existing digital inequity among Stamford constituencies that lack the tools and skills to effectively access resources available through internet; and
- A \$100K Laura Bush 21st c. Librarian Program grant to support the improvement of services for people with disabilities and reading barriers by developing educational resources and building the capacity of libraries to increase the accessibility and customization of digital resources and reading materials. This begins as a survey of the library community around service to those with print disabilities and proceeds through piloting a training module.

The **Wilton Library Association** has a new Brubeck collection of which they are very proud.

The **Stratford Library Association** reports success in implementing its *Everybody Learns* grant with hotspots and Chromebooks geared towards adults.

The **New Milford Library** is amid a major renovation and the majority of the collection is offsite.

Both Stamford and Greenwich have mandated vaccinations for town employees.

The **Ridgefield Library** is finishing off the terrace, funded with state money with a local match. They are doing hybrid programs on the First Amendment (Thursday, 9/9) and a Q&A with the local state delegation on 9/8. There was brief discussion of reasonable accommodation and Ridgefield is hiring for a couple of position including a part-time communications person.

The **Weston Public Library** reported completing its long-time-coming children's remodeling and that roofing, and hvac fixes are also underway.

The **Burnham Library** in Bridgewater has restarted the Burnham Bunch storytimes on their back lawn which is songs, stories, and bubbles for the 5-and-under crowd.

The **Bridgeport Public Library** has a survey open for families and teens [here](#). And they are having outdoor, off-site story times in locations like the one pictured below -- Seaside Park.



The website of the **Everett I. L. Baker Library** at **Norwalk Community College** has a little slider of 'new resources' that includes Mango Languages and Bloom's Literature.

The **New Fairfield Public Library** is doing a program for 5th to 12th graders on learning to play Scrabble on 9/23 and a program on the History of Bee Keeping on Wednesday, 9/22 at 4:00.

The **Norwalk Public Library** moved to a new phase of operating hours for both the main library and the branch. They are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept-Oct) and doing a lot of virtual programs like an apple pie baking workshop Thursday 9/16 and one called 'Empowering Women Towards and IN Retirement' on 9/21.

The **Trumbull Library** reopened for all-year Sunday hours at the main library and has created a really nice little e-news pdf that shows all of the goings-on [right here](#).

The **CH Booth Library** in Newtown won a grant from a local foundation to begin a volunteer hub for the community using Get Connected by Galaxy Digital and was awarded a grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine for health outreach. The library is close to having contracts ready for roof replacement and also an HVAC overhaul.

The **Greenwich Library** announced Their Reads Together Book, *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride; municipal employees in Greenwich are required to be vaccinated.

The **Mark Twain Library** in Redding is doing some wonderful EDI programming which continues October 14 with a lecture about conscience, racism, and white supremacy as Twain saw it.

Full hours of operation are back at the **Westport Library** which, happily, also makes the statewide and even nationwide term 'The Westport Model' obsolete!

At the **Bethel Public Library** on 9/9 Connecticut State Historian Walt Woodward presented *Creating Connecticut* to patrons, you can Youtube it [here](#).

Monroe's **Edith Wheeler Memorial Library** turned on auto-renewals for patrons like many Bibliomation members.

On 9/22 the **New Canaan Library** is hosting an online program called *Virtual Design Thinking: Empowering Students to Reshape the Future* with a brilliant-sounding New Canaan High School student who will be presenting on what design thinking is and how it can be used with students to explore projects. Design thinking is a human-centric design framework for problem-solving and empowers students to break down their assumptions of society, develop their skills of critical thinking, problem solving and creativity, and work to have an impact on the world.

The **Darien Library** is hosting a fundraiser with NYT bestselling author Brit Bennett, author of *The Vanishing Half*, on Wednesday, October 27th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at something they call their Novel Tea! Save your seat:

<https://buff.ly/3k7ggJj>

Region 5 Report: September 2021

Programs and Announcements:

- Haddam: Brainerd Library completed the first phase of their renovation and re-opened the building to the public on Monday, September 13th. A small ribbon cutting ceremony was held on the 9th. BML is moving on to the funding and planning of its proposed Phase II renovations. The Friends have partnered with the Children’s Team to holding an outdoor Fall Festival & Book Sale on October 2nd.
- Hamden: With a generous donation from the Hamden Rotary Club, the Whitneyville Branch Library created a [Homeschooling Collection](#) to assist parents and caregivers with this demanding task.
- Madison: Scranton Library announced October’s “Homecoming” weekend. The event, featuring music, food trucks, a free prize drawing, plus special library activities and demos, will take place Friday, October 1st from 4 to 7pm. A special dedication event will be held in the Schumann Family Children’s Library Saturday, October 2nd at 10am. The Schumann Family has supported the Scranton Library for generations. David Schumann will dedicate the Children’s Library and his portraits of his father and grandmother, now hung beside the portrait of his grandfather, painted by Ward Schumann.
- Middletown: Russell Library has had success with their new podcast, Middletown Strong: Looking Up with Russell Library. [middletownstrong.buzzsprout.com.] Each podcast features a community interview, book reviews with “Shelf Life” and library happenings on “Turn that SHHHH... UP!” Their two most popular episodes have been Pride interviews and events as well as an interview with a local medical marijuana facility called, “Higher Health.” Find them on the Russell Library homepage and Apple podcasts.
- Milford: Good news on their ARPA grant: They purchased 2 tablet dispensing stations that hold 3 tablets. This product is no longer being sold, so Envisionware updated to 2 6 tablet dispensing stations at no extra cost. They are in the process of setting them up. They are repurposing their makerspace, The Brain Station, into additional Young Adult space. Child appropriate technology will be relocated to the Children's Department. Adult technology will be available for use on an appointment basis and they are also investigating circulating some items.
- Shelton: They have started to open 2 evenings a week - on Tuesdays at the Plumb Memorial Main Library and on Thursdays at the Huntington Branch until 7:00 pm. Curbside pickup has been reduced from 3 days a week to Saturdays from 10-1. Staff changes include a new LTA at the Branch and several Library Assistants. They are almost complete with the renovation of the 1895 portion of the Plumb Library and will soon begin work on the Main Floor.

- Westbrook: The Library will be celebrating the opening of its new Lew Daniels Technology Center with an open house event Saturday, September 25 from 10-12, including a dedication and recognition of Lew at 11 AM.
- West Haven's Main branch is getting a facelift on the original Carnegie building, which should be done by the end of September. They will also be holding their 2nd annual scarecrow contest. Families can pick up a scarecrow at the library, decorate it, and return it by October 15th. Scarecrows will be displayed on the front lawn and winners will receive a Visa gift card. They also began monthly story times on the green for the month of September.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Marshall