

Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting
January 20, 2022
10:00 am Business Meeting via Zoom
MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** President Colleen Bailie called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

a. December 16th, 2021 meeting minutes: A motion to approve was made by Mary Etter, seconded by Tom Piezzo, and was approved by majority. Motion passed. Abstentions: Lauren, Thompson, Alessandra Petrino, Laura Horn.

3. **Old Business**

a. **President's Report** – I'm very pleased to say that Doug Lord, from CH Booth in Newtown has agreed to step in as VP/Pres Elect for the remaining year. Which is much appreciated.

We still have some openings on the board, particularly for Customer Service and Technology sections so please have people reach out to me if they are interested.

b. **Treasurer's Report** – Kristina did a review of our budget to update the board. Fall programs were overall successful in meeting their commitments for the budget. No current concerns or impacts to the budget due to no Customer Service or CT Information Library Conference this year. Membership numbers continue to be on target based on projections for the year. Kristina shared that the new mileage rate that we will need to use for reimbursement for mileage requests for the conference and any programs through the end of the fiscal year. She will be updating our bank account to remove Travis Feder and add the new Vice President/President Elect, Doug Lord. Budget request forms will be shared with the board at the February meeting. Requested groups start working to plan programs for next year so that they can submit their budget request. Kristina will be meeting with Margaret Khan next week to review treasurer duties and talk about the transition to put her in place at the end of the fiscal year as Kristina moves off the board.

4. **New Business**

Colleen has been getting requests from libraries for CLA to put out a statement on Intellectual Freedom and she will work with Sam Lee. Sam mentioned that it should be relatively easy to draft something quickly because a lot of libraries have been putting them out. She is open to addressing any concerns anyone might have. Mary Etter made a motion for Colleen and Sam to create the statement and then distribute electronically to the board so that they may see it. Erin Dunmeyer seconded. Motion Passed. No abstentions.

Committee/Section/Representatives Reports:

ACLB: Denise Stankovics: Main focus has been developing a direction for ACLB in the "COVID" world. They are still hoping to have typically in-person conference, but they also recognize that virtual works well, too. They are hoping to have quarterly presentations online as they are getting a good response.

ADA: Maria Bernier: ACLPD: ADA had their winter program. They featured speakers from the Library from the Blind and State Education Resource Center who presented their resources. It was very well received. There were 47 registrants. They made \$70 and had some great conversations. Maria has the handouts if anyone is interested.

ACLB:

ALA: Erin Shea: Had Council meeting during mid-winter (Lib Learn X).

Archivist: Gerald Seagrave: No report

Awards: Region Reps: Getting started with Awards for Conference. No report

BCALA: Robert Kinney: Black Caucus participated through Yale at the MLK Peabody Museum, supporting black youth in crisis, with over 100 people. There were 3 panelists and they had a great discussion.

Bibliomation: Carl Demilia: Absent

Career Development: Janet Flewelling and Sunnie Scarpa: Sunnie reminded everyone about the scholarship and internship information that is on the CLA website under the Career Development tab. They are working on getting speakers for their annual leadership institute. Next meeting is the first Monday in February.

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

CLC: Ellen Paul: Busy finishing up their book bid. They received 19 responses from book vendors and publishers and have executed 14 contracts and are in negotiations for the 15th. Familiar publishers/vendors like B&T, along with new such as Brodart, Barnes & Noble, etc. The membership guide for this bid should be going out within the week and you will get information for taking advantage of these discounts. Website also has all the information.

Commission on Ed Tech: Colleen Bailie: No report

CSL: Deborah Schander: Very successful launch of All CT Reads program. Big Kudos to Kym & Ashley on starting this program. Hopes that your libraries will join to promote literacy throughout the state. Historic documents preservation fund will continue to provide funds to towns to preserve their documents. User survey went out and results were looking similar to pre-COVID.

Children's: Cathy Potter & Alex Kraus: No report

College & University: Matthew Sheehan: Looking to conduct outreach between MLS students at Southern and looking to hold roundtable between students & academic librarians to encourage students to join CLA & College & University section.

CLASS: Vacant

Conference 2022: Kari Hamad & Shannon Angelone: Both speakers are solidified, you can see them on website. Confirmation for proposals should be going out via email soon. Descriptions should be up by end of February. COVID protocols will bare minimum require masks. Alessandra mentioned that vendor registration is on the website if you are interested in registering.

CT Center for the Book: Lisa Comstock: Absent

Customer Service: Vacant

Grants/Fundraising: Alessandra Petrino: Finished Boon fundraiser in December. Made almost \$647.00. New fundraiser at Conference, after-hours event, pay to play mobile mini-golf. This would be a good way to check it out for if you are interested in having it in your library. Looking for some other fundraisers between now and Conference, possibly end of year type gala. If anyone has any restaurant connections, let her know.

FOCL: Frank Ridley: Absent

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI): Kym Powe: Had a program for drafting an EDI plan for your library. Over 80 registrants. The slides are available from the workshop. Send Kym an email if you would like them. The next meeting is the first Friday in February at 10 am.

Intellectual Freedom: Sam Lee: Getting ready for Security Mindset workshop next week. Next meeting is Valentine's Day. As always if there are any challenges, Sam and committee are there to support.

LCI: Laura Horn: No report

Legislative: Kate Byroade & Olivia Scully: Had a meeting last week, happy to welcome Ellen Paul to the group. NY State Governor recently vetoed and eBook bill and Maryland bill that went into effect at the beginning of the year has been challenged. Looking forward to seeing what happens with the Governor's budget proposal in terms of the state library budget. Will be activating around that as needed.

LGBTQ+ Section: Mary Richardson: Analyzing the results of their survey and seeing what direction it takes them in.

LION: Joe Farara: Absent

Membership: Trish Tomlinson: Need to clean-up the CLA database as there are many people in the database who haven't interacted with CLA in years, but are still on the database. Trish wanted to start a discussion between the

board on that. Bob will work with Trish on a way to come up with some criteria. Discussion between Kristina, Trish & Bob ensued about criteria and not removing people who have orders, etc.

NELA: Christy Billings: Absent.

PEG: Mary Etter: No report

Publicity & Communications: John Casiello & Lauren Thompson: Worked with Career Development and Legislative recently and there is a lot to do with Conference. Always looking for more members with the work that has to be done. Let John know if you need anything.

Procedures: Lisa Karim: There are a number of procedures that need to be updated or revised. Hoping to outline how to handle when a Vice Chair/President Elect resigns.

Public Library: Jennifer Sullivan: Absent. Passport to Libraries program will be going out end of January. It will take place during April and will mirror the programs of the past. Jen will be coordinating with Dawn on if there is still a need for the donations for refugees.

Reference & Adult Services: Christie Mitchell & Rachel Leff: No report

Resource Sharing Matt Earls: No report

SCSU: Arlene Bielefield: Absent

Technical Services: Steve Bernstein: Absent

Technology: Vacant

Young Adult: Jackie Bush and Stephanie Smith: Absent. Planning a virtual YA gathering next month and emails just recently went out.

Region 1: Karin Thomas: Harwinton recently installed new AV equipment for hybrid programs and got a grant from the Association of Rural and Small Libraries to host a townwide reading event. Goshen are now requiring masks again for all. They are also looking for a new Children's programmer. DM Hunt Library is also now requiring masks for everyone and reinstated curbside. Hotchkiss, Norfolk, and Essex are cosponsoring a program with translator of memoir Copenhagen Trilogy on January 27th via Zoom. Anyone is welcome, but you need to register.

Region 2: Sarah McCusker: Absent

Region 3: Leslie McDonough: Absent

Region 4: Doug Lord: Most libraries in region 4 reported that they are amid budget prep and have reduced their services during this surge, which includes reducing seating capacity.

Region 5: Robbie Marshall: See attached.

Region 6: Vicky Coffin: Absent

5. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn at 10:51 am was made by Kate Byroade and seconded by Doug Lord. Motion approved.

Present: Colleen Bailie, Kate Byroade, Doug Lord, Jerry Seagrave, Deborah Schander, Ellen Paul, Kym Powe, Christie Mitchell, Tom Piezzo, Kristina Edwards, Kari Hamad, Shannon Angelone, Sam Lee, Mary Etter, Alex Klaus, Robbie Marshall, Robert Kinney, Maria Bernier, Sunnie Scarpa, Cathy Potter, Rachel Leff, Karin Thomas, Alessandra Petrino, John Cassiello, Erin Shea, Trish Tomlinson, Laura Horn

Region 5 Report: January 2022

Programs and Announcements:

- **Branford:** Blackstone library instituted a virtual book cart where they list books for sale online. In partnership with the Branford Arts and Cultural Alliance, Blackstone invites artists to [exhibit their work](#) in 2022. The library is especially interested in artists who will combine an exhibit with a demonstration or discussion. Their newest database is the [Passenger and Immigration Lists Index](#). The 2020 digital edition provides access to over 5 million people who immigrated between the late 1500s to mid-1900s.
- **East Haven:** Cindy Gwiazda, Community Services Librarian, held a successful special event on January 6 in conjunction with Adult Learning Center of the East Haven Schools and with funding from a CT Humanities Grant. The event was Three Kings Day at the Library! An award-winning group Surcari, originally from Chile, Venezuela, and Puerto Rico, performed related songs. It was an in-person family program that drew in the Hispanic community. A front-page photo and article appeared in the East Haven Courier.
- **Derby:** The Library is accepting submissions for its Annual \$500 Scholarship through April 1st for Derby high school seniors. The Board will choose the winner based on essays explaining the role of libraries in the applicants' lives. The winner's name will be added to the Scholarship Plaque in the Young Adult Department.
- **East Haddam:** Rathbun Library has a yoga center in their Children's Dept. with a display that encourages kid-friendly poses.
- **East Hampton** is holding a Nintendo Switch Game Tournament for grades 6-12 on Saturday January 22.
- **Hamden:** is creating a large community puzzle. The Children's Desk has blank puzzle pieces to decorate in a way that represents the patron's individuality. Pieces must be returned by February 14th.
- **Middletown:** Russell Library received 2 grants for their Job and Career Program. The first is from the Liberty Bank Foundation for \$5,520 and the second is a federal grant, the Community Development Block Grant for \$10,000! These funds will be used to help people find work through resume reviews, LinkedIn reviews, practice interviews, and targeted workshops. Funds will also assist in paying for databases like Job Now, Universal Class and Reference Solutions. Their Job and Career Group meets weekly at 10AM and they'll be holding monthly evening workshops on Tuesday at 6PM, both via WebEx.
- **Milford** just started a subscription to the video streaming service Kanopy. So far, so good. They are hoping that the amount spent on the service will provide adequate content for users. They also switched their museum pass reservations service from Library Insight to Tixkeeper. The transition was a bit of an adjustment for staff doing the set-up. **They are curious about what service other Library Insight users moved to.** After many months of up/down staffing, they are now at a full staffing level. Fingers crossed it lasts!

- **North Haven:** is very excited to announce they are hiring their first Teen Librarian; a full-time Librarian I position. The ideal candidate should be tech--savvy, innovative, enthusiastic, possess a passion for working with teens (13-17), and committed to serving and engaging with this population in a friendly, courteous, and professional manner. This brand-new position is responsible for developing and conducting all programming for teens, collection development, and creating a safe and welcoming space.
- **Wallingford:** IRS-certified volunteer Income Tax assistance will be available on Saturdays by appointment for households with income of \$58,000 or less.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Marshall