

CLA Executive Board Meeting
Feb. 5, 2015
Middletown Library Service Center

1. Dawn La Valle called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Board Introductions
3. Minutes from the February 4th meeting were accepted with changes.
4. No quorum so no votes on anything
5. Old business:
 - a. President's Report – Dawn La Valle -- Reminded libraries about the Access to Justice legal information training for librarians and interested patrons
 - b. Treasurer's report -- Nicole Greco -- What we expected
6. New Business:

Advocacy Program Proposal -- Carl Antonucci presented the proposal and why we need it. (Contract emailed to board.) The \$12,000 fee would be split among several groups:

 - Friends of Connecticut Libraries --\$1,500
 - Connecticut Library Consortium -- \$2,500
 - ACLB -- have not decided on amount yet
 - CLA -- probably not more than \$5,000
 - DLD/CSL – up to \$5,000 depending on CLA's contribution. Discussion that someone who is not a volunteer needs to spend the time to put together all the information, put it in one place and train library staff, board members and friends groups. Libby Post was chosen because of her past experience in this type of work. She was a political strategist and worked with New London with an ALA grant so she already knows state politics. another proposal came from a Chicago group. This is a specialized niche in advocacy that many companies don't have. Post will present at the CLA conference and do 1-on-1 consulting there. CLA has enough money to cover the cost. A vote on whether to hire Post will be taken by email soon.
7. Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Reports
 - a. ACLPD --
 - i. public library task force moving along
 - b. ALA -- Car Antonucci --
 - i. Attended Chicago conference. Some of high points were talks on advocacy, a revised accreditation process and criticism on attacks on freedom of expression
 - c. Awards -- Christy Billings --
 - i. Reminder to nominate your people for awards. Nominations due at end of February.
 - d. Career Development --
 - i. Dawn LaValle reported that Michael Spellmon has resigned as section head due to press of work. A replacement is needed.

- e. CLC -- Jennifer Keohane --
 - i. Take Your Child to the Library Day is Feb. 7 and 85% of public libraries have signed up saying they plan to participate. Last year it was 45%.
 - ii. Planning a Partnership Expo March 11 where libraries can partner with statewide nonprofits
- f. Conference 2015 -- Julie Styles
 - i. Registration is open and we'll begin marketing the conference soon. It is open to members of library groups from other states at a CLA rate.
- g. Editorial -- Jennifer Datum
 - i. Newsletter will be out mid-February. Please send a photo from your Take Your Child to the Library Day. Also, send note of anyone who has or is retiring.
- h. NELA -- Beth Crowley
 - i. The 5-day leadership training is Aug. 3-7 but the deadline to apply is March 20.
 - i. Region 2 -- Marjorie Ruschau

Avon – hosting Downton Abbey fashion show with the collections manager from the historic textile and costume collection at U of RI, Feb. 7 , 2 p.m.

-- i-Pads now available at library for use by all ages

-- Free comic convention April 18, 11-4

-- Four-part series on Shakespeare starting March 28 with talks by experts, Also films in April and May

Berlin Peck – stayed open 3 nights till 10 p.m. only for local high school students to give them a quiet place to study for midterms

-- getting LED lighting in parking lot this spring

Burlington -- chef creating an ice carving outside library for Take Your Child to the Library Day

Prosser, Bloomfield – hosting the first African American to climb the highest mountains on 7 continents, Rohan Freeman, who runs an engineering company in Hartford, Feb. 24, 6:20 p.m.

Canton – holding early childhood resources community fair for Take Your Child to the Library Day

Enfield – scavenger hunt for Take Your Child to the Library Day

Barney, Farmington -- last Thursday of every month having crafts for adults. 1:15 p.m.

Hartford – civil rights leader Dr. Bernard Lafayette Jr., who worked with Martin Luther King on the Selma march, will speak tonight at 5:30

-- Will host a 5-part workshop where people can turn old books into sculptures

New Britain – will host a talk by a dog listener March 4, 6:30 p.m.

Lucy Robbins Welles, Newington – town council toured the library and while agreed more space is needed, they questioned whether town would support expansion at same time trying to renovate town hall

Plainville – hosting 4 workshops for aspiring writers, February-May

Cora J. Belden, Rocky Hill – former children's librarian, now adult lib. Carol Fisher retiring

Simsbury – hosted acupuncture talk (demo?)

Southington -- Chris Bohjalian is the Southington Reads author. reading *The Sandcastle Girls* and are celebrating the cultural heritage of Armenia to commemorate

the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. At the Aqua Turf on Wednesday, March 25 at 7 p.m. Must register.

--State workers will help people with information on signing up for SNAP (food stamps), Feb. 25, 10 a.m.-noon

-- Recruiting patrons to be on Read posters

Kent Memorial, Suffield – Held an all-ages spelling bee in January, getting 11 people including 6 adults. Youngest was a 3rd grader

-- Girl Scout troop offering free cookies and cocoa during Take Your Child to the Library Day

West Hartford -- Awarded \$25,000 grant from the National Institute for Museum and Library Services for a teen program on immigration

– hosting author Amy Bloom and radio host Faith Middleton for National Library Week, April 15, 7 p.m.

-- campaigning to get patrons to vote for them in the Hartford magazine poll as the best library. They've been named that the past 2 years

Wethersfield – hosting a Zumba program for kids for Take Your Child to the Library Day

-- hosting a stress reliever program for teens, Feb. 19, 3:30

Windsor -- holding monthly drawings for both teens and adults to give away ARC

Windsor Locks – holding winter adult reading contest

j. Region 5 -- Christy Billings

From Elspeth Lydon, Director **Plumb Memorial Library**

Marissa Ciullo was hired as the Branch Library Children's Librarian Jan. 2015. She came to Huntington from the Oxford Library as their Children's Librarian. Marissa replaces Marcia Austin who is now the Director of the Huntington Branch Library in Shelton, CT. She had been the Branch Children's Librarian for over 10 years.

From Lew DanielsLibrary Director**Westbrook Public Library**

Westbrook Public Library does have some news we'd like to share. Brittany Mullen joined the library staff as an assistant librarian this January. She is responsible for the young adult collection and services, library social media and web site, and helps in general library operations. A graduate of SCSU, Brittany received her MLS from the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to joining the Westbrook Public Library staff, she was working at Hartford Public Library and had worked at Booth & Dimock Memorial Library in Coventry.

Russell LibraryOvercoming the Odds: Anna Louise James and Ann Petry Gamble and Win Tuesday February 24, 2015

6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Hubbard Room

Middlesex County Historical Society to host author Elisabeth Petry - who will speak on the topic, "Overcoming the Odds: Anna Louise James and Ann Petry Gamble and Win." The illustrated talk will expand on essays included in the recently published, African American Connecticut Explored (Wesleyan University Press, 2014), and will illuminate the lives and work of two remarkable women: Anna Louise James, who became the first African American woman to obtain a pharmacy license and operate a pharmacy for more than forty years in Old Saybrook; and Ann Petry, a best selling novelist. Changing Image of African Americans in Comic Books

Thursday February 26, 2015 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Hubbard Room
Comic book historian, Bill Foster returns to Russell with a an exciting new presentation on the changing image of African Americans in comic books. He will present a historical overview, with a specific focus on comics book from the 1950's and 1960's.

Adjournment -- Dawn La Valle adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Attendance: Marge Ruschau, Gerald Seagrave, Martha Kruey, Carl Antonucci, Nicole Creco, Tom Piezzo, Beth Crowley, Richard Conroy, Dawn LaValle, Julie Styles, Kymberlee Powe, Bernadette Niedermeier, Karen Jensen, Jennifer Datum, Jennifer Keohane, Allison Wilkos, Lorna Rhyins, Cathleen Cole, Karen Carey, Christy Billings.

Minutes submitted by Marge Ruschau/Michele Martin