

Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting

Thursday, February 4th, 2016

Middletown Library Service Center

1. Beth Crowley called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.
2. Board Introductions.
3. The minutes from the January 7th meeting were approved, with changes.
 - a. A motion to accept was made by Peter Ciparelli and seconded by Richard Conroy. Gerald Seagrave and Beth Crowley abstained, as they were absent from the last meeting. The motion was passed.
4. Old Business
 - a. President's Report – Beth Crowley
 - i. Beth met with Representative Miner in Hartford last week. This may be a tough budget year for libraries. There will be an opportunity to testify on Tuesday. Stories from individual libraries can be used for ongoing library advocacy. Anything that relates to education, new citizens, technology and job finding are especially important. Please send in stories to Beth.
 - ii. Tom Newman created a Dropbox full of factsheets for every town in CT this past week, which the lobbyists will use in their advocacy efforts. Data from special and academic libraries is also needed. The legislative committee will contact Librarians in key towns.
 - iii. The CT State Library prepared documents showing the cost of using the USPS for DeliverIT services, if it were to be cut. Thank you to everyone involved in Libby Post's advocacy workshops. They were well attended and very effective.
 - b. Treasurer's Report - Nicole Greco
 - i. Beth let us know that Diane Deedy will be stepping up early, as Nicole needs to leave her role as Treasurer.
 - ii. The December report includes income from several sources. The deposit for the annual conference at the Hartford convention center was paid in December.
 1. A motion to accept the report was made by Carl Antonucci and seconded by Karen Jensen. The motion was passed.
5. New Business
 - a. Dawn LaValle introduced Doug Casey, the new Executive Director of CT's Commission on Educational Technology. Doug gave everyone a background of CET's history as well as an overview of their mission. Doug would love to have more proposals from library staff for the CEN Conference. Proposals are due tomorrow, but an extension is possible.

6. Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Reports

- a. ACLB: Betsy McIlvaine has resigned this post. Dawn is currently the liaison, they will be discussing replacements next Thursday. Please recommend strong Board of Trustee members or ex-library Directors who would be willing to serve.
- b. ADA: Maria Bernier is working on creating a panel of library patrons for their conference workshop. If you know someone who would be willing to serve, please contact maria.bernier@ct.gov. Transportation will be provided.
- c. Advisory Council for Library Planning & Development: Elizabeth Reiter. A meeting will be held next week. Dawn sent out info about focus groups, the first group was held in Darien this past Monday. Seven more are planned, please recommend them to library staff and board members. Three pilot sessions for library best practices are planned at libraries across the state.
- d. ALA: Carl Antonucci attended the ALA midwinter meeting in Boston. The ALA Council discussed the new initiative "libraries transformed," which aims to shift the discussion from what libraries "have" for patrons to what they "do" for patrons. It's important for us to have the ability to speak with one voice, one message. Check out librariestransformed.org. Many resources on this site may be useful to CLA. Carl also read a list of resolutions that passed through the Council.
- e. Awards: Kate let us know the committee has communicated and they are making plans for the future.
- f. Career Development: Richard Conroy. A meeting was held last week. If you or a staff member are interested in career development, please contact Richard about joining the committee. They are working on the mentorship/internship project. Programs will be presented at the conference. They are recruiting for volunteers to review resumes. Scholarship information is on the CLA webpage, deadline is March 18th. Please promote these opportunities to current MLS or LTA students who are CLA members. Their next meeting is on February 29th.
- g. CLC: Jennifer Keohane Two major events this week - 70 academic librarians are convening for book vendor day tomorrow and Saturday is TYCLD, which continues to grow each year. Rachel Gaither has joined the CLC team as their new discount manager. Call before you buy anything, as there are many new discount opportunities. Please go on Facebook and "like" the TYCLD page!
- h. Commission on Educational Technology: Colleen Baile. The next meeting is March 7th.
- i. CSL: Ken Wiggin. Good news, the CT State Historical Records Advisory Board and Coservation ConneCTion have received a grant from the National Historic Publications & Records Commission to provide training opportunities and site visits for Local Archive Collections. The State Bond Commission approved \$272,398 for two public library projects that were recommended by the State Library Board, the Ora Mason Branch Library in West Haven and the Beardsley & Memorial Library in Winchester are the recipients. The Office of Personnel Management has been informed of the value of

DeliverIt CT, thanks to the recent issues with that service. Dawn is partnering with Innovation Builders to create a leadership training bootcamp for Library Directors on March 22nd. A second session will be planned to meet demand. A panel of libraries participating in the Aspen Institute is being planned for the CLA conference. A plan for using the action guide for strategic planning will be rolled out at this session.

- j. Children's: Kymberlee Powe & Sunnie Scarpa. The Faith Hektoen award deadline is February 26th, 2016.
- k. College & University: Kristina Edwards. Program planning for CLA conference and the CT InfoLit conference on June 17th at University of Hartford. Sent out a call for proposals this past week, keynote speaker identified.
- l. CLASS: Lorrie Goings & Alberto Cifuentes. Jr. Two sessions are planned for the CLA conference. Poster planned for increasing general and especially support staff membership in CLA.
- m. Conference 2016: Katy Dillman & Thomas Piezzo. Registration will open in a week or two. Katy has created the program for this year, which will be available online when registration opens. Conference "shadows" have been chosen, who will be conference chairs next year. They recently met to discuss a conference app that will be available for download on smartphones. Murder mystery will take place during the Thursday happy hour. Talk to Tom or Katy if you're interested in volunteering to help out or play a part. Pints and Pages will also take place after happy hour.
- n. Customer Service: Ellen Cartledge & Lisa Karim announced that several programs were accepted for the annual conference.
- o. Editorial: Marjorie Ruschau/Jenn Datum. Powerpoint and The ROI calculator used in Libby Post's sessions is now available on the CLA website. The February newsletter is coming out soon. A TYCLD roundup with photos is planned, please send info.
- p. FOCL: Frank Ridley recently sent out a letter regarding annual awards. Library directors, please nominate outstanding Friends groups. Info is on the website.
- q. Intellectual Freedom: Kara Gilbert. ALA recently named Jaimie LaRue the new Director for the Office of Intellectual Freedom. Kara is working on new ideas and reviewing the CT state handbook.
- r. Legislative: Carl Antonucci & Mary Etter. Working with new lobbyists, finding ways to use the wealth of information from them.
- s. Membership: Cindy Schofield. Beth - Please promote membership to anyone you know working with libraries.
- t. NELA: Gail Hurley. NELA conference in October 16-18 in Danvers, MA. They will be accepting program proposals on a staggered timeline, to allow for hot topics. New this year is an ambassador program for people who want to volunteer for the conference, without being on the conference committee. NERTCL is having a one day conference in Haverhill, MA on Readers Advisory. Info Tech will be having one day programs in the

spring. New initiatives - NELLs 2 pilot program was just approved for members with 15 years + experience. Mary Etter can answer questions. The NELA President is considering an advocacy day program for New England libraries to work together. Gail also shared news from the other New England states.

- u. PEG: Peter Ciparelli. There is money available for NELLs 2, along with other opportunities.
- v. Publicity: Kirk Morrison & Julie Ann Menders. The deadline for publicity awards was last month and 40 applications were received. March 11th is Media Matters 3, to be held at the Wallingford Public Library. Information to follow. April 1-15th will be a display at the state capitol on the value of libraries.
- w. Procedures: Christine Angeli. The wording may need to be changed for positions opening for next year. Chris will work with Dawn and CLC to update that wording.
- x. Public Library: Sally Tornow. Templates being sent out next week for the Passport program.
- y. Young Adult: Bernadette Niedermeier & Lorna Rhyins. Eight programs were accepted for the annual conference.
- z. Beth – Arlene Bielefield from SCSU has reached out regarding pre-candidacy for accreditation. She will present during the conference and is interested in attending board meetings as well.
- aa. Region 1: Sue Dowdell. Very good news from the Harwinton Public Library's director, Alice Freiler. "On Tuesday, January 26th at our Town Meeting, Harwinton residents approved spending \$190,000 from the town's surplus fund to pay for the design and construction documents for our proposed library renovation and expansion! This is a great step forward for us and the first time we've really been able to put our plans before the whole town and gauge support. We are very encouraged and looking forward to refining our design and stepping up our fundraising efforts before taking our proposal to a referendum." **Kent Memorial Library** in Kent is going to be advertising for a new Book Sale Manager. The job description and ad will be posted on CONNTECH, but they aren't necessarily looking for a librarian. It will be for our summer-long book sale, which runs every weekend, Fri.-Sun., including Mon. on holiday weekends from Memorial Day weekend through the third weekend in October. Pay will be \$18/hr., 20 hrs./wk. seasonal employee, no benefits. **Oliver Wolcott Library in Litchfield** held a Frozen Celebration for preschoolers in January. Elsa was in attendance. On Wednesday, February 17th, they are joining forces with the Litchfield Historical Society to present a live theater performance of "Of Mum Bett" with Tammy Denease. **New Milford Library** is having ice cream for breakfast on Saturday, February 6th for Take Your Child to the library day. Jim Nelson and his popular Norfolk Festival Listening Club return to **Norfolk Library** on Saturday, February 20th with a program featuring the Argus Quartet, which holds the Quartet in Residence Fellowship at the Yale School of Music. On Friday, March 3rd, Norfolk Library will host a St. Patrick's Day concert of traditional Irish music. **Prospect Library** is celebrating 130 years with the last 25 in its current location. They have multiple events

on tap this year. The first was held on January 30th when they created a time capsule. **Torrington Library Association** continues programming in other spaces while its building project continues. Barbara Dwyer will teach you how to Speak Canine on Thursday, February 11th at 6:30 at Coe Park Civic Center. **Gunn Memorial Library** in Washington is holding a Star Wars Jedi Academy on Saturday, February 20th. Kids may come dressed as their favorite Star Wars character and get into the spirit with our fun physical challenges. Test Jedi powers with our sensory quiz. Act out a favorite scene from any of the movies in front of our video camera. Make a space ship like the Millenium Falcon. Costumes are optional. **Silas Bronson Library in Waterbury** is hosting Community Scrabble Games on Saturdays at 1PM. There will be a Culinary Art Demonstration on Saturday, February 20th at 2PM. Participants will learn how to make artistic food displays with award-winning culinary artist Enrique Ortiz, whose sculptures are on view in the Library's art gallery and display cases during the month of February. The library will have a Birds of Prey children's program on Friday, February 26th at 6:30. **Wolcott Public Library** will be holding a Family Game Day as part of Take Your Child to the Library Day on Saturday. They began doing Pajama Story times in January. Pictures on Facebook show a good turnout. **Woodbury Public Library** will host author Emery Roth II on Tuesday, February 16th. Roth will share photos from his book *Brass Valley: Made in America* and offer book-signings.

- bb. Region 2: Marjorie Ruschau Several libraries participating in Take Your Child to the Library Day. Avon -- hiring a consultant to recommend how to store historical documents. **Bloomfield** -- started a building fund with a \$15,000 in its first donations. **Burlington** -- has a book club for children being homeschooled. Canton -- hosting a memoir-writing workshop, Feb. 6, 1 p.m. **East Granby** -- NPR will be at the library recording people's stories of everyday generosity, March 1 and 12. Also at **Hartford Library** March 7 and 21. **Farmington** -- talk on Theodate Pope Riddle's Last Will and Testament, which established Hill-Stead as a museum, Feb. 10, 7 p.m. -- Construction underway for its new makerspace, with a Maker Fair planned for YAs, March 20, 1-4 p.m. **Welles-Turner, Glastonbury** -- have 2 possible architectural designs for library changes, posted online and in the library -- Hosting a 3-part job hunting workshop, Feb. 1, Feb. 8, Feb. 9 at 6:30 p.m. -- Have added a database for students preparing to take the SAT, ePrep for Libraries. **Cora J. Belden, Rocky Hill** -- All their intro to Windows 10 classes have filled so they're adding more in March. Also are greatly expanding their computer classes with Excel, computer safety and assembling circuits with Arduino microcontrollers. -- celebrating Hawaii with a hula demonstration, Tuesday, Feb. 9, 6:30 p.m. -- running a series on genealogy, Wednesday in February, 2 p.m. **Southington** -- starting a books and bagels at the library book discussion, Feb. 11, 10 a.m. -- creating a suggestion wall for February, where patrons can use post-its to comment on life in Southington. **Simsbury** -- new children's librarian, Margaret Macri, who came from Bristol Public Library. **Kent Memorial, Suffield** -- getting into salsa dance, offering free lessons, Feb. 20, March 12, 1 p.m. **West Hartford** -- chosen Into the Beautiful North by Luis Albert Urrea as book of the year, with the author set to appear April 14, 7:30 p.m. **Wethersfield** -- hosted standing-room-only talk this week on weight loss. **Windsor** -- celebrating Chinese New Year with crafts and food for kids and teens, Feb. 8, 7 p.m.

cc. Region 5: Christy Billings **Levi Coe** in Middlefield joined the LION consortium in January. The **Clark Memorial Library** in Bethany has just approved creating two teen seats for their Library Board. Teen members will have full voting rights and are expected to fulfill the same responsibilities as our adult members. Teen members will serve for one year terms, renewable one time. We are hopeful that this increases our "teen worthiness" while also teaching interested teens about the world of nonprofit governance. **West Haven:** Jackie Bush started in January as Technical Services Librarian. WH has also received a \$75,000 grant from the New Alliance Foundation to be used over the next three years for showcasing the importance of reading for children during the summer. The programs will be catered to parents and kids in grades k-3. West Haven started offering Hoopla to all of our residents in November and the popularity has been great! All branches of WH library will be offering a blind date with a book in February. All books will be wrapped offering small clues as to what's under the covers. Our new adult coloring club meets the first Thursday of every month at 2p @ the Main Library! For Take your child to the Library day, the main branch will have Al DeCant, the singing principal! Program runs from 11a-2p. **Plumb Library** recently hired two new full time library assistants: one in-house part timer, Debora Semonich-Bacon and one former part time employee at Southbury, Joe Cappella. In addition Scott Brill, formerly a library assistant at Milford Library, returned to Shelton to work as full time library assistant at the Huntington Branch Library. And another of Plumb's part time people was hired to work full time at Milford Library. Take Your Child to the Library Day will be celebrated largely in Shelton. Plumb Library will host Critter Caravan in the morning then show Transylvania 2 with free popcorn at noon and close the day with Ryan SanAngelo of Spaghetti Eddie fame. The Huntington Branch will start the festivities the day before with a special story time on Friday. We just need to keep our fingers crossed for the weather, although we have scheduled a snow date for all the activities. Plumb recently hosted Sal Coppolla for a discussion of his book Palace of Sweets. He uses a real ice cream shop to tie together the varied threads of his story which takes place in the sixties and seventies. Coppolla wove together the tragic Sponge Rubber arson in Shelton with the Vietnam War, a failed local bank takeover and a restaurant fire, as well as two visits to the Lower Naugatuck valley by JFK. His tale obviously hit a nerve as nearly 40 people were ready to talk about their shared past and reminisce about their youth. Coppolla will return in April, at the request of the audience, to discuss his novel with them, after many of them have had a chance to read the book. On Dec. 13, 2015 a reception was held to mark the 120th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Plumb Memorial Library. Local politicians and dignitaries attended although not the governor as at the first event in 1895. Local businesses with a role in the restoration of two original leaded glass panels were acknowledged: Michael Skrtic of the Glass Source did the glass work on the three foot by five foot cathedral glass panels representing Art and Literature and the new mounting frames (light boxes) were custom designed, constructed and installed by Murzyn Workshop. The glass panels acted as a wind break at the entry and were dismantled and removed soon after the library began to show signs of overcrowding. They were stacked in the tower of the original library and we have not found anyone who recalls seeing them in place. The newly restored panels appear to have been made for the spaces they now occupy, a fitting start for the library's second century. **Milford Public Library:** After many months, we are back to full staff with the hire of three full time library assistants. Staff had really stepped up covering shifts and duties while we were short staffed and I look forward to being able to move forward on some new

projects. In partnership with the Milford Arts Council and the City of Milford, the Library has initiated a Poet Laureate Program for the City of Milford. Information and application deadlines are listed on the library website, milfordlibrary.org.

The Library, along with the rest of the City, is moving to a new VOIP phone system. Library Assistant, Danielle Valenzano submitted and was awarded a CT Humanities Quick Grant to help support our One City One Story programming. This year's adult title is Boys in the Boat. **Russell Library:** The new director, Matt Poland is starting the Feb 22nd Director Art Meyers is leaving Feb 19th and Asst. Director Pat Tully is leaving Feb 26th. Jason Neely, previous head of Reference has taken a job as the Director at the Enfield Library. Pianist and Composer Michael Brown will be in the Hubbard Room for a concert on Thursday February 4th from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Works by Faure, Mendelssohn, Brown, and Bernstein will be featured in this performance. T'ai Chi classes start on February 6: 10:30-11:30 in the Hubbard Room, and will run for four Saturday mornings throughout February. The class will be led by Certified Instructor Tom Cushing. Tom offers a fun and relaxed approach to T'ai Chi and easy access to the health benefits of Hun Yuan Taiji through 60 minute T'ai Chi classes Open to all ages, drop in, no sign-ups necessary. West African Dance: A Workshop with Abdou Sarr: Sunday, Feb 21st from 2:30PM-3:30PM. Abdou Sarr is a master teacher of the sabaar and djembe dances from Senegal, West Africa. Abdou is extraordinary, dynamic, and very engaging. All ages and abilities are welcomed.

- dd. Peter Ciparelli has a new Assistant Director, starting soon. Magician coming for TYCLD.
 - ee. Jennifer Keohand, had an opportunity to work with the NE League for the advancement of storytelling April 1-3 conference at Umass Amherst. More info going out today.
 - ff. Betty Anne Reiter is now serving as a grant reader for CT Humanities. They approached her after they noticed more applications from libraries. Quick grants now available for up to \$5,000.
7. Beth Crowley adjourned the meeting at 11:30.
- a. Motion was made by Carol Antonucci, seconded by Kym Powe and passed unanimously.

Attendance: Kymberlee Powe, Sara Martone, Doug Casey, Brandie Doyle, Steve Cauffman, Maria Bernier, Mary Etter, Katy Dillman, Allison Wilkos, Kate Byroade, Laurie Hagan, Kristina Edwards, Frank W. Ridley, Kara Gilbert, Ken Wiggin, Lorna Rhyins, Jennifer Datum, Christy Billings, Gail Hurley, Jennifer Keohane, Gerald Seagrave, Peter Ciparelli, Bernadette Niedermeier, Alberto Cifuentes, Jr., Lorrie Goings, Colleen Bailie, Tom Piezzo, Richard Conroy, Beth Crowley, Karen Jensen, Christine Angeli, Danielle Valenzano, Carl Antonucci, Ellen G. Cartledge, Betty Anne Reiter, Kirk Morrison, Sally Tornow, Sue Dowdell.

The next regular meeting of the CLA Board will on March 3rd at the Middletown Library Service Center.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sunnie Scarpa, Recording Secretary.