

Connecticut Library Association Executive Board Meeting
November 7, 2013
Middletown Library Service Center

- I. Richard Conroy called the meeting to order at 10:00 am**
- II. Board Introductions**
- III. Minutes from the October 3rd meeting were accepted as revised**
- IV. Old Business**
 - a. President's Report
 - i. Richard Conroy attended the NELA conference three weeks ago. His opinion is that the CLA conference is better compared with other state library conferences. It offers more program options. However, it shares the same challenges.
 - ii. Richard Conroy congratulated Cathleen Cataldi on the CLASS conference.
 - iii. Betty Anne Reiter will be the CLA representative to ACLPD (Advisory Council for Library Planning and Development) which is operated through the State Library. Her term will run from 10/1/13 through 9/30/15.
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Christina Baum reported that the budget is in good standing. They have received \$3,450 from Exhibitors for the 2014 Conference already.
- V. New Business**
 - a. Mary Etter, NELLs Co-chair, reported that the New England Library Leadership Symposium was an intense week with facilitator Maureen Sullivan. There were 28 slots, with each state contributing 5 representatives from the 6 states. Robin Crowley added that this 5-day immersive retreat was attended by Chris Angeli, Brandie Doyle, Karen Jensen, and Sarah McCusker who were selected from an excellent pool of 6 candidates. Caitlin Augusta attended as a mentor. Brandie Doyle thanked CLA for supporting NELLs and looks forward to applying what she has learned. It's working because attendees have moved up into leadership roles.
 - b. CarlDeMelia reported that nominations for section chairs who are on committees will begin December for full slate in Mid-February. Richard Conroy encouraged interested people to put your name up for nominations, particularly Academic and Special Libraries. He would like them to become more involved with leadership.
 - c. Peter Chase made a motion to approve a "Letter to U.S. Representatives and Senators in Connecticut" that he co wrote with the NELA Intellectual freedom chair. The letter will be signed by Peter Chase and Richard Conroy and sent to Congress and State Representatives. Peter distributed drafts of the letter and urged each of us to reaffirm CLA's commitment to privacy and its opposition to the Patriot Act, especially in light of recent events involving the NSA (National Security Agency). Ken Wiggin made some edit suggestions. Richard Conroy opened a debate and wants total support. All other NELA states have signed the letter. David Boudinot recommended that the letter be posted on the CLA website. Marjorie Ruschau recommended a press release. The motion was approved.
 - d. Peter Chase wanted to clarify who has the right to censor library books. The Governing Board often sets the policy that is carried about by Library Director. The Governing

Board can overrule the Library Director, as happened in Enfield by the Town Council. He recommended that we let our Governing Boards know how we feel about intellectual freedom. Betsy McIlvaine said it's the role of the Library Board to back up the Director and staff. She recommends reviewing the policy every year.

VI. Reports

- a. ACLB – Betsy McIlvaine
 - i. The Annual Fall Leadership Conference in October was attended by 140 people. Renee Hobbs, former head of University of Rhode Island Library School was the keynote speaker. Presentations included the Role of the Digital Library in the Future, Library Board Basics, Security in Libraries, and Makerspaces with Bill Derry from Westport Library. Betsy received great feedback. Richard Conroy attended and said not to get rid of Board Basics. They did a good job.
- b. ADA – Ed Morrissey
 - i. The committee met November 5th to discuss potential speakers for the CLA 2014 conference.
- c. ALA – Carl Antonucci
 - i. The legislative committee is a good committee with Vivian Bordeaux, Jennifer Keohane, Richard Conroy and Ken Wiggin. There will be a Signing Ceremony for the *Declaration for the Right to Libraries*, and ALA sponsored initiative, at the Hartford Public Library on November 15th at 10 am.
- d. BCALA – Vivian Bordeaux
 - i. The committee meets November to discuss topics for the 2014 CLA conference.
- e. Career Development – Michael Spellmon
 - i. The committee is preparing a survey that will be sent to CLA members about guidelines for minimum salaries. Please email him for conference suggestions. The committee meets next at CCSU on December 4th at 10 am.
- f. CLC – Jennifer Keohane
 - i. Three more Affordable Care Act Librarian training workshops have been added for November and December. The Universal Health Care Fund has speaker contacts for ACA.
 - ii. Jennifer attended the ALA/Harwood Institute for Public Innovation in D.C.
 - iii. The adult programming showcase is Nov 14 at the Middletown Library Service Center
 - iv. Two follow-up Makerspaces workshops are scheduled for early December: How to Lab and Tech and Tools
- g. CSL – Ken Wiggin
 - i. Nineteen libraries participated in a soft launch of The Digital Edge survey which rolls out in January. It is a good tool for libraries to assess their technology needs. Ken asked that everyone participate.
 - ii. Ken sent a letter to FCC endorsing ALA eRate changes.
- h. Children's – Bernadette Niedermeier
 - i. Working on programs for 2014 CLA conference. They have three possibilities.
- i. College & University – Dan Lewis
 - i. Met with the CT Information literacy group on the possibility of a merger.

- j. Conference 2014 – Jason Neely
 - i. Deadline for program submissions is next week.
- k. Customer Service – Brandie Doyle
 - i. Presented a program at CLASS conference *Knock Their Socks Off: Easy ways to deliver exceptional customer service*. 60 people attended. The program was very successful and she was happy to collaborate.
 - ii. Planning program proposals for CLA 2014.
- l. Editorial – Jenn Datum
 - i. Dec 15th is deadline for Tiny Book Review for 2013. Entries should be 50 words or less.
 - ii. Please submit summaries from conferences attended to be included in CLA Today.
 - iii. Please send information for the CLA website.
 - iv. Star Chapter is under review for irregularities and is working with CLC.
- m. Friends – Betsy McIlvaine, on behalf of Paul McIlvaine
 - i. Annual Fall Conference will be Nov 9th.
 - ii. Conflicts between Friends and Boards, usually about money, is an issue they are working on.
- n. Legislative – Carl Antonucci
 - i. The committee will meet to talk about the ALA initiative, *Declaration for the Right to Libraries*.
- o. Membership – Cindy Schofield
 - i. Ballot is out, please vote
 - ii. Library meetup November 17 with Druscilla Carter after Fiddler on the Roof at the Manchester. Information about these events can be found on the CLA facebook page
- p. NELA – Beth Crowley
 - i. Snail is with New Hampshire. See the games at New Britain.
 - ii. CT participation in NELA is low. NELA is held in other states and does not come to CT because it has its own conference. Beth proposes that on alternate years, NELA can be held in Northern CT. Please think about this for discussion at the next executive board meeting.
 - iii. NELA is sponsoring a Fundraising Seminar with Kim Klein Nov. 15, 2013.
- q. PEG –Peter Ciparelli
 - i. Happy PEG was able to send people to the NELLS conference.
- r. Publicity – Tara Borden
 - i. Awards will be the same as last year. Entry deadline is Jan 31st.
- s. Public Libraries – Sally Tornow
 - i. There will be a meeting on November 20th to talk more about how to implement the *Passport Program*.
- t. Reference and Adult Services – Paula Cook
 - i. 45 attended the fall conference. They have a speaker for the CLA 2014.
- u. Resource Sharing – Sarah Marek

- i. Participated in the CLASS conference with the program *Work Smarter Be Happy: Streamline your ILL Operations*.
- ii. Two program submissions for CLA 2014.
- v. Technical Services – Steve Bernstein
 - i. They have received a good response for the Dec 5th conference and have a program submission for CLA 2014.
- w. Technology – Arianna Schlegel
 - i. Fall conference is Web Redesign Inspiration on November 15. They have a conference submission for CLA 2014.

VII. Region Reports

- a. Region 1 – Patricia Lunn

- b. Region 2 – Marjorie Ruschau
 - i. The Library Connection consortium will be switching over to iii's Sierra in the spring.
 - ii. Avon --Patricia Valsecchi started in September as circulation & outreach services manager. Jessica Palmer is starting as technology & technical services manager. Will be kicking off its one book event, Avon Reads: The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks this winter. Sponsored a program on rare books, asking patrons to bring in books to discuss their value.
 - iii. Prosser Library, Bloomfield -- hosted Francisco X. Stork, author of *Marcelo in the Real World*, for its one book event.
 - iv. Burlington -- sponsoring an acupuncture for babies program
 - v. Canton -- Offers free coffee and baked goodies on the first Monday of each month. The Friends reinstated this service to add to the welcoming, friendly tone, and to encourage members of the community to explore the library beyond the quick pick-up and drop-off of books and DVDs.
 - vi. East Hartford -- Had the governor and other dignitaries at a groundbreaking for an \$8 million renovation and expansion. The project will transform the current 48,000 square feet of space by adding 14,000 more square feet with new meeting and computer rooms, a teen section, and museum artifacts from the town's aerospace and tobacco farming history
 - vii. Enfield -- held a fire truck day, with each of the 5 fire district showing off their trucks. With a canned good donation, people could take a ride in the bucket of a ladder truck.
 - viii. Farmington -- sponsoring a claymation film-making series for kids using iPads.
 - ix. Welles Turner, Glastonbury -- Freegal movies and TV
 - x. New Britain -- soliciting patron input for a strategic plan
 - xi. Lucy Robbins Welles Library, Newington -- held a session on how businesses can set up a Facebook page.
 - xii. Cora J. Belden Library, Rocky Hill -- will be conducting an online survey to find out how patrons use the library's computers and Internet connection
 - xiii. Simsbury -- now has 3 staff members who are notary publics

- xiv. South Windsor -- will be one of 25 Connecticut sites hosting a storytelling event for adults and children called Tellabration.
 - xiv. Southington -- now has a link on their website to what they call their virtual library, a way to group all their databases.
 - xv. West Hartford -- Connecticut's State Poet Laureate Dick Allen will be featured in a "Poets & Coffee" program. A special new online audio archive of Connecticut Poets will also be unveiled.
 - xvi. Wethersfield -- hosting a program on Korea with a special tribute to Korean War veterans
--hosted a visit from the town's sister city of Nagaya, Japan.
 - xvii. Windsor -- Wilson Branch Library manager Amy McCue has moved on to become head of public services at the West Hartford Public Library.
- c. Region 3 – Peter Ciparelli
- i. Hall Memorial Library, Ellington is presenting "Reliving the 1940s – Those Were the Days" with Dick Tomlinson & Carol Whitmer on Wednesday, December 4th at 6:30 at the library. The golden days of radio dominated pop culture, and the sounds of the big bands were "all the buzz" in the music industry. Explore the revelation of the 1940 census and see how much America has changed since then. Join the discussion and share your memories of the 1940s
 - ii. Pomfret Public Library, Pomfret, is having "Donuts & Dad", a new program starting on Saturday, November 9th. The series runs one Saturday a month. In November they'll have cool Thanksgiving projects and stories. And, of course, there will be donuts! So bring your Dad (or Grandpa or uncle).
 - iii. Thompson Public Library, Thompson, has rearranged their picture book collection into themes: Bedtime Stories, Celebrations, Concepts, Family, Favorites, Folk/Fairytales, History, Nature, Rhymes & Songs, Stories, and Transportation.
 - iv. Willington Public Library, Willington, Roberta Passardi retired on October 31st after 35 years of service. Her email to me said, "Yippee!"
- d. Region 4 – Sheri Syzmanski
- e. Region 5 - Christy Billings
- i. Milford Library Adult Programs this month included topics as diverse as Laughter Yoga, an evening of Jazz cabaret and a program on CT graveyards and their famous residents. In addition to their regular programming, the Children's Department is offering Music Together - a program for children 0-5 and their caregivers to share music, musical instruments and movement. The library also participated in "Jumpstart Read for the Record" a campaign to encourage early childhood literacy. This year libraries across the country read the book "Otis" by Lauren Long and broke last year's reading record by having 2,462,860 children participate.
 - ii. Scranton Memorial Library, Madison: We were notified last month that the State Historic Preservation Council approved our application to create the Scranton Memorial Library Historic District comprised of the Library and four other

buildings on our property. This designation on the State Register of Historic Places is important to our future expansion plans as it will allow us to apply for private grants that require some form of historic designation as well as qualify for state tax credits to help fund any rehabilitation work of the buildings.

We are currently redesigning our web page with the help of Abi Cushman of Brown Bear Creative and hope to launch the new site in early January.

The Library now subscribes to the Price It! antiques and collectibles database.

- iii. Durham Public Library: A memorial fund has been set up at Durham Public Library in memory of Melissa Konecny Albin, former children's librarian, who passed away from cancer in September at the age of 42. Checks payable to the Durham Public Library may be sent to the attention of Trish Connolly, Library Director, Durham Public Library, and 7 Maple Avenue, Durham, CT 06422. Please indicate in the memo line that the check is for the Melissa Albin Memorial Fund. Funds raised will be used to support children's services at the library. If you have any questions, please email Jody Benbow at jodybenbow@yahoo.com or Sheryl Slight at slighates@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for supporting this fund in memory of an amazing librarian who gave children more than story times, but a lifetime of reading
- iv. The Cheshire Public Library is pleased to announce the following program. Join us to honor our veterans and to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War on November 12th at 7:00PM. The program is called: "*Remembering Vietnam: The Siege of Khe Sanh*." Vietnam vet Dennis Mannion will discuss his experiences in the war and specifically in the siege of Khe Sanh. Mannion, a Cheshire resident and Purple Heart recipient, was one of many veterans featured in the book and HBO documentary "Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam."
- v. Essex Library will be adding a community calendar to its website that will have listings for not only the Library but other area non-profit organizations on it, as well.
- vi. Meriden Public Library will be hosting the program *Gettysburg: One Woman's War* performed by Michèle LaRue on Saturday, November 9 at 3:00 pm in the Griffin Room.
- vii. Bethany Library joined the LION Consortium.
- viii. Russell Library: Brandie Doyle, Information Services Librarian, has been promoted to the position of Circulation Services Department Head. *How to Craft a Proposal to a Foundation*, Judi Margolin, founder and principal of Needagrant.org, will provide practical grant seeking advice on Saturday, November 16, 9am-noon at the Russell Library. Proposal writing is the single most sought after skill by savvy nonprofit managers. Writing a grant proposal can be simple and follow a basic formula. This basic introduction provides invaluable tips and the best advice on writing and submission techniques. "Paws and Read" Sponsored by Otakus this special program for children 6-10 years old will be held on Saturday, November 23, 10am in the Activity Room. Children can

practice their reading skills by reading to a Certified Pet Partner dog. Drop by and enjoy the fun. No registration is needed.

- f. Region 6 – Kate Byroade

VIII. Adjournment

- a. With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Peter Ciparelli and seconded by Carl DeMelia. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Attendance: Michele Martin, David Boudinot, Richard Conroy, Cindy Schofield, Dan Lewis, Michael Spellmon, Ed Morrissey, Steven Bernstein, Betsy McIlvaine, Christina D. Baum, Beth Crowley, Peter Chase, Carl Antonucci, Mary Etter, Peter Ciparelli, Gerald Seagrave, Christy Billings, Bernadette Niedermeier, Brandie Doyle, Sally Tornow, Douglas Lord, Jennifer Datum, Karen Jensen, Paula Cook, Marge Ruschau, Ken Wiggin, Jennifer Keohane, Kate Byroade, Vivian Bordeaux