

**Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting**  
**October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**Middletown Library Service Center, Middletown**  
**9:30am Coffee/10:00am Business Meeting**

**Minutes**

1. **Call to Order:** President Glenn Grube called the meeting to order at 10:03am
2. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting minutes:  
A **motion** was made by Mary Etter and **seconded** by Peter Ciparelli to approve the minutes of September 7, 2017 with the following corrections:  
Change the spelling of “Byroad” to “Byroade” and “Wiggins” to “Wiggin”.  
**Motion was unanimously approved. Motion passed.**
3. **Old Business**
  - a. **President’s Report** – Glenn Grube: Glenn sent out an email about providing Storytime for the children of incarcerated parents. There are books, marketing and publicity materials for those libraries interested in hosting a program. Ben Daigle has been in conversations with Glenn and will be at the next Social Justice Roundtable to discuss outreach possibilities to this population. Story times could be scheduled at any time not just during October. More information can be found at: <http://ctcip.org/>.  
Glenn was contacted by Ben Clapp, who works for American Jobs Centers, and wanted to know what he could do to get in front of libraries. They have website [www.ctjobs.com](http://www.ctjobs.com) with information for both job seekers and employers. Glenn is talking with someone to take over the Reference and Adult Services section and believes making a connection with Ben could be one of their first initiatives. In the meantime, Glenn can connect Ben with anyone interested in reaching out to him.  
The October issue of CLA Today will include a list different ways to support libraries affected by various hurricanes, the earthquake in Mexico. The issue can be read here:  
[http://ctlibraryassociation.org/downloads/CLA\\_Today/cla\\_todayoctnov2017.pdf](http://ctlibraryassociation.org/downloads/CLA_Today/cla_todayoctnov2017.pdf)
  - b. **Treasurer’s Report** – Scott Brill: Scott reviewed the financials which were thru August 31. An increase in income is anticipated since there are lots of people signing up for upcoming workshops.  
A **motion** was made by Carl Antonucci and **seconded** by Ellen Janpol to approve the financials for August 2017 and was **unanimously approved. Motion passed.**
  - c. **CLA Payment, Refunds & Cancellation Policies:** Glenn asked to table this item until next month.
4. New Business: None.
5. Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Reports:

**ACLB:** Denise Stankovics-Denise announced the theme of the upcoming annual conference as CT Libraries: Challenges and Opportunities and shared some conference details. They are accepting nominations for the outstanding trustees award which must be postmarked by October 6<sup>th</sup>. The next newsletter will be coming out shortly and they are also looking for executive board members.

**ADA:** Maria Bernier: absent. Karen Jensen reported that she attended their conference that was held on Tuesday. Karen briefly discussed the conference.

**ACLPD:** Ramona Burkey: absent

**ALA:** Carl Antonucci: Carl reported that the search for a new ALA executive director is ongoing and that there is continuing debate regarding candidates having an ‘MLS’, which is preferred, but not required.

**Archivist:** Gerald Seagrave: absent

**Awards:** Region Reps

**BCALA:** Vivian Bordeaux: absent

**Career Development:** Richard Conroy: absent. Scott Brill shared that there is a profit of over \$1,000 from the Leadership Conference.

**CLA Lobbyist:** Kate Robinson, Gallo & Robinson: Kate reported that the State budget is still a mess and that we are in an unprecedented situation with no quick fix available. The budget quandary is a Rubik’s cube, that by implementing one solution it causes another issue. The core beliefs of each party are at the

crux of the issue to come together for a working solution and both sides of the political spectrum are reaching out to lobbyists. Libraries are well-regarded, as funding was restored in the proposed by both parties, but now libraries are being sought after by both sides to support each side's budget. Non-profits are not adequately funded thru the Governor's Executive Order and the legislature still needs to approve a revenue plan. The Executive Order is a budget that matches the money the State currently has not what it projects to take in. Matt Ritter, Hartford, has outlined the commonalities between the Republican and Democratic budget proposals and suggests returning to vote on those items. Keith Phaneuf, a CT Mirror reporter, questioned the possibility of voting piece-meal on a budget since a balanced budget needs to be passed. Kate encouraged members to be nice to everybody, people do understand the value and importance of the work that libraries do, and to continue to be good listeners and be grateful. The library is the front door of government for a lot of people and it plays an important role and is also in a position where neither side has to be alienated.

Kate Byroade asked if a budget will be adopted by May 2018. Kate Robinson stated that the next legislative session begins on February 4, when budget adjustments would typically be made. An Executive Order could be extended until February and then a recalibration of the budget could be done based on the level of spending at that time.

Jennifer Keohane stated that it creates an interesting situation such as the redefinition of essential services based on a limited budget and the continuation of services, despite the reduction of funding.

Kate Robinson stated that it is important to keep this in mind and that improvements in some areas, such as reduction of number of people imprisoned, will be harder to keep continue. Individually, leaders are aware of this, but when they're together they can't "hear" this. There are statistics to support a healthy level of funding but it will not be available for a few years and it takes a sophisticated argument. Jennifer Keohane suggested that maybe libraries can keep an eye on the cracks by reporting on what is being seen. Kate cautions libraries to be careful as to not step on the toes of other agencies.

Ken Wiggin stated that the Attorney General prefers a continuing resolution since there are no rules with an Executive Budget and that it's hard for agencies to manage on a month to month basis. Kate Robinson stated that perhaps in the absence of a budget, the Governor will adjust his order. There is another facet, the election of a new governor and all the legislators are up for election. Kate Robinson believes that at least 20 people will decide not to run for legislative office again in anticipation of a large anti-incumbent voter population which will result in a lot of inexperienced people holding the reigns.

Susan Ray asked how all of the cities and towns threatening to go bankrupt affecting the budget. Kate Robinson replied that members of the Legislature are stressed and that many communities don't have deep financial wells to fall back on. The conversations surrounding the adoption of a regionalized form of government are taking place and it may now become a reality since the State can't afford to keep doing things the way they've always been done.

**CLC:** Jennifer Keohane: Jennifer shared that the CT Humanities Book Awards ceremony will be held on October 22 at the Mark Twain House. Librarians were involved in the judging and the committee is hoping to have a great showing for the ceremony. Jennifer is working together with them to get the winners out on tour. Interested libraries can contact CT Humanities directly and CLC will also be sending out information. Jennifer handed out the CLC calendar of events and stated that renewals will be coming out in January. Savings figures will be sent out to each library to account for the approximate \$7.5 million dollars that was saved by CT libraries.

**Commission on Ed Tech:** Colleen Bailie: Colleen reported that a meeting was held on September 11. CET has launched an educational software hub: [www.studentprivacy.ct.gov](http://www.studentprivacy.ct.gov) to comply with student privacy laws. A toolkit will be coming soon. Colleen asked if there is a list of library hotspots and Jennifer Keohane offered to help develop this list. CEN is working on a 5-year budget plan and she discussed the importance of e-rate and open education resources that align with federal and state standards.

**CSL:** Ken Wiggin: Ken stated that the State Library Annual Board meeting was held in September and that the chair was re-elected. The Board approved many construction grants and approved best practices for libraries, and encourages libraries to look at them and use them. They are working with academic libraries to purchase needed databases, and bills for databases currently being accessed will be coming due, but they also need to plan for future payments. The CT Humanities Council has quick grants available in celebration of the anniversary of the state's constitution in 2018. Details on speakers,

activities and more will become available on the website. Ken attended a CT Places meeting and they are planning to have another advocacy day in 2018 and an effort to try and highlight activities at libraries and museums will be made. More information will become available. Dawn had a successful Futures Conference with librarians from around the country where discussions on futurist trends took place. The event was interesting, innovative and different than typical conferences. Conversations with presenters will continue and she is hoping to hold another one in a few years. In a partnership with the VT Center for the Book, Linda Williams will be bringing STEAM activities to CT. The State is working with [www.weneeddiversbooks.org](http://www.weneeddiversbooks.org) and [www.diversebookfinder.org](http://www.diversebookfinder.org). Dawn announced a correction to the EXCITE cohort dates.

**Children's:** Danielle Valenzano & Kari Hamad: Danielle announced that there are only 10 spots left for the Annual Fall Workshop which is capped at 70 attendees.

**College & University:** Julie Styles: absent

**CLASS:** Lorrie Goings & Alberto Cifuentes, Jr.: Glenn read Alberto's report (sent via email) CLASS still seeking committee and conference co-chairs. Scott Brill reported that a lot of people paid for the conference at the non-member rate.

**Conference 2018:** Kirk Morrison & Alessandra Petrino: Alessandra reported that more information will be coming soon and that they are looking for more breakout sessions. The rates will be available next month and proposals are due the last week of November. A decision will need to be made regarding the non-member rate.

**Customer Service:** Lisa Karim & Ellen Cartledge-Janpol: Ellen shared that the fall workshop is being held on October 11 at the Wallingford Public Library. There are 40 people registered so far, there is still room for more and walk-ins are accepted.

**Editorial:** Marjorie Ruschau: Marge stated that an email was sent out yesterday in search of people news and that a new feature will be coming. The new feature will focus on moving up and include career development information which will be answered by a different librarian each month. In addition, a mentorship program will be implemented via StarChapter.

**FOCL:** Frank Ridley: Frank reported that the fall conference will be held on November 18 and will focus on reaching to all members of the community to lend their help to libraries. Over the summer library directors were polled and they received about 100 responses. The results of the survey will be discussed during the afternoon of the conference. Online conference registration is available and the deadline is November 11. The cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members.

**Intellectual Freedom:** Sam Lee: Sam shared that they had a meeting to discuss privacy issues and worked to develop guidelines surrounding the Equifax breach. A link to the guidelines is available on the CLA website. Banned Books Week celebrations are coming up. The group has reached out to Peter Chase to discuss prior challenges and will be talking more about impacts to immigrant populations.

**Legislative:** Carl Antonucci & Mary Etter:

**Membership:** Thomas Piezzo: Tom reported that membership is continuing to increase and that there are now 44 first time members and over the last month, 41 members added the NELA membership option. The trifold membership brochure has been redone and the group is working on ways to show the benefits of membership. Kim Powe was instrumental in adding the group to the SCSU listserv and Tom will be attending upcoming workshops to promote membership.

**NELA:** Gail Hurley: Gail stated that the Executive Board met in September. Registration for this year's NELA conference closes on Monday and there are overflow rooms available at Doubletree. Look for Gail at the conference to play fun games and find the wine/beer fundraiser. The board endorsed holding NELLs 2 in the even years and NELLs 1 in the odd years. Next Friday, the Massachusetts State Library will be presenting "Libraries in a Post Truth World" and more. The New Hampshire spring conference will be held May 9 & 10 and the Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference will be held in Burlington, VT. NELA will be looking for a site to host its 2018 conference in Warwick, Rhode Island.

**PEG:** Peter Ciparelli: Peter shared that 2 or 3 applications have been submitted over the last month.

**Publicity:** Julie Ann Menders-absent: Karen Jensen reported they met last Friday and they gained a new member from Cheshire Library.

**Procedures:** Christine Angeli: Christine had nothing new to report.

**Public Library:** Lorna Rhyins: Lorna reported that the first round of PR for the Library Passport program went out and 79 libraries have registered already. Registration is only \$10 and the program will occur during April 2018. The group will have a workshop in early spring and will be meeting on October 26 to discuss CLA Annual and other spring events.

**Reference & Adult Services:** vacant

**Resource Sharing:** Karen Carey: Karen stated that the State Library online ILL module is now online and working. She will be moderating a breakout session at the upcoming CLASS conference. The group is working on proposals for the CLA Annual.

**SCSU:** Arlene Bielefield: absent

**Technical Services:** Gail Hurley: Gail reported that registration is going well for the fall conference and that there are currently 30 people registered. There is a mix of public and academic librarians registered. The conference will be held on Wednesday, October 18 at the Farmington Library. The group is actively planning programs for CLA Annual.

**Technology:** Genevieve Francis: Genevieve reported that the group will be having a committee meeting on November 8 at MLSC to review their CLA conference offerings.

**Young Adult:** Jennifer Rummel: Jennifer shared that the group is working on the schedule for their November conference and that more details will follow.

**Region 1:** Matt Yanarella: absent

**Region 2:** Susan C. Ray: Susan reported that the Berlin-Peck Library will be hosting a “Meet the Real Ghostbusters” on Oct 28, the Welles-Turner Library in Glastonbury is entering the final phases of their renovation which includes an automatic book sorter, and the Cora J. Belden Library in Rocky Hill will be participating in the Rocky Hill Fallfest on Oct 14 and host regular virtual reality sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Region 3:** Elizabeth Thornton: absent

**Region 4:** Geri Diorio: Geri reported that the Easton Library has a new website, Norwalk Library is celebrating Indie Author Day on October 14 and will host 40 authors, the Edith Wheeler Library in Monroe sponsored a First Selectmen candidate debate and will be closing all day on Wednesdays due to budget. In addition to the reduction of hours, vendor sales are down 28.7% from last year and include the library’s core products.

**Region 5:** Chris Hemingway: Chris reported that the Branford Library will be hosting a Hogwarts Halloween, West Haven Library’s renovation project is almost done, and Middletown Library Director, Matt Poland will be retiring.

**Region 6:** Gale Bradbury: absent

## 6. Adjournment

A motion was made by Carl Antonucci and seconded by Genevieve Francis to adjourn at 11:34am and was unanimously approved. Motion passed.

Attendance: Glenn Grube, Kate Byroade, Karen Jensen, Trish Palmer, Jennifer Keohane, Jennifer Datum, Lorna Rhyins, Ken Wiggin, Carl Antonucci, Susan Ray, Kari Hamad, Danielle Valenzano, Ellen G. Janpol, Peter Ciparelli, Chris Hemingway, Alessandra Petrino, Karen Carey, Scott Brill, Jennifer Rummel, Katy Dillman, Kymberlee Powe, Dawn LaValle, Gail Hurley, Tom Piezzo, Christine Angeli, Colleen Bailie, Mary Etter, Frank W. Ridley, Samantha Lee, Denise Stankovics, Marge Ruschau, Christy Billings, Kate Robinson and Catherine Potter