Minutes from the Connecticut Library Association Executive Board Meeting

June 12, 2014

Middletown Library Service Center

1. Richard Conroy called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
2. Richard Conroy welcomed Nicole Greco to the Board as Treasurer.
3. Minutes from the April 3rd meeting were approved with corrections.
4. Old Business
   a. President’s Report – Richard Conroy commented that it has been an interesting last 6-weeks with changes to the Board. It was a great year to interact with different people and truly a privilege and honor to serve as President. He is appreciative that we were able to find replacements for David Boudinot, President-Elect and Treasurer, Christina Baum and thankful that Dawn LaValle stepped up. Richard is available for help and will remain active in the organization.
   b. Treasurer’s Report – Vince Juliano added a correction to the Profit & Loss Report. The goal was to shrink the reports into easily digested material. We are solvent. The Net income currently is $21,950 through end of May, not including expected income from membership dues. From the Conference $119 income with $82K expenses made for a $37k profit. 64% our total income is generated from Annual Conference. We are reliant upon a good conference to get people to come. Talk it up among the people you work with. $32,400 from Exhibitor’s - contributing to 27% of income. We are under expected income from dues. Balance sheet review with CLC, the key is that the organization is solvent.
5. New Business
   a. Adoption of the FY 2015 budget -Richard Conroy/Vince Juliano advised to get the budget done before beginning fiscal year. Committee chairs and section chairs review numbers to make sure they are accurate. David Boudinot asked if there was an increase or decrease from FY 2014. Richard said there was a slight increase citing income for Jenn, Bobby Shea and some committees. Budgets are educated guesses. This is a fairly accurate reflection. Motion to accept the FY2015 budget was approved by Peter Ciparelli, seconded by Carl Antonucci.
   b. Passing of the Gavel - Richard Conroy thanked Dawn LaValle for stepping up on short notice. He has had a great experience and CLA is a great organization. Dawn La Valle thanked Richard and said it was a privilege to follow in his footsteps. It’s been and incredible year and would not be possible without Richard’s leadership. She is stepping into big shoes but she has her own. There are exciting opportunities. She is looking into developing relationships with other state library associations; New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island for their Innovative Leadership program. Wished the best of luck to David Boudinot and his family.
6. Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Report
   a. Archives - Gerald Seagreave
      i. Printed hardcopies of all minutes from the year.
b. CLC - Jennifer Keohane introduced
   i. Lisa Mann, the new office coordinator for CLC. Lisa is happy to join the team.
   ii. They are busy changing the association’s management system and updating the website.
   iii. Membership will change from fiscal year to calendar year.
   iv. Only 2 public libraries are not members of CLC. 85% of academic libraries are members and 50% of school and special libraries are members.
   v. They are gearing up for the fall with the State Division of Library Development and will shift focus where there on overlaps.

c. CSL – Ken Wiggin
   i. Budget level funded.
   ii. Holdback hiring freeze growing vacancies, 3 retires archives, driver, etc.
   iii. Thanks to CLA help State Library Board has legal authority to pursue an eBook platform. The pond package of $2.2 million in included. Not expecting problems for getting the money but will go through the process to get it released.
   iv. Advisory committee to SCSU accreditation program. Not accepting MLIS student, but school accreditation Class of 2015 will get accreditation but after that? It takes a while to go through the process.
   v. Dawn LaValle announced that Mary Engel will retire Middletown library Service Center October 2014.

d. Children’s - Bernadette Niedermeier
   i. Kim Powe is the new co-chair.
   ii. They are in planning stages for their own CLA children’s meeting.

e. College & University - Martha Kruy
   i. They have 130 paying guests for tomorrow’s conference and are $250 over budget.

f. Conference 2014- Jason Neely/Chris Angeli
   i. Glad the conference is over. There were 753 attendees. Feedback has been positive. It was a lot of work and they had a lot of help from Jenn, Richard and David.
   ii. Chris Angeli agreed it was a lot of work. Encouraged members to volunteer and help. The conference is as good as the programs submitted.
   iii. It has been decided by incoming Conference Co-Chairs that the 2015 Conference is will be Mystic.

g. Editorial -Jennifer Datum
   i. June newsletter goes out next week.
   ii. They will be updating password for Star chapter. Richard Conroy recommends restricting access to certain functions on Star Chapter.

h. Legislative - Carl Antonucci
   i. Great year working with Carl DeMilia, Richard and Ken.
   ii. Carl, Ken and Richard took a trip to Washing DC for National Library Day.
   iii. Got an idea to bring our legislators up to date in CT.
   iv. Write about your library in local newspapers to showcase.
   v. Looking into offsite storage facility.
vi. Ken Wiggin’s goal to get all CT libraries on fiber optic connections for high-speed internet access and will be included in the next budget.

vii. Thanks to Bobby Shea lobbyist. He gets it and is a great advocate for libraries.

i. NELA - Mary Etter
   i. NELA Conference is scheduled for mid-October. Themes spotlighting Great things in Libraries. It will be in Boxboro Massachusetts.
   ii. Considering NELLS for those who have been in the profession longer. It would be offered alternate years. Watch for the survey.

j. PEG - Peter Ciparelli
   i. Spent the money. Thanks to the Board for increasing the budget.
   ii. Tell staff who are attending conferences to apply for a grant.

k. Public Library - Sally Tornow
   i. The last planning meeting for the Passport to CT Libraries program on May 14th in Salisbury. Small tweaks to the program were made, the facebook page is up and running. Please like it. The actual passport is almost ready and they have an almost final count. 94 libraries have registered but it will probably end up being closer to 84. Materials to all participating libraries will be sent out middle of July. For a first time effort, the enthusiasm this program has generated is impressive.

l. Reference and Adult Services - Paula Cook
   i. Met for fall conference.
   ii. Alison Wilkos is new chair.

m. Resource Sharing - Karen Carey/Sarah White
   i. Working on conference.

n. YA: Bailey Ortiz
   i. Jaina Lewis new co-chair.

o. Region 1: Patricia Lunn

p. Region 2: Marjorie Ruschau
   i. Several libraries are cutting weekend hours for summer.
      In addition to switching from Sirsi to Sierra, the Connection consortium has also added Encore for public searching, which searches both the catalog and articles.
   ii. Avon -- will host 15 local authors in July and August in a variety of events -- will host the town farmers' market in its parking lot on Monday nights
   iii. Prosse, Bloomfield -- presenting Readers' Theater on Monday
   iii. Burlington -- pairing with the Lions Club BBQ for their summer reading kickoff
   v. East Hartford -- got $3,000 Every Child Ready to Read grant to cover series of workshops so parents can help prepare their preschoolers for reading -- has 19 of its museum passes available as a print-on-demand, so they don't have to be returned
      - holding a Solstice Sprint, a 5k run to benefit the library and another nonprofit. June 18, 6:30 p.m.
      -- is hosting an online computer science called Hour of Code, July 3
   vi. Welles-Turner, Glastonbury and Simsbury -- both offering a new database of downloadable items called Biblioboard. Simsbury also added IndieFlix
   vi. Granby -- has joined the Connect consortium, making 30 libraries.
viii. Hartford -- one of 10 public libraries nationwide chosen for an ALA Libraries Transforming Communities training program that includes an $8,000 grant -- holding a program for the 200th birthday of Samuel Colt, July 10, 6 p.m. -- partnered with SCORE and the U.S. Small business Administration to host a 5-week small business workshops series

ix. Manchester -- Whiton Memorial Branch has reopened after renovations that included ramps and an elevator

x. Lucy Robbins Welles, Newington -- suffered more than $10,000 in damages when a drainage system failed during a storm and flooded parts of the library. However, it is covered by insurance

xi. Cora J. Belden, Rocky Hill -- hosted program explaining streaming T

xii. Southport -- has added Hoopla streaming video and audio

xiii. Kent Memorial, Suffield -- hosting some animals from the Forest Park Zoo in Springfield. Tues., June 24, 1:30

xiv. West Hartford -- won a Hartford Magazine the reader's poll for best library

xv. Wethersfield -- cosponsored a fireworks show with the chamber of commerce as a kickoff to summer

xvi. Windsor -- invited patrons to help decorate the library for the summer reading program;--also celebrating Worldwide Knitting Day this Saturday by inviting people to come knit in the library

xvii. Windsor Locks -- has added Magill's Medical Guide online

q. Region 3: Peter Ciparelli
   i. Booth and Dimock Library, Coventry The library has partnered with Driving-Test.org for free DMV permit practice tests. The service is expected to live later this month.

   ii. Killingly Public Library Danielson the budget referendum failed in a town wide vote on Tuesday. The library had a part time position request in that budget which will probably be cut as the council tries to figure out what the voting public will accept for a mill rate. Complicating the budget process was last year’s revaluation of town property which increased the mil rate 14.5 mills. On the brighter side, the Children’s Department is entering into year two of the “READy for the Grade” grant and program where we work with targeted student to help them with reading comprehension throughout the summer. And, of course, kickoff for the Summer Reading Program, Fizz, Boom, Read, begins on June 17th.

   iii. Pomfret Public Library Pomfret, the library used funds raised during their 2014 Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R.) Day celebration as an opportunity to partner with Pomfret Community School Cultural Arts Week in raising funds for Big Brother mouse, a Laotian literacy project. Together, the library and school raise enough funds ($499) to sponsor three book parties in rural Laotian villages. Staff form Big Brother Mouse led kids in games and g-crafts, gave every child their own book, plus left a collection of books for each classroom. Most of the children had probably never even seen a book except perhaps a text book, and had never read a book for enjoyment. Way to go Pomfret! Let’s hear a “hooray” for worldwide
literacy. A copy of the blog page is included in this report:
http://pomfretlibrary.org/?p=935

r. Region 4: Sheri Szymanski Region

i. The biggest news from Region 4 this month is that the newly renovated and expanded Ridgefield Library opened its doors on May 9th! Kudos to Director Chris Nolan and Assistant Director May Reindfleisch for their efforts. This project has been a marathon and the results are striking.

s. Region 5: Christy Billings

i. Madison -Scranton Memorial Library is proud to announce the launch of our new web page. It was designed by Abi Cushman of Brown Bear Creative in New London, CT. The Garden Club of Madison is recognizing the Library for their gardens with their Annual Civic Award given to a community organization that has made a significant contribution through the years by helping to beautify the Town. Each year, a small group of employees, who call themselves the “Good Enough” Garden Club, go above and beyond to plant annuals that embellish our front walkways. Last year they posted pictures in the Library identifying the flowers for curious patrons and this year they have planted a “mystery mix” of wildflowers. Cromwell's Library started officially working with teens for the first time this May. The teens': "Spark A Change Group" held a Tag sale and then donated some of the proceeds to a local literacy project. Two local Main Street consignment shops are helping the teens by consigning the leftover jewelry from the tag sale and by selling items that were too nice to go in the tag sale. The teen group will host a book chat on "The Fault in our Stars" by Rick Green in June and also hold an " acrylic painting night." on the theme of Rick Green’s novel. The teens are hosting a writing contest through July 18. Writers will pretend they are the hero of the story they write. The “Spark a Change Group” is planning summer evening movies, hopefully under the stars --matching to “favorite books” that are submitted in a suggestion box. We hope to end up with a teen advisory council at the end of the summer. We bid farewell to our SIRSI Integrated Library System on May 31. The migration took place over the first weekend in June and we are now a iii.org library.

ii. MIDDLEFIELD LEVI COE Levi E. Coe Library is gearing up for the Fizz, Boom, and Read 2014 Summer Reading Program. Our summer reading program kicks off on June 24th with face painting, building sand castles, and registering for our summer programs and runs for 6 weeks. The Children's dept. has just had new carpeting installed and our story time room is also in the process of a makeover. The exterior of the building has a new paint job! Stop by and let us know what you think!

iii. PORTLAND - We are looking forward to Summer Reading activities for Teens, children from Pre-k elementary, and adults. Zentangle, animal handlers, and a performance by a Chinese acrobat, are among the programs. We have Wednesday evening programs, many on our green near the library. Maker space programs for teens are planned. Of course there is the reading incentive program with prizes offered for children. They will use Evanced to log their time.
iv. MILFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY-The City of Milford and the Milford Library has been busy the past few weeks as we celebrate the 375th anniversary of our founding. Friday, June 6th, the Library kicked off Celebration Week with an entertaining journey of songs and stories performed by Tom Callinan, Connecticut’s first “Official State Troubadour” and a member of the popular folk band, The Morgans. Mr. Callinan performed an original song focusing on Milford history and entertained the crowd with other songs about Capt. Kidd and CT history. The Library was transformed for the evening into an exploration of Milford past and present, with music, stories, and Milford photos and historical documents on display. This was our first “after-hours” event and was very well received, with about 130 attendees. The following week, Wednesday, June 11th, Milford creativity will shine as we host a local author extravaganza! Throughout the Library, authors with a Milford connection will be arranged at tables, ready to sign books, share insights, or talk about the writing process. For those in the community who are aspiring writers we are also hosting a bookSLAM! Writers can share their work with the audience and get feedback and critiques. Over the past few months; we have been increasing our online content, adding Mango Languages, Literary Reference Center and Consumer Reports to our database roster. We have also recently purchased our first AWE Literacy station for the Children’s Department.

v. RUSSELL LIBRARY - The Job and Career Program’s upcoming LinkedIn photoshoot is on 6/19. Typically it is for job seekers, but we are opening it up to the business community (and anyone else that might be interested). Two sessions - 10:00-noon and 5:30-7:30. The Thursday Evening Veteran’s Writing Group will host a special guest on June 12th at 7:00PM. Janet Barrett the author of They Called her Reckless will be speaking about her process for writing a book about an incredible ‘Jeju’ pony and her journey to become the real life warhorse of the Marine Fifth Regiment during the Korean War. Reckless was a true Marine who saved many lives. She also loved pancakes and an occasional helmet full of beer. Summer Reading for Adults begins on June 23rd. Why should kids have all the fun? Sign up for our Adult Summer Reading Program beginning Monday, June 23 at the checkout desk. If you have time to read one book in the next six weeks, you could win a prize. Just submit a review of your book, and you will be entered for a weekly drawing. The Children’s Summer Reading begins on June 30th. BRANFORD-James Blackstone Memorial Library-Our big news this summer is the amazing marble counting device build by a member of the Branford Public Schools staff—children will get a marble for every book they read, and will hopefully fill the “marble columns” inside the machine. It’s featured on our facebook page, and in a Branford Eagle article:

http://www.newhavenindependent.org/index.php/branford/entry/read_a_book_add_a_marble/
t. Region 6: Kate Byroad

7. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am

Attendance: Michele Martin, Libby Mueller, Marge Ruschau, Kendal Wiggin, Carl Antonucci, Martha Kruy, Carl Emilia, Sally Tornow, Vince Juliano, Chris Angeli, Jason Neely, Arianna Schlegel, Karyn Carey, Kristi Sadowski, Bailey Ortiz, Jaina Lewis, Lisa Mann, Vivian Bordeaux, Paula Cook, Bernadette Niedermeier, Kymberlee Powe, Nicole Greco, Christy Billings, Peter Ciparelli, Gerald Seagrave, Cindy Schofield, Marry Etter, Jennifer Datum

The next regular meeting of the CLA Board will on July 10, 2014 at the Middletown Library Service Center.