

**Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting
January 11th, 2018
Wallingford Public Library, Wallingford
9:30am Coffee/10:00am Business Meeting**

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** President Glenn Grube called the meeting to order at 10:11am
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. December 7th, 2017 meeting minutes:
The December 7th, 2017 meeting minutes were approved by consensus with the following correction:
under item FOCL was contacted by the Maryland consulting group, not Frank Ridley.
3. **Old Business**
 - a. **President's Report-Glenn Grube:** Glenn Grube reported that Liz Thornton has resigned as the Region 3 Representative, and is therefore looking for suggestions for replacement. Past President Karen Jensen will be sending out a nominations email for open positions. The Region 3 Representative position would have been open anyway as of July 2018 as well as Vice President, President Elect, Treasurer, ALA Representative, and the Region 4 and 6 Representative positions will also be open. The Procedures Chair position will become open, which is an appointed, not elected, position.
Glenn received information from the Hartford Stage about a partnership with Hartford Public Library. Hartford Stage will be hosting a discussion on Monday, January 22 at 7:30pm for FREE. They will also be offering a 20% discount to its current show, Feeding the Dragon, and will continue an on-going partnership with HPL, including discounted tickets offers.
Glenn shared that ALA is encouraging its members to contact their senators, Senators Murphy and Blumenthal in CT, to continue to support net neutrality and the reauthorization of IMLS.
 - b. **Treasurer's Report-Scott Brill:** Scott Brill reviewed the financial documents included with the agenda and announced that he has begun a library Master's program and will not be continuing as treasurer after his term has finished.
4. **New Business:** None
5. **Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Reports:**

ACLB: Denise Stankovics: Absent

ADA: Maria Bernier: Absent

ACLPD: Ramona Burkey: Absent

ALA: Carl Antonucci: Absent

Archivist: Gerald Seagrave: None

Awards: Region Reps: None

BCALA: Vivian Bordeaux: Absent

Career Development: Richard Conroy: Richard reported that the group met last Friday, January 5th and is ready to move forward with the scholarship applications, which will be posted to StarChapter soon. The deadline to submit an application is March 16, and can be used towards earning an MLS, LTA, PhD and more, as long as it's from an ALA accredited program. The group is also moving forward with the mentorship program. Jen Datum has added an advice column in the CLA newsletter and is looking for more participants. Richard announced that he will be retiring in July 2019 and is looking for a co-chair for next year to ease transition.

CLA Lobbyist: Gallo & Robinson: Joe Grabarz shared that he, after a discussion with Kate, feels CLA did a great job with advocacy and that he, as well as legislators, know that as a lobbyist, CT libraries are supported and they will hear from the community on issues concerning them. He reported that, it is rumored that, the State may have a surplus, but this is not true. Any capital gains are being held back to see if there's a more advantageous system, but there isn't. There is a belief that some of the rumored surplus may be some of the delayed returns that didn't occur last year. Or the surplus could be a result of early tax payments that were made. There are still \$300 million in bills that need to be paid by the State with the current budget, and that the State requires that if there is any excess, a percentage needs to be put into the rainy day fund, which is currently zeroed out. It is important to build the rainy fund up again since other areas depend upon its existence. The transportation fund is also zeroed out and will result in some consumer increases, but the fund needs to be refilled. Currently, UCONN and other State schools do not have reserve funds in cases of emergency. The State bonding cap is reduced because of funding issues and some bonding projects may get cancelled. The bonding cap has fallen below the level of approved projects. There will be a short legislative schedule from February to May, and in March, every bill will have a quick public hearing. Voting will take place in April. A difficult election season is expected, and is evident by the record number of retirements and high amount of competition for open seats. There is also a record number of run-offs being projected for those who are seeking re-election. House Majority Leader, Matt Ritter publicly stated that he believes there will not be much business conducted. Joe has a list of people who have announced their candidacy for State elected positions including governor and lieutenant governor. At this time, the candidates are approaching their town's committees asking for support, so now is the time to ask for support of the library.

Richard Conroy asked if the Borrow-IT funding is something that is of concern and Joe responded that it could possibly be restored. Joe will let the Board know when it will be addressed. Joe also stated that any budget adjustments will most likely take place after the votes on transportation, recreational marijuana, and union contracts take place. Hearings will begin in March. Mary Etter asked about the automatic revocation of the law that created ConnectiCard and Joe stated that the language for ConnectiCard remains for now. Joe shared that there are serious issues with the libraries at public colleges including staffing and access to databases. There is discussion of consolidation into one statewide system.

CLC: Jennifer Keohane: Absent- Glenn reported that they have changed bookkeeping companies and they are now contracting with Premier Accounting Group, a division of Blum Shapiro, which will also impact CLA's accounting.

Commission on Ed Tech: Colleen Bailie: Absent

CSL: Ken Wiggin: Absent

Children's: Danielle Valenzano & Kari Hamad: None

College & University: Julie Styles: Absent

CLASS: Lorrie Goings & Alberto Cifuentes. Jr.: Absent

Conference 2018: Kirk Morrison & Alessandra Petrino: Absent- Glenn handed out the tentative schedules for Monday and Tuesday and announced that a mobile app will be developed for the Annual Conference which will include the schedule, maps, and more. The committee is actively signing up exhibitors, and attendance registration opens around Feb 1. The early bird will end March 16. Once acceptance or denial letters for program proposals are sent out, the tentative schedule could be posted to StarChapter.

Customer Service: Lisa Karim & Ellen Janpol: Absent

Editorial: Marjorie Ruschau: Absent- Jen Datum shared that the next CLA newsletter will go out in February and will include Take You Child To The Library Day events. Nominations for open positions will go out in the April newsletter.

FOCL: Frank Ridley: None

Intellectual Freedom: Sam Lee: Sam thanked the Board for voting to purchase institutional membership for Freedom to Read. CLA's membership will remain in effect until Dec 27 2018. Links to webinars will be posted as they become available. ALA's Intellectual Freedom reporting deadline for challenged books and materials is January 31, 2017. The Intellectual Freedom Committee sent out a survey asking for information on challenges. The deadline to register for the free Library Freedom Institute's workshop on privacy advocacy is February 1.

Legislative: Carl Antonucci & Mary Etter: Mary will be sending out information to encourage CLA members to contact their representatives and how to make their communications personal and how to be informed.

Membership: Thomas Piezzo: Tom-planning committee meeting in February to plan event and finalize conference materials, happy to have more committee members

NELA: Christy Billings: Christy-meeting next week 3 new members, \$20 to join \$15 for students

PEG: Peter Ciparelli: Absent

Publicity: Julie Ann Menders: Absent

Procedures: Christine Angeli: Absent

Public Library: Lorna Rhyins: Absent Glenn announced that a company called Library Systems and Services has been contacting libraries to market their services. If your town gets contacted, ALA's Office of Library Advocacy is offering to support libraries in keeping local control of the library. Glenn also has information. Library Systems most recently joined the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities. Frank Ridley asked if their services run afoul of state statute. Glenn believes that to avoid issues, interested library boards would have to agree to a contract with Library Services. Joe would like to discuss this issue with Glenn and find out if they've hired a lobbyist. Library Services had a booth at the recent CT Conference of Municipalities conference.

Reference & Adult Services: Sara White: Glenn welcomed Sara to the Board.

Resource Sharing: Karen Carey: Absent

SCSU: Arlene Bielefield: Absent

Technical Services: Gail Hurley: Absent

Technology: Gen Francis: None

Young Adult: Jennifer Rummel: Jennifer shared that she is looking forward to Annual.

Region 1: Matt Yanarella: Absent: Matt reported that libraries in the region have reported a surprising amount of new people visiting the library and attributes it to the cold weather.

Region 2: Susan C. Ray: Absent

Region 3: Elizabeth Thornton: Absent (resigned)

Region 4: Geri Diorio: Geri shared that the Ferguson Library will be hosting Adriana Trigiani at their upcoming author event which includes wine and dessert. The Wilton Library's tech team 'Singularity' won their first qualifying event at First Tech, and will move on to the next level of competition. The Stratford Library hired a new head of technology and library services, Kate Sheehan.

Region 5: Chris Hemmingway: Absent

Region 6: Gale Bradbury: Absent

6. Adjournment: By consensus, the meeting adjourned at 11:07am.

Attendance: Glenn Grube, Kate Byroade, Karen Jensen, Scott Brill, Tom Piezzo, Frank W. Ridley, Richard Conroy, Gerald Seagrave, Geri Dorio, Christy Billings, Jennifer Rummel, Danielle Valenzano, Samantha Lee, Sara White, Joe Grabarz, Mary Etter, Genevieve Francis, Matt Yanarella, Jennifer Datum, Catherine Potter