

**Connecticut Library Association – Executive Board Meeting
Middletown Library Service Center
January 5, 2012**

- I. Call to Order: Betty Anne Reiter called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- II. Board Introductions: None
- III. Approval of Minutes: Mary Etter moved to accept the minutes of December 1, 2011 seconded by Peter Ciparelli, motion passed with three abstentions.
- IV. Old Business:
 - a. President’s Report:
 - I. Betty Anne announced the two Connecticut Librarians who won the “I Love My Librarian” Award were Jennifer Keohane from the Simsbury Public Library and Michelle Luhtala from New Canaan High School. The awards ceremony in New York City was a great night for the recipients and attendees. Jennifer thanked those who came down for the event.
 - b. Treasurer’s Report:
 - I. Please send any checks directly to the CLA Office at the Connecticut Library Consortium.
 - c. 2012 Conference Update:
 - I. Amy Terlaga reported program acceptances have gone out. If you did not receive an answer about a program proposal please let Amy or Steve know.
 - II. Conference registration and a tentative schedule will be posted next week.
 - III. Last year the scholarship committee sponsored an event on the Monday evening of the conference and the committee would like a similar function for this year. Discussion followed about a possible “Meet-Up” event with a donation jar to collect money for the scholarship fund.
 - IV. The Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony will be held on the Tuesday of the conference.
 - d. Strategic Plan
 - I. Barbara Bailey presented a draft of the new five-year Strategic Plan. The Board reviewed and made suggestions for revisions that Barbara will take back to the committee for consideration.

V. New Business

a. Legislative Committee Update

- I. Carl reported the Legislative Committee is meeting on the third Tuesday of each month with the next meeting scheduled for January 17th at the South Windsor Public Library.
- II. On January 31st there will be a Press Conference and Panel Discussion at the Legislative Office Building from 12-4 pm. The primary purpose of the press conference is to congratulate Connecticut native, Maureen Sullivan, on her election as the incoming President of the American Library Association. Following the press conference, State Senator Gary LeBeau will moderate a panel discussion on how libraries help students with their educational and learning skills. Carl asked the Board to consider giving Maureen a \$300 honorarium. Sheri Szymanski moved to approve the honorarium, Mary Etter seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
- III. Mary Etter reported they are reviving the Library Legislative Links Program where librarians agree to be the “link” or contact to a particular legislator. A training session for anyone interested in becoming a legislative link will follow the panel discussion at the LOB on January 31.

VI. Reports

a. Awards

- I. Mary Engels announced the Bill Memorial Library in Groton has won the 2012 Excellence in Public Library Service Award.
- II. The deadline for submitting entries for the Publicity Awards is January 27 and forms are available on the CLA website.

b. CLC

- I. Jill Dugas Hughes reported Connie Sear has replaced Pattie Noren as the Manager of Discounts and Negotiations. Connie brings an excellent business background to the position and serves as the Library Board President at the Canterbury Public Library.
- II. Jill attended the CASL Board Meeting and reported they are receptive to future collaborations with CLA. Discussion followed regarding appointing a CLA liaison to CASL.

c. Nominations

- I. Debbie Herman reported there will be three Region Rep positions up for election this year along with Vice President/President-Elect, and ALA Representative.

d. State Library

- I. State Librarian, Ken Wiggin passed out a summary sheet of State Library activities.

- II. Every Child Ready to Read Grants in the amount of \$3,000 will be awarded to public libraries to help provide workshops to parents, children, childcare providers, library staff, and other early education professionals. Funds may also be used to purchase materials and promote the workshops. Priority will be given to libraries that have not received an LSTA grant within the last five years and to libraries in distressed communities.
- III. On February 23rd there will be a Continuing Education course at the Middletown Service Center on using your library's statistics effectively.
- IV. Ken is still hoping to refill Sharon Brettschneider's position following her retirement.
- V. Budget cuts at the Federal level were smaller this year but there is still a need for advocating at this level. Bills to stop Internet pirating are of particular interest for libraries.
- e. Region 1 – Sally Tornow
 - I. New Milford Public Library is proud to announce that it is the first library in Connecticut to offer the Blio ebook service from Baker & Taylor. In the 2.5 weeks that the service has been live, over 40 books had already circulated out of a collection of 250.
- f. Region 2 – Glen Grube
 - I. The Burlington Public Library is making a commitment to early literacy as they proudly introduce their "Challenge 365" program for 2012. Designed for parents of children birth to kindergarten, the library is offering an online tracking system, a calendar, and a celebration at the end of 2012 as the BPL "dares" its parents to read to their children every day. It is the library's hope that the "Challenge 365" program will be a first step for parents to help raise lifelong readers. This program is modeled after the program "1000 Books Before Kindergarten."
 - II. The Bishops Corner branch of West Hartford Public Library closed for renovations on December 17. Expected reopening is in the summer of 2012. Highlights of the renovation to the 1966 building include: Energy efficient heating, ventilating and air conditioning, windows with insulated non-glare glass and new interior doors, lighting with modern and energy efficient fixtures, a centrally located circulation and information desk, a cheerful new children's section and story hour room, and a new entry with internal book return slot
- g. Region 4 – Sheri Szymanski
 - I. World Book Night, a program started in the UK, is seeking libraries and bookstores to serve as distribution centers for their volunteers. Volunteers will each receive 20 free books to give away on April 23, 2012. According to the World Book Night website, "The goal is to give books to new readers, to encourage

reading, to share your passion for a great book.” For more information, visit <http://www.us.worldbooknight.org/>

- h. Region 5 – Chris Angeli
 - I. Some LION libraries experienced email hacking so if you are having trouble contacting a LION library via email you may want to call instead.
- i. Region 6 – Suzanne Maryeski
 - I. **Groton/Bill Memorial Library** received the Excellence in Public Library Service Award 2012.
 - II. **Old Lyme/Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library** The OLPGN Library has received several grants to date this year: CT Humanities Council (\$2,310) for *Expressions of the Artistic Self* collaborative programming with the Florence Griswold Museum; Lyme Old Lyme Education Foundation for *Teen Tech Initiative* (\$4,789); and Bring Our Music Back (\$5,000) for *Phoebe Griffin Makes Some Noise!*—educational music series for children, teens and adults.
 - III. **Salem Free Public Library** In December the Salem Library Knitters made items to sell at the library and they netted over \$500 for the library! This month starts a seven -week Winter Reading Challenge called *Go for the George*. Participants get cash awards as incentives to continue until the week of George Washington's birthday.
 - IV. **New London/Public Library of New London** The head of the editorial board, Paul Choiniere wrote a signed column in *The Day* urging the new mayor in New London to increase funding for the library.

VII. With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Barbara Bailey, seconded by Kate Byroade. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Crowley
Recording Secretary

Attendees: Betty Anne Reiter, Beth Crowley, Carl Demilia, Carl Antonucci, Mary Etter, Gerald Seagrave, Peter Ciparelli, Kate Sheehan, Jennifer Keohane, Debbie Herman, Barbara Bailey, Sheri Szymanski, Ed O’Hara, Sally Tornow, Su Epstein, Suzanne Maryeski, Kate Byroade, Glen Grube, Elaine Krikorian, Steve Cauffman, Ken Wiggin, Mary Engels, Jill Hughes, Paula Cook, Susan Lauricella, Dana Tonkonow, Chris Angeli, Kathleen Cataldi, Susan Slaga, Richard Conroy, Betsy McIlvaine, Lynn Zaffino, Libby Mueller, Lisa Carlucci Thomas, Amy Terlaga