Connecticut Library Association Board Meeting

Thursday, December 3rd, 2015

Middletown Library Service Center

1) Beth Crowley called the meeting to order at 10:03am.

2) The minutes from the November 5th, 2015 meeting were approved with changes. The motion was made by Gail Hurley, seconded by Kym Powe and passed unanimously.

3) Old Business
   a) President’s Report – Beth Crowley
      i) The CLA lobbyist position has gone out to bid, interviews will take place this afternoon with three new firms. Bobby Shea has chosen not to participate.
   b) Treasurer’s Report - Nicole Greco
      i) Please do not enter payments into StarChapter. Payments received at programs need to be forwarded to the CLA/CLC office with an explanation so Lisa can enter those payments herself. Thank you to fall workshop co-ordinators, all requests for payment have now been paid. Income was slightly higher than expected in November. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Colleen Bailie, seconded by Sally Tornow and passed unanimously.

4) New Business
   a) CCM “Aspen Re-Envision Your Public Libraries in Your Municipality” CLA/Aspen sponsorship program – Dawn LaValle
      i) Dawn reported that the Aspen workshop at the CCM conference was very well attended. Dawn recommends that CLA continue being involved with the CCM conference in the future. The Aspen report for CT will be released in January and will be shared with CCM, as well as the library community statewide.
   b) NELA Extended Membership - Gail Hurley
      i) The NELA Extended Membership program is a new membership category started 2 years ago. It allows CLA members in good standing to purchase a NELA membership for only $20. Gail described the many benefits of the extended membership program. Jennifer Keohane recommended a work group be formed to work out the logistics and that this be offered for individual memberships only, not institutional members. Gail moved that CLA go forward with the extended membership plan (contingent on logistics), Danielle Valenzano seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

5) Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Reports
   a) ADA: Maria Bernier
      i) CLA and the CSL co-sponsor an email discussion list, which will be ending in December. However, they will move to Constant Contact in order to continue communication with the current members.
b) BCALA: Vivian Bordeaux
   i) The Bridgeport Public Library and BCALA are having a meet and greet this Friday at 5:30pm.
      All are welcome for snacks and a few words from several special guest speakers.

c) Career Development: Richard Conroy
   i) The committee will be meeting this Monday, December 7th. A survey has gone out regarding
      minimum salary guidelines, thank you to everyone who filled it out. A recommendation will
      be made in January for the CLA board to approve.

d) CLC: Jennifer Keohane
   i) The annual year in review report was sent out recently. CLC saved member libraries
      $7,252,273! Current memberships expire December 31st, so don’t delay in sending in your
      2016 dues! TYCLD is being planned now, resources are available and they are pushing for
      100% participation in CT. DEMCO discount pricing is in place for another six months.
      Interviews are currently taking place for the two open positions at CLC.

e) Commission on Educational Technology: Colleen Bailie
   i) A new director has been named, more information at the next meeting.

f) CSL: Ken Wiggin
   i) DeliverIT CT’s vendor has decided they want to leave their contract before its conclusion.
      The CSL will work to make disruptions in service minimal while alternate plans are
      investigated. Ken discussed the current budget proposals on the table. CSL’s message to all
      lawmakers is don’t do more harm to Connecticut’s libraries! They are currently reaching out
      to key legislators. The legislative session may take place as early as next week. IConn will be
      continued through June, thanks to organizations being willing to share in the cost. The state
      library board approved ACLPD’s library standards work to move forward with public hearings
      around the state. These standards will likely be called best practices, rather than “standards”
      so they won’t legally be considered regulations at the outset. Dawn let everyone know that
      they have discussed a contingency plan for DeliverIT CT and she believes it will run very
      efficiently. The CT standards project will begin with 9 “Community Conversations” state
      wide. CT has two librarians who won I Love My Librarian Awards this year. Diane Brown from
      NHFPL and Elizabeth Rumery of the UConn Avery Point Library. Please congratulate these
      great librarians!

6) Children’s: Kymberlee Powe & Sunnie Scarpa
   a) Book Buzz for Children’s and Teens will not be happening this year due to the fact that publishers
      are sending all of their representatives to a conference in Texas on the same dates. They will
      however, be sending books to give away and Kym will work on coming up with a method of
      distribution, since there will be no accompanying workshop.

7) College & University: Kristina Edwards
   a) Their recent program focused on open educational resources. Attendance was slightly lower
      than expected. NEASC accreditation standards have put out a new draft, which Kristina will be
      looking over and reporting back on.
8) CLASS: Alberto Cifuentes. Jr.
   a) The CLASS annual conference made a net profit which surpassed last year’s profit. University of Hartford was a fantastic host, however rates will be going up next year, so other locations may be considered. There were 113 participants, but most were not CLA members. CLASS may want to work with the membership committee to discuss this ongoing issue. CLASS recently learned more about the LTA certificate program at Three Rivers Community College and may be officially endorsing this program in the future. Two conference proposals were submitted this year, a first for CLASS, which will hopefully change the perception that the conference is exclusively for librarians, not support staff.

9) Conference 2016: Katy Dillman & Thomas Piezzo
   a) Thank you for submitting so many great proposals, approximately 60 proposals were submitted and there are about 48 slots to fill. They will be reviewing submissions and scheduling over the next month and responses will be made by January 15th, 2016. They are working on obtaining conference sponsorships for the conference this year.

10) Customer Service: Ellen Cartledge & Lisa Karim
   a) The October workshop brought in a profit of $968.20.

11) Editorial: Jenn
   a) Please send in tiny book reviews for the last newsletter of the year!

12) Legislative: Carl Antonucci & Mary Etter
   a) The committee will be hosting a December 7th workshop with Libby Post.

13) NELA: Gail Hurley
   a) NELA’s Children’s Section is offering a Reader’s Advisory workshop this fall, more information is on their website. The current Educational Assistance Chair needs to step down to work exclusively on their Help Desk services, so that position will now be open. They hope that the person to fill this position will also be able to do additional work on fundraising for scholarships. NELA also has a new Youtube account for educational purposes. NELA is open to having joint conferences with state associations. A social networking opportunity for members known as “Library Libations” may be offered in the future, more info to come.

14) Publicity: Kirk Morrison
   a) They are sending out applications for the annual Publicity Awards later this month. A planning meeting will take place next month for Media Matters 2.0 which will be held March 11th at the Wallingford Public Library. They will begin advertising as soon as their roster of speakers is confirmed.

15) Public Library: Sally Tornow
   a) 90 libraries have signed up for the Passport program this year.

16) Resource Sharing: Steve Cauffman
   a) FinditCT.org will be the future home of a statewide catalog, which is in the works.
17) Technical Services: Laurie Haggan

a) Their conference went very well and feedback was positive. They sent in two submissions for the annual conference this year.

18) Young Adult: Bernadette Niedermeier & Lorna Rhyins

a) There were 55 participants at the YA fall workshop this year, which was a great meeting with lots of discussion on the theme of Summer Reading. They have sent in 7-8 proposals for the CLA conference.

19) Region 1: Sue Dowdell

Region One library directors expressed their concern about the governor's plans to balance the budget deficit and how those upcoming plans will affect their libraries. There are many holiday happenings this month at our libraries: Cornwall Library reaches out to the community this season by hosting a Holiday party celebrating their volunteers and a Senior Tea. On Dec 26 it will continue its annual tradition with a Boxing Day reading by Tom Walker. This year the book is Marcel Pagnol’s Memories of Childhood. Warren Library will hold "Holiday on the Hill" on December 5, 5:30 through 8 pm. They will have a "Letters to Santa" Station and reindeer food at the library. Many libraries including, Warren, Beacon Falls, New Milford, and New Hartford’s Licia and Mason Beekley Community Library, are holding Gingerbread Decorating workshops this month. Hartland Library is holding a Polar Express on Sunday, December 6th. Middlebury Library is hosting a Sleeping Beauty marionette show and two holiday baking presentations this month: Cookies around the world & Making a Yule Log. Terryville Library is having Santa Day on Saturday, December 5th. Areas writers applied to the group to be selected to read up to 8 minutes of their writing in a variety of genres.

New Milford Library is starting a young adult Dungeons and Dragons Club. Southbury Library has an every-other-week teen Anime club for those obsessed with Japanese culture. Thomaston Library has created search-able digital access to their local newspaper with help from the Connecticut State Library and thanks to a generous bequest from Eleanor Conway. Some issues of the Thomaston Express newspaper from as far back as 1880 and most issues from 1922 through 1979 are available via a link on their website.

20) Region 2: Marjorie Ruschau

Lots of Star Wars-related and holiday craft events! Avon -- Snow Sisters, look like Frozen characters, Dec. 30, 11 a.m. Berlin-Peck -- added PrinterOn service where people can send print projects from home computer to library to be printed. Bloomfield Prosser -- informal group of MAC users who can pass on tips, December 05, 2015 11:00 AM. Burlington -- holding yoga classes for children 1-5. Canton -- hosting Sciencetellers combines storytelling and exciting science experiments, Dec. 26, 11 a.m. Welles-Turner, Glastonbury -- starting Self-E, where people can self-publish their works at the library, either online or as PDF -- used newsletter to highlight year’s accomplishments. Hartford -- one of 10 libraries in U.S. participating in intensive 18-month program to strengthen our engagement with the community on high-priority challenges. New Britain -- high school madrigal singers will stroll and sing through the library, Dec. 8, 11:45 a.m. Plainville -- Doug Lord, formerly of the State Library and of the New Britain Public Library, is the new director as of 7 days ago. When director Peter Chase retired last month the board named the library auditorium af-
ter him. **Simsbury** – in honor of Jane Austen’s 240th birthday, hosting talk about her book *Persuasion*, concert of music from her era and showing 2 movies based on her books. **SOUTHINGTON** – having a guest superhero at their monthly evening storytime. **Kent**, ** Suffield** – hosting free hot chocolate bar Sat., Dec. 19, 10 a.m. 4 p.m. **West Hartford** – will celebrate 2016 with a year of health- and fitness-related programs -- Ct Ballet children’s program, Dec. 9 5-9. **Windsor Locks** – holding a drive-in movie event for little kids. Make own snowplows out of cardboard boxes and then "park them" in front of the screen for a movie, Dec. 22

21) Region 3: Janice Wilson **Andover PL** – December 8th – coloring program for adults. 12/12 – visit from Santa and Mrs. Merry Claus. **Babcock Library, Ashford** - Our long time LA II Theresa "Terry" Decker is retiring after 27 years of service. **Bolton – Bentley Memorial Library.** Adult coloring book club on Wednesdays. 12/8 visit from Children’s Author Teresa Easley. Holiday story time on 12/15. 12/17 is last session of their Justice and Community Book Discussions (began in Sept.) book is Go Set a Watchman. **Canterbury PL** – 12/12, holiday cupcake decorating – 12/16, senior activity is holiday cake decorating – 12/19, gifts for the birds. **Columbia – Saxton B. Little**, November 23rd, a cement permit was issued for the Library building. For children on 12/10 – creating literary ornaments. Adult program cookies & coloring was successful, so more are planned in the future. **Coventry – Booth & Dimock Library**, $1,000,000 construction grant awarded for new addition. 12/3 – cookbook club (dinner & conversation at the library). 12/8 – design & make your own cookie cutters on their 3D printer. Food for Fines benefitting Coventry Food Bank. Coloring, Coffee, and Conversation on Tuesdays beginning 12/12 through 2/23. **Eastford PL** – 12/5, holiday card and tag making. **Ellington – Hall Memorial Library 12/4** Ellington Singers Holiday Concert. 12/5 holiday ornament workshop, Windermere School Instrumentalists, holiday photos, card making workshop. 12/20 holiday cookie sale. Have over 150 cake pans for people to check out. **Hebron – Douglas Library** Asking community for donations of mittens, hats, gloves and/or scarves on behalf of Hebron Interfaith Human Services. 12/5 is holiday candy wreath making class and teen gingerbread house contest. **Killingly** - the Assistant Director position has been posted with interviews beginning January 19th. It’s on the town web site and I posted it on Conntech and with CLC and NELA. 12/3 holiday flower arranging workshop. 12/5 Jedi Celebration Day featuring Cake Wars, Star Wars Origami, Crafts, Trivia, Scavenger Hunts, Light Saber Duels, Prizes and more. 12/10 holiday craft night. Have a Toasty Toes Tree for donations of socks, stockings, and tights for families in need. **Somers PL** – 12/5 Snacks with Santa. Mitten Tree, The library will be collecting donations of new hats, scarves, mittens and gloves, December 1st through December 15th. **Thompson PL** – Gingerbread family fun on 12/9. **Tolland PL** – Festival of trees fundraiser, bid by 12/6. 12/9 cybersecurity program. 12/8 author Dawn Metcalf, a Connecticut author of dark, quirky and sometimes humorous young adult fiction, will discuss her fourth book, “Insidious.” **Willimantic** - RFP for architectural services for our renovation has gone out. Library Director Drusilla Carter has been named to the ALA Legislative Assembly as the representative for the joint ALA/SAA/AAM committee on archives, libraries, and museums.

22) Region 4: Kymberlee Powe **Bethel** Children ages 4-9 will be decorating holiday cookies and they will be donated to Bishop Curtis Congregation and Reynolds Ridge on December 3 from 4-5pm and December 5 from 2-3pm. Children can come to the library from December 1-8 to decorate ornaments for the library Christmas tree. **Brookfield** The Brookfield library will have therapy dogs for their children in the first grade December 8 and 15. They will also be holding a teen cookies and milk party. **Fairfield** The Fairfield library will be celebrating Star Wars Reads day on December 12 with costumes. On December 6 at 1:00pm they will be holding a winter concert with the Lions Gate Trio. "Come and travel through time with the Lions Gate Trio! Hear masterful performances of music, with
contributions from local music students. We'll explore three centuries of music: Beethoven's 'Archduke Trio', Ravel's 'Trio in A minor', and a new theatrical commissioned by Ukrainian composer Maxim Kolomietz."

**Norwalk** The Norwalk library will be hosting an author speak with Nina Sankovitch author of Signed, Sealed, Delivered: The Joy of Letter Writing on December 4 at 12:00pm. On December 14 there will be another author talk with Elizabeth Benedict and Jane Green on Elizabeth's book Me, My Hair and I: Twenty-seven Women Untangle an Obsession. "Benedict’s compilation of essays brings together a noteworthy list of twenty-seven writers to share their personal hair stories."

**Easton** The Easton library is holding a fundraiser where patrons purchase synthetic trees, take them home to decorate, and bring them back to the library to be voted on by the community members. Everyone has participated from the Fire Department, the Police Department, local preschools, and individual patrons. The winners of the contest will be announced at this year’s first annual Community Holiday party that will incorporate stories, pizza, a bubbleology show, and a visit from Santa.

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23) **Region 5:** Christy Billings **Meriden Library:** Just an update on renovations at the Meriden Public Library. We will be closed to the public December 8-11 with the potential of being closed on the 12th and 14th. We will be posting our hours on our website and answering machine. Staff will be working so we will be sending and receiving C-Car deliveries. **Clark Memorial Library:** Exciting news! We just "seeded" the start of a capital campaign for Clark by putting $5,000 in a money market account. We have a long way to go but we are going! **Madison:** The Scranton Memorial Library was awarded a $1,000,000 State Library Construction Grant to be used for a renovation and expansion of the library. **Acton Public Library** recently lost our Reference/Young Adult Librarian -- Sam Perduta has started work as the head of Children's services at a branch of the Philadelphia Free Library. We miss him already! We are currently in the process of filling this part-time position. **Killingworth:** Thanks to donations received through the Neighborhood Assistance Act, we've started small building projects to improve access and energy-efficiency in the library. Automatic doors were installed in mid-November, much to the delight of our patrons with canes, walkers, wheelchairs, strollers, and just full arms. (Jensen Communities funded this project.) The staff kitchen is being renovated with more energy-efficient appliances, plus repairs to the very old plumbing and electrical system. New windows will be installed in our meeting room (previously an old bank building) in December. *With grant monies received from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, we have purchased 8 new computers for the public and staff use. They will all run Windows 10 and the 5 OPACs will offer the full suite of Microsoft Office 2013 - licenses sponsored by The Killingworth Foundation. * Program-wise, we launched a new monthly Mystery Book Club in October, which was an instant hit. Our weekly Knitting Club continues to grow in popularity, and they have created a binder of projects that the public can copy and use. One drawing and two Zentangling programs attracted enthusiastic wanna-be artists, and local author Deb Sodergren led a workshop on meditation (just in time for the crazy holidays). *We did "Elf on the Shelf" for a couple of years, but we decided to give the elf a rest. So this year, we're doing "Max in the Stacks" (poster attached). The "free book" prize comes from our booksale donations. * And for those shoppers who want to avoid the malls or crashing websites, we are currently holding our annual Giftable Books & Library Swag sales - new hardcovers, coffee table books, ornaments, library cookbooks, shirts, blankets, wineglasses, and notecards are all reasonably priced! Local oil painter Sandy Smith filled our December display case with gorgeous works of nature and landscapes; 10% of all her sales also benefit the library. The sales are "on" whenever we're open - the book sale is in our lobby, and the swag sale is in the library proper, across from our New Books section (location, location, location!). And the Killingworth Women's Organization has created a North Pole Mail box, where children can "mail" their letters to Santa (and get a reply, if they include their address). **West Haven:** Our annual holiday party will be this Saturday, Dec. 5th
from 11a-2p at the main library. Free books for kids and a reading by the mayor along with face painting! Our first international book club meeting will also be Dec. 5th. Where people can discuss the Alchemyst which has been published many different languages. 3p-4p. The Flu and you will be Dec. 9 2p-3p. The WH health dept will discuss what you can do to prevent a flu outbreak. Sugar cookie decorating is at our Ora Mason Branch Dec. 17th from 3:30-4:30p. And most excitedly we’ve been awarded a construction grant ($203,898) to make our Ora Mason branch handicap accessible and reconfigure an old unused garage space! James Blackstone Memorial Library-Branford: Library Amnesty week is planned for December 6-12. Outstanding fines will be for-given during that week, even for long-overdue items. We are hoping to get a significant portion of these items back, and allow our patrons to start 2016 with a clean slate. The next time you borrow a book from the library, you may notice that we have new barcode scanners. This state of the art equipment is now capable of scanning barcodes on a smartphone and works equally well with Apple and Android. If you would like to streamline your wallet, try the stocard app to begin storing your loyalty cards. Also, electronic payment of library fines is now available. You can login to your Blackstone Library account and click on the unpaid fines and bills icon, which is located on the left hand side of your patron account page. Accepted forms of payment are Discover, Visa and Mastercard. Finally, our three wifi hot-spots are ready to lend to the public. The hotspots provide unlimited bandwidth for up to 7 devices. They can be borrowed for one week, no renewals, and no holds. Cromwell: SPARK A CHANGE! Teen Group (we took that name from ALA a couple of years ago) will have a craft booth at the local school system’s SHOP ‘Till You Drop! Event on Friday, Dec. 4, from 5:00 to 9:00 PM. We will be selling crafts that the teens create on Friday afternoons. They receive community service for the hours. This month’s charity is our own teen sponsored “Paint Night” program. The painting happens most months with a book theme, but we are taking December off. Also, our various LIBRARY support groups will help in our conference room on Saturdays throughout December : refreshments will be served, crafts made ( such as book marks), and 3-D items created in our conference room each Saturday. It’s for folks those who choose not to cyber shop...shop in person....or need just need a brief respite from it all :) Henry Carter Hull Library in Clinton will be hosting the Pierce Campbell Jazz Trio this Saturday at 2pm. Next Thursday, December 10th, author Ann Nyberg will be having a book signing from 11am to noon. The weekly adult coloring club continues to meet every Tuesday from 10am-1pm, and patrons are offered two chances to attend guided meditation sessions each week: Midday Meditation on Wednesdays at 12:15pm and Mindfulness and Meditation on Thursdays at 6pm. The teen advisory board will be making holiday food baskets for Clinton families from the food they collected during their food drive. They will also be making holiday zentangle art work and gingerbread zombie cookies this month. The children’s department will be having a Drive-In Movie featuring Pixar’s Inside Out on December 29th. Children will be able to turn ordinary cardboard boxes into cars before settling in to watch the movie. The HCH library has also just unveiled its new website. It has a nice, clean look and awesome new features. Russell Library: Middletown Mental Health Matters Saturday, December 5th Hubbard Room. Caring for those with mental illness can be stressful; stress reduction techniques can help us renew our physical and mental energy. Dr. Stephanie Toise will introduce simple techniques that can increase well-being and reduce anxiety, insomnia, and mental fatigue. In Concert: Roger Ceresis AllStarz This exciting 8 piece horn band "delivers high energy East Coast Swing, rhythm and blues and a bit of rock and roll for your soul" (and a holiday tune or two!). Friend’s of the Library Booksale: Friday, December 11th 9AM-6PM, Saturday, December 12th 9AM-5PM and Sunday, December 14th 1PM-4PM. Pulling for Victory: Posters of the First World War- through December 24 An exhibition of original posters from the library's collection featuring images that inspired and persuaded Americans' patriotism and service to the war effort. The posters encouraged citizens to enlist, buy war bonds, grow and conserve food, and support relief agencies.
24) Marjorie mentioned a great article on libraries in today’s Hartford Courant.

25) Vivian asked how can we reach out to the support staff, so they feel included in CLA? Discussion ensued about how to clearly communicate how valued they are in our profession.

26) Beth reminded everyone that if Middletown public schools are closed due to weather, we will cancel our board meeting and meet on our snow date instead. If schools are open or delayed, our meeting will take place as usual.

27) Beth Crowley adjourned the meeting at 11:29am. Motion was made by Carl Antonucci and seconded by Karen Jensen.


The next regular meeting of the CLA Board will on January 7th, 2016 at the Middletown Library Service Center.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sunnie Scarpa, Recording Secretary.