

Connecticut Library Association Executive Board Meeting  
January 8, 2015  
Middletown Library Service Center

1. Dawn La Valle called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Board Introductions
3. Minutes from the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted with changes.
4. Old Business
  - a. President's Report – Dawn La Valle
    - i. Representatives from the Access to Justice CLA are to become more actively involved. They are planning professional development training for basic legal services. A Justice Fair is planned for June and will include legal aid, pro bono etc, all the organizations that provide assistance to individuals seeking legal help. Online resources are available for fee clinics in libraries. Working to get resources that the public needs. It is an on-going program that they are going to partner with CSLDLD and CLA to continue to provide legal resources and training to CT librarians.
  - b. Treasurer's Report – Nicole Greco
    - i. An updated expense form will include time frame and will be more clear about what forms are needed.
    - ii. Lisa Mann from CLC sent a list of all open orders, 30 days or more, as a reminder to resolve payment.
  - c. Request for formal policy change meeting with Procedures chair Karen Jensen – Dawn La Valle
    - i. It is not within the Board's power that the Executive Board can establish formal policy changes. It is within the realm of Section chairs or Committee chairs to establish policies per the discretion of each program. These are in the bylaws of the section chair, NOT the Executive Board by laws.
5. Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Reports
  - a. Archives – Gerald Seagrave
    - i. Larry Cheeseman, noted Law Librarian, died December 29<sup>th</sup>. There will be a grave site service in the spring.
  - b. Awards – Sheri Szymanski
    - i. Region reps met this morning. Deadline for nominations is February 27<sup>th</sup>. Encourage your staff to nominate and participate.
  - c. Career Development – Michael Spellmon
    - i. Deadline for MLS and LTA scholarship is February 27<sup>th</sup>. They have one application so far, two or three others in process.
    - ii. Doing our best to make students more aware of money available.
  - d. CSL – Ken Wiggin

- i. The Governor has put aside \$2.2 million for statewide eBook platform. We are issuing a RFP for consultants to begin building the platform.
  - ii. The Governor granted a two-week reprieve to present the budget on February 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - iii. Rescission including grants to public libraries was challenged.
  - iv. Aspen Institute deal on public library Bring the dialog to Connecticut at the executive level. Maybe in April, during National Library Week, there will be an event the night before. And a one day event at the Capital with agencies at the table on how libraries can help them. Proceeding with this. First time it's been done in a state. Aspen Institute will be represented too.
  - v. Re: Local level - Dawn added that it is the first event in Middlebury is scheduled to talk about what we hope will happen as part of the dialog. There will be training opportunities for library staff, trustees and friends.
- e. CULS – Kristina Edwards
  - i. Call for proposals for the Information Literacy conference will be out in early February. They are adding a poster session.
- f. Conference – Julie Styles
  - i. The schedule is set and letters were sent for all program participants.
- g. Customer Service – Michele Martin for Ellen Cartledge
  - i. Both of our Customer Service Programs have been accepted for the CLA 2015 Conference. Kathy McAfee will be appearing on Monday, April 27 at 10:30am on the topic, “Presenting Your Professional Best.” The session is scheduled for 90 minutes. Our second program is “The Art and Science of a Great Customer Experience,” to be presented on Monday, April 27 at 2:30 pm. The speaker will be Jon Picoult, brother of noted author Jodi Picoult. His session will last 60 minutes.
- h. Editorial – Jen Datum
  - i. Deadline is February 15<sup>th</sup> for submissions to the CLA newsletter.
  - ii. There are over 200 like on the new CLA facebook page.
- i. Legislative – Carl Antonucci
  - i. Thank you everyone who emailed the Governor regarding enabling funds for the eBook platform.
  - ii. They are working on a legislative advocacy tool kit.
- j. NELA – Beth Crowley
  - i. The next board meeting is in New Hampshire.
  - ii. Looking for a Vice President Elect for NELA because the Vice President plans the conference.
- k. PEG – Peter Ciparelli
  - i. There are two applicants for PEG money and will respond in a week or two.
- l. Publicity – Julie Menders

- i. Accepting entry forms through January 31<sup>st</sup> for Print, media and electronic media. The judges are lined up.
    - ii. Meeting end of January to plan for spring program.
  - m. Public Libraries – Sally Tornow
    - i. Next meeting is February 4<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at the Seymour Library. It will be the first meeting to begin planning for Passport 2016.
  - n. Reference and Adult Services – Alison Wilkos
    - i. Authors of “Going Beyond Google” will present at the conference.
  - o. Resource Sharing – Karen Carey
    - i. Both program submissions have been accepted for the conference.
  - p. Technical Services – Steven Bernstein
    - i. Meeting regarding OpenSource Library ware.
  - q. Technology – Melissa Ceraso
    - i. Program for conference with Emily Ann Colford presenting on Bit Fram, a meta data standard to supplement marc records.
  - r. YA – Lorna Rhynins
    - i. Still waiting to hear which program submissions have been accepted.
- 6. Region Reports
  - a. Region 2 – Marge Ruschau
    - i. Avon -- seeking applicants for its 2015 Farmers Market, especially a dairy, protein, and bread vendor.
    - ii. Bristol -- will host an Indian “Dabbawalla” Social, on Tuesday, Jan. 27 at 1 PM. Dabawalla involves people collecting lunches from people's homes, delivering them to their workplaces and then returning the dishes to their homes.
    - iii. Burlington -- has posted their proposed expansion plans on their website and in the library
    - iv. Canton -- Sarah McCusker, head of reference at the Windsor Library, will be new director of Canton Library, replacing Robert Simon who retired Jan. 2. A reception was held that day.
    - v. East Granby -- beginning its juried art show in late Jan.
    - vi. Welles Turner, Glastonbury -- pairing with the town's health and social services departments to host health fair Saturday, Jan. 24, 10-2
    - vii. Granby -- hosting a 5-part financial series
    - viii. Hartford -- took part in the city's First Night celebration by hosting a storyteller and an aerial acrobat
    - ix. Lucy Robbins Wells, Newington -- held an American Girl Photo Shoot in December, where children could bring their dolls and cameras and create their own backgrounds or use library-supplied ones

- x. Plainville -- open Sunday afternoons Jan-April
  - xi. Cora J. Belden, Rocky Hill -- added Flipster database for magazines
  - xii. Windsor -- installed 3D printer but seeking volunteers to help manage it. Also bought a document scanner for each library.
  - xiii. South Windsor -- added Novelist Plus database
- b. Region 3 – Janice Wilson
- i. Babcock Library – Technology Nights offered to learn about social networking programs. Second Friday program was a presentation on Gargoyles of Yale University
  - ii. Bentley Memorial Library - CT DEEP Master Wildlife Conservationist, Ray Hardy spoke on the natural history of the common Eastern Coyote as well as providing tips for avoiding conflicts. Guilty or Innocent book discussion series led by John Valeri continues through March.
  - iii. Canterbury Public Library - Bedtime Math’s Crazy 8s Club for kids to build stuff, run and jump, make music, make a mess is a totally new kind of math club. 8-week program for grades 3-5.
  - iv. Saxton B. Little Free Library – The library expansion renovation did not pass.
  - v. Booth & Dimock Library – Will hold a Valentine’s Day Cards workshop. Makerspace is going strong
  - vi. Hall Memorial Library – Presentation on "The Wobblies in Connecticut"!! Long-time Labor Organizer Steve Thornton will bring stories of the Industrial Workers of the World, or "Wobblies" in Connecticut and their attempt to organize a working-class movement that crossed racial and ethnic lines in the early 20th century. Celebrate "National Get Organized Month" by learning how we get cluttered, why we get cluttered, and why it's time to let go at "Declutter Your Life and Start Living" with Carleen Fischer Hoffman! Carleen, aka "The Clutter Doctor" gave tips on how to get and stay organized by following her special three-step approach. It's the 2015 return of the Library's Coffeeshouses!!! Visit from Robert Rivest, an internationally renowned master mime performer, comic actor and improv artist. The library now provides Ellington patrons with access to Hoopla, an online service that allows you to download movies, TV shows, music, and audiobooks and borrow them for a short amount of time.
  - vii. Douglas Library – Held Shadow Box program to learn to make own shadow boxes - \$10 fee for frame and materials. Friday Foreign Films – afternoons from mid-January to mid-February
  - viii. Aldrich Library - Sign language class
  - ix. Thompson Public Library - Sensory Storytime, a quieter, gentler storytime for families of children with special needs.
  - x. Pomfret Public Library – Now offers Hoopla to stream movies, music, and more. They have the Crazy 8s club for grades K-2.
  - xi. Putnam Public Library - Had a mitten tree over the holidays.
  - xii. Tolland Public Library – Visits by READ dogs allow young children to read to the dogs
  - xiii. Rockville Public Library – Began financial literacy series. Each month will focus on an aspect of finances and how to in the best financial shape for 2015.

- xiv. Killingly Public Library – Collected gloves, scarves, hats, and mittens over the holidays on their mitten tree. They also collected items for the Friends of Assisi food pantry. Curious Creatures brought live critters into the library.
  - xv. Guilford Smith Public Library – Teen librarian returning to school full-time, will be looking for a new librarian soon.
- c. Region 4 – Sheri Szymanski
- i. Darien and Greenwich Libraries will offer extended hours to accommodate school students during midterm exam weeks.
  - ii. Greenwich Library is offering "[Maximizing Your Child's Athletic Potential: Expert Advice on Training Smarter and Preventing Injuries](#)" on January 22 at 7pm The Junior League of Greenwich and the Greenwich Library are hosting this discussion moderated by two-time NBA all-star Allan Houston and featuring a panel of experts from the NBA and NFL on the prevention of adolescent sports injuries.
  - iii. The Bridgeport Library high school robotics competition team the 3634 HardBotties has kicked off a new build season preparing for the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) competition.
  - iv. The Stratford and Norwalk Libraries are now offering Lynda.com. Lynda.com uses engaging video tutorials to teach software, technology, creative, and business skills to achieve personal and professional goals.
  - v. The Trumbull Library's 2015 One Book - One Town title is *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life*, by Barbara Kingsolver. Programs will focus on the theme of the food we eat.
  - vi. The Danbury Library Children's Department has added iPad kiosk stands, featuring mounted iPads loaded with apps that encourage literacy, learning and fun.
  - vii. Westport Library has selected James Joyce's *Dubliners* as this year's WestportREADS selection. As part of this series, Pulitzer Prize-Winning Irish Poet Paul Muldoon will be appearing at the Westport Country Playhouse on January 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss and read from his new book of poems *One Thousand Things Worth Knowing*.
- d. Region 5 – Christy Billings
- i. Meriden Library- Janis Franco, our Reference and Local History/Genealogy Specialist Librarian retired as of 12/31/14. She worked in Meriden for 23 years but also worked part time in North Branford for years as well. There was a nice article about her in the CLA newsletter a few years ago. She fields at least three local genealogy or history questions that come in over our website per week. Questions come from around the country and many foreign lands. Also, this past Saturday, January 3, the Meriden Library hosted its annual 3 Kings Celebration. A local family has organized this event held in the Library for over 20 years. There are refreshments, traditional Spanish/Puerto Rican music and of course the 3 Kings dressed in their regal robes who passed out gifts to all the children in attendance. This year the event was combined with a City event and we had three camels who paraded with Kings aloft down the closed street to the Library. They gave camel rides to young and old in the Library's parking lot while the music, food and gift distribution went on inside the Library. Over 300

people participated including US Congresswoman, Elizabeth Esty who helped the Kings give out toys and took a spin around the parking lot on a camel!  
Check out our Facebook page for some great photos.

- ii. Killingworth Library-November: the library held its Cheers to the Next 50 Years celebration, with the assistance of the Killingworth Women's Organization. Featuring a food truck, dessert and drink bars, silent and live auctions, the event brought in \$6,300. Details here: <http://killingworthlibrary.org/record-numbers-boost-killingworth-librarys-cheers-to-the-next-50-years-event/>December: also under the good graces of the Killingworth Women's Organization KWO, a local family that hosts a Holiday Lights Extravaganza held the event (their 10th and last one) to support the library. I don't think we've gotten the final tally on that income, but it was very successful. A local boyscout troop sold \$200+ of hot chocolate, which they donated to the library as well. We've received a variety of grant monies over the past month as well. Through the Neighborhood Assistance Act, we've gotten funds from Northeast Utilities (\$7,000+, for various energy-efficiency/improvement projects around the building) and from Jensen's (\$4,000, to install automatic doors in our front entrance). We also received a \$3,000+ grant from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, to upgrade all of our public access computers and install all new Microsoft Office products on the workstations. We're starting up with our various winter children's programs (including sign language, musical theater, story times, book discussions, and sessions with a reading therapy dog), and this year, we're adding ABC Amigos, a Spanish-language class for toddlers through early elementary school children.
- iii. Shelton-Huntington Branch Library in the Shelton Library System is welcoming Marissa Ciullo as the new Children's Librarian. Marissa began Jan. 2 at the Branch Library located in the Shelton Community Center. She comes to Shelton from Oxford where she was their Children's Librarian for over five years. She joins Marcia Austin who has become the Branch Director, Marcia was the previous Branch Children's Librarian for over 15 years.
- iv. Russell Library Vince Juliano, a leader in the library community, is retiring from Russell Library after more than a decade of service; Vince was honored at a luncheon at Russell Library on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. Vince began his service at Russell Library in Middletown on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2004. He has been the Assistant Director of Russell Library for the past decade. Vince has been instrumental in the Library's strategic plan, Board of Trustees Succession Plan, revisions to the Trustees Handbook, union contracts, policy and personnel issues, and has been active in many communities. Vince received the Outstanding Librarian Award in 2014. He is an outstanding administrator with a clear vision. He keeps a low profile, and rarely takes credit for his outstanding work. He is extremely dedicated to Russell Library and the library profession; and will be very much missed. Mayor Daniel Drew of Middletown proclaimed January 2<sup>nd</sup> to be VINCENT JULIANO DAY in the City of Middletown. On behalf of the citizens of Middletown, the mayor thanked Vince at his luncheon, for his many years of dedicated service to our library and community, and wished him a very happy retirement. Danny Richmond, Head of Facilities and Security at Russell Library

retired in December 2014. Danny has seen the library through two major renovations and was involved in designing the new Info Dept and Av Dept at Russell. He won the Will Manley Award in 2003 and has written Disaster Plans, and Emergency Security Procedure Manuals that are used in many Connecticut libraries. Danny has given presentations on safety and security in libraries and will continue to consult after his retirement. We will miss his Southern drawl as the "Voice of the Russell Library, and his ability to de-escalate situations before they became a problem. One Book One Middletown 2015 title: *Stranger in a Strange Land* by Robert Heinlein. Copies are available and programs begin in March. 'GMO OMG,' Jeremy Seifert's Documentary Film Thursday January 15, 2015 'GMO OMG' follows one family's struggle to live and eat without participating in an unhealthy, unjust, and destructive food system. How did our food system become hijacked by chemical companies? Is there still time to heal the planet, feed the world, and ourselves? Connecticut was the first state to pass a labeling bill for GMO foods. This film shows why it was necessary. Members from Connecticut Families against Chemical Trespassing (ConnFACT), formerly GMO Free CT, will be present to introduce and discuss the film afterwards. Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK) Tuesday January 27<sup>th</sup>. Join Rober Scata from Emergency Management and Homeland Security for an informational presentation about EFKAK. EFFAK is a simple tool to help Americans minimize the financial impact of a natural disaster or national emergency. It helps users identify and organize key financial records and serves as a quick reference to their most important financial documents. Scata will also discuss how to prepare yourself for a disaster. Many helpful hand outs will be available at this free community program.

6. Adjournment – Dawn La Valle adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Attendance: Beth Crowley, Tom Piezzo, Carl Antonucci, Nicole Greco, Peter Ciparelli, Gerald Seagrave, Karen Carey, Kristina Edwards, Lorna Rhyins, Cathleen Cole, Sally Tornow, Christy Billings, Marge Ruschau, Allison Wilkos, Jennifer Datum, Berry Anne Reiter, Michael Spellmon, Janice Wilson, Ken Wiggin, Julie Styles, Dawn La Val, Richard Conroy, Michele martin, Davis Broman, Kymberlee Powe, Bernadette Niedermeier, Sheri Szymanski, Frank W Ridley, Lisa Mann, Steven Bernstein, Tara Borden, Melissa Ceraso, Carl DeMilia