

# Connecticut Library Association Executive Board Meeting

October 1, 2009

## Middletown Library Service Center

- 1) **Call to order** – The meeting was called to order at 10AM by President Randi Ashton-Pritting
- 2) **Board Introductions** – Announcement: Mary Etter announced that the CT team for the NELA games is being assembled and they are looking for volunteers.
- 3) **Approval of Minutes of September 3, 2009** – Barbara Bailey moved to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Peter Ciparelli. Motion passed.
- 4) **Old Business:**
  - a) **Editorial Committee** – Tom Newman provided an overview of decisions made with respect to *Connecticut Libraries* at a recent meeting with members of the CLA Board. David Kapp purchased a home on Cape Cod and has resigned as editor. The December issue, containing book recommendations, will be published online with volunteer editors. The February/March issue is proposed as a print issue, and another online issue is planned for publication before the end of the fiscal year. The editorial committee will meet again in the spring to discuss the future direction of *Connecticut Libraries*. Jay Johnston thanked the committee for its due diligence and excellent editorial work, but questioned whether the budget would be able to bear the production of another print issue. Jaime Hammond suggested that since so much of the February/March issue is devoted to promoting the annual conference production costs could be built into the conference budget.
  - b) **Connecticut State Library Budget Update** – Ken Wiggin situated the recent holdbacks to the State Library budget within the context of three OPM provisions to reduce: 1) Personnel by 14 million; 2) Operating funds by 11 million; and 3) Contracts, etc. by 95 million. He stated the formula used was based on FY08 spending patterns, and that the State Library had no input to where the reductions were made. He also pointed out that the 5% may still apply if revenue fails to keep up with expenses. Although appropriation levels are in a good place, Wiggin noted the strong likelihood that the holdbacks will apply to next year's budget. Ashton-Pritting announced that letters to the Governor and key legislators were hand delivered a day earlier. She asked Wiggin what the library community can do to help. Wiggin stressed that we must keep talking about the implications of these holdbacks for libraries and to pay attention to upcoming elections.
  - c) **Connecticut Library Consortium** – Chris Bradley reported that the InfoAnytime program was suspended due to budgetary holdbacks, although the JobNow service and the Affiniscape membership database project will continue. Bradley noted that given the tough economy, CLC membership has increased. To reduce operating expenses, CLC has not budgeted for NELA or Roundtables this year. Ed O'Hara thanked CLC for its role in "filling the breach" for academic libraries.
  - d) **Legislative Committee Report** – Johnston asked the board for permission to execute a contract with CLC lobbyist Bobby Shea in the amount of \$13,000.00. Although the amount is \$3,000.00 more than budgeted, Alison Wang observed that the amount could be absorbed since the Russell Library has forgiven \$1,800.00 in rent and \$420.00 in parking. Johnston moved **that the line for the lobbyist be increased from \$10,000.00 to \$13,000.00 per year; to accomplish this transfer \$3,000.00 from the CLC management line to the lobbyist line.** Seconded by Kathy Leeds. Motion passed with two abstentions. A thank you note will be sent to Russell Library.

e) **Conference 2010 Update** – The conference chairs have received a contract from Mohegan Sun though it contains several errors that need to be amended. Program request forms will be online within the next two weeks. The tentative dates are April 19-20, 2010, although April 20-21, 2010 is also under consideration. Dana Lucisano requested that safeguards be put in place to avoid overlapping programs and ensure communication.

f) **Publicity Committee** – Betty Anne Reiter announced that the Publicity Committee will sponsor a “Snapshot: A Day in the Life of Connecticut’s Libraries” program based on the successful program in New Jersey. The proposed date is February 17, 2010, although it was pointed out by Caitlin Augusta that Ash Wednesday falls on that day. A Flickr account will be created in order for participating libraries to upload photos and video, and a survey will be created to gather library use statistics.

g) **Career Development** – David Boudinot asked for Board input regarding the addition of a scholarship fund donation that would be included along with PEG and the CLA general fund on membership applications. The Board supported this idea; however, O’Hara questioned whether awarding large scholarships was fiscally prudent. Boudinot explained that the MLS and LTA scholarships were partially funded by the Adeline Mix Fund as a stipulation of the bequest. Boudinot announced that the scholarship application guidelines had been amended to require a CLA membership. Karen DeLoatch observed that some LTA students might not be able to afford the \$25.00 membership fee. Boudinot will bring the input gathered back to the next Career Development meeting.

h) **Membership** – Jaime Hammond advised the Board that the new member incentive (i.e., new members who join in April to receive the conference rate receive a 15-month membership) has been removed from the CLA website. Two meetings have been held thus far to draft a mission statement as well as establish qualitative and quantitative goals. Nancy Disbrow announced that the faculty at Southern Connecticut State University voted to include CLA membership information in acceptance packets. Hammond announced that the first CLA meetup in New Haven was a great success with over 30 people in attendance. The Facebook Group is also picking up. Beth Crowley and Su Epstein pointed out some confusion over individual and institutional memberships. Hammond stated that the topic was an agenda item for the next meeting. Hammond is gathering brief descriptions of sections and committees for the CLA website.

5) **New Business** – None

6) **Committee/Section/Roundtable/Regional Representatives Reports**

Laurie Colburn announced that the CLASS fall workshop will take place on November 6, 2009 at Middlesex Community College.

Mary Etter announced that Ken Wiggin will be the 2009 recipient of the NELA Emerson Greenaway Award.

7) **Adjournment** – motion to adjourn made by Chris Bradley; seconded by Alison Wang.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Debbie Herman,VP/President Elect**

**Attendees:** David Boudinot, Jaime Hammond, Alison Wang, Debbie Herman (scribe), Randi Ashton-Pritting, Chris Bradley, Beth Crowley, Caitlin Augusta, Geri Diorio, Mona Scully-Smith, Gerald Seagrave, Maribeth Breen, Sheila Lafferty, Laurie Colburn, Jay Johnston, Dana Lucisano, Barbara Bailey, Peter Ciparelli, Carolyn Benjamin, Mary Etter, Kendall Wiggin, Betty Anne Reiter, Linda Avellar, Mary Engels, Ed O’Hara, Kathy Leeds, Carl Antonucci, Karen DeLoatch, Sandy Rosado, Nancy Disbrow, Su Epstein, Carl Nawrocki, Tom Newman, Dana Tonkonow.