

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
STATE LIBRARY BOARD
March 26, 2018

INDEX

Members present: John N. Barry, Allen Hoffman, Bob Harris, Judge Michael Sheldon, Mary Etter, Sandy Ruoff, Jay Johnston

Members absent: Alison Clemens, Matt Poland, Dianna Wentzell, Justice Andrew McDonald

Others present: Kendall Wiggin, Jane Beaudoin, Dawn La Valle, Doris Vieira, Carol Trinchitella, Robert Kinney, LeAnn Power, Lizette Pelletier, (State Library), Joseph Farara (Libraries Online), Jennifer Keohane (CLC), Glenn Grube (CLA / Avon Free Public Library), Kate Byroade (CLA / Cragin Memorial Library, Colchester

The meeting was called to order at 1:00p.m. by Chairman John Barry.

MINUTES

It was MOVED (J. Johnston) seconded (A. Hoffman) THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 22, 2018, BOARD MEETING BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED. PASSED unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Ken introduced Doris Vieira, who has joined the State Library staff as Fiscal Administrative Manager. Doris has many years of state service with other agencies such as the Office of the State Comptroller, the Department of Public Health and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Ken is pleased to have Doris on board and is looking forward to working with her.

Ken invited questions to his written report. Judge Sheldon asked about the construction grants that were forfeited by two towns. Ken explained that these towns were not able to achieve their local matching funds goals and those forfeited funds will be available for grants in this year's grant cycle. Forfeiting of grants for this reason is happening less and less because the State Library no longer submits a project to the Bond Commission until the library has the required matching funds. The Bond Commission approved funding for the grants in question prior to this change.

OTHER REPORTS

Connecticut Library Association (CLA): Glenn Grube, President of CLA, gave an overview of the CLA activities. Four CLA members testified before the legislature in favor of keeping the budget that was passed in October. CLA has a

MINUTES
Motion

BOARD
COMMENTS/
ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

STATE
LIBRARIAN'S
REPORT

OTHER REPORTS
CLA

new slate of officers for the June election. April is Passport to Connecticut Libraries month and the Annual CLA Conference will be held on April 23 -24, 2018, at the Danbury Crowne Plaza. John Barry thanked CLA for their advocacy work.

Advisory Council for Library Planning and Development (ACLPD): No report at this time.

ACLPD

Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC): Jennifer Keohane, Executive Director, reported that CLC just finished its membership renewal. CLC partnered with CPTV to get the word out locally and nationally about Take Your Child to the Library Day on February 3. CLC will once again be offering registration discounts for Book Expo which runs May 30 - June 1, at the Javits Center in New York City. They will also be running buses to the event. Jennifer reported that it was determined to not move forward on the RFP bid for supplemental delivery service. She stated that it was mostly price and uncertainty about volume when holds are released, that prompted the decision not to award the RFP. It was decided it was best to wait and that each region will pursue their own supplemental delivery for now. This matter will be revisited in the summer.

CLC

Association of Connecticut Library Boards (ACLB): No report at this time.

ACLB

Friends of Connecticut Libraries (FOCL): No report at this time.

FOCL

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Update: Ken stated that he appreciated CLA making a case before the Appropriations Committee in support of the budget. A loss of the BorrowIT funds next year along with carrying the other cuts that were made in November into the next fiscal year would bring the State Library below its required federal Maintenance of Effort (MOE). This would result in the loss of over \$300,000 in Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding. Ironically the federal budget includes an increase in LSTA funds which makes it even more difficult to meet the required match and MOE. The November rescissions left the State Library short of funds to cover the 4th quarter costs of some of the researchIT databases. The academic libraries have agreed to pay for 3 of their databases for that period. Initially, Ken had considered stopping access to HeritageQuest through researchIT CT from April 1st through June 30th of this year. But in consultation with Dawn La Valle, he has decided to use some LSTA funds to prevent a disruption in access to HeritageQuest.

OLD BUSINESS
Budget Update

Jay Johnston questioned how it is that we are able to deny access to databases that hold information the public should be able to get. Ken explained that there are only 3 specialized databases that are restricted to students and faculty at academic libraries. Historically some of the researchIT (formerly iCONN) databases have been licensed for academic use only, just as HeritageQuest is for public library use only. Ken agrees that it's time to review the entire suite of researchIT offerings and the public policy surrounding the database program. The Division of Library Development is in the process of getting input from the library community on their database needs.

Ken was pleased to report that he has been given permission to refill a Unit Head position left empty through the retirement of Diane Pizzo.

Legislative Update: Ken stated that the State Library is not pursuing any legislation this year. No further report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution for Diane Pizzo: The resolution honoring the retirement of Diane Pizzo was immediately MOVED (M. Etter) seconded (M. Sheldon), THAT ON THIS 26TH DAY OF MARCH, 2018, THE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY BOARD HEREBY UNANIMOUSLY AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY ACKNOWLEDGES DIANE PIZZO'S 35 PLUS YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY, EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION FOR HER LOYALTY AND LONGEVITY, AND EXTENDS ITS SINCERE WISH FOR MANY FULFILLING, PLEASURABLE, AND HEALTHY RETIREMENT YEARS. PASSED unanimously.

Proposed Changes to Construction Grant Guidelines: Ken referred to the fact sheet distributed to the Board in their packets that showed the recommended changes to the Guidelines. There was a lengthy discussion on the recommendation to change the method of allocation of library construction grants. Of specific concern was the recommendation that "acceptable applications from public libraries in distressed municipalities will always have priority over all other applications except in cases where the available bond funds are earmarked only for libraries in non-distressed municipalities." Ken explained that some years ago some legislators were concerned about funding for distressed municipalities and subsequently the legislature earmarked some of the bond funds, through the appropriation process, for distressed municipalities. Ken stated that although he feels that distressed municipalities should be given priority, he would like to move away from the legislature earmarking funds because it can hold up money that could otherwise be used. Ken explained that under the proposed change, a qualified application from a distressed municipality would get a grant before any qualified applications from non-distressed municipalities. At John's request, Ken will provide a list of the distressed towns, which are identified annually by the Department of Economic and Community Development, to the Board members. It was MOVED (J. Johnston) seconded (A. Hoffman) that this item be tabled until the May 21, 2018, State Library Board meeting. PASSED unanimously.

Ken requested that Board members direct all questions to him prior to the next meeting so that this matter can be voted on at the next meeting which is before the grant cycle starts. It was agreed.

Fiber to the Library Supplemental Grants-in-Aid: This supplemental grant funding helps libraries with unanticipated expenses necessary to complete the circuits within their buildings and put the fiber into operation. It was immediately moved (B. Harris) seconded (S. Ruoff) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVE AN EIGHTH ROUND OF GRANTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE

Legislative Update

NEW BUSINESS
Resolution for
Diane Pizzo

Motion

Construction Grant
Guidelines

Fiber to the Library
Supplemental
Grants-in-Aid

Motion

DIVISION OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT.

\$1,155.51 to the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon

PASSED unanimously.

Endorsement of the State Library Proposal to Reuse 129 Lafayette Street, Hartford: Ken circulated the Building Reuse Application that he submitted to the Office of Policy and Management and went over the background information that led up to the church building on 129 Lafayette Street in Hartford being surplusd by the state. Ken explained his idea on how the State Library could use the building for a State History Research Center providing students, teachers, researchers, state agencies, and the general public with access to historical information about Connecticut and its people from colonial times to the present.

129 Lafayette Street

Ken had to submit the Building Reuse Application to the Office of Policy and Management by March 23rd. At this time Ken is seeking the State Library Board's endorsement of the proposal for the State Library to acquire the building. It was MOVED (B. Harris) seconded (M. Etter) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD ENDORSE THE PROPOSAL FOR THE STATE LIBRARY TO ACQUIRE THE BUILDING AND PROPERTY AT 129 LAFAYETTE STREET FOR PURPOSES OF ESTABLISHING A STATE HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER ANNEX OF THE STATE LIBRARY AND THAT THIS ENDORSEMENT BE COMMUNICATED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT. PASSED unanimously.

Motion

John asked any Board member wanting to tour 129 Lafayette Street, to let Ken know so that he can see about arranging it.

At 2:10 p.m., it was MOVED (B. Harris) TO ADOURN. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 21, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. in the State Library's Reading Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendall F. Wiggin, Secretary

Jane Beaudoin, Recorder

