

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
STATE LIBRARY BOARD
July 23, 2018

INDEX

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

Members absent: Dianna Wentzell, Matt Poland

Others present: Kendall Wiggin, Jane Beaudoin, Dawn La Valle, Doris Vieira, Carol Trinchitella, LeAnn Power, Lizette Pelletier, Christine Pittsley, Robert Kinney, Ursula Hunt, (State Library), Lisa Karim (CLA), Joe Farara (LION), Kate Byroade (CLA), Jennifer Keohane (CLC)

The meeting was called to order at 1:05p.m. by Chairman John N. Barry.

MINUTES

It was MOVED (M. Etter) seconded (B. Harris) THAT THE MINUTES OF THE May 21, 2018, BOARD MEETING BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED. PASSED unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bob Harris shared from his quote-of-the-day calendar "The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library." which is attributed to Albert Einstein.

Jay Johnston stated that because he has relocated to Longmeadow, MA, this is his last meeting of the State Library Board as a member. He will continue to attend meetings as a nonmember as necessary. He stated that it has been a pleasure to serve on the State Library Board and to get to know everyone. John replied that there is a resolution acknowledging Jay 's service later on the meeting agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Ken reported that at the last meeting it was suggested that we look into getting a conceptual way of showing how the State Library would like to use the building at 129 Lafayette Street. Ken will be meeting with Liz Shapiro from the Department of Economic and Community Development tomorrow to get ideas on resources to assist in developing conceptual drawings.

Also at the last meeting the Board asked about distressed municipalities. Ken distributed a memo that Tom Newman helped prepare, that addresses the number of construction grants to distressed municipalities over the past 10 years. This document will be kept with the permanent records of this meeting.

Ken introduced Christine Pittsley, Project Director, Remembering World War One: Sharing History/Preserving Memories, who reported on her work with the World War One project, her work with helping to research information for the movie "Sgt. Stubby: An American Hero" and her trip to France and the experience in acknowledging the Connecticut 102nd Regiment's involvement in

MINUTES
Motion

BOARD
COMMENTS/
ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

STATE
LIBRARIAN'S
REPORT

the World War One attack on the town of Seicheprey by German storm troopers. Christine documented her trip to France on social media and had a tremendous following. This has fueled the efforts of the digitization project as it has increased interactions with people who have a story to tell related to World War One. Christine's interns opened their exhibit, "Heroes on the Homefront: A Look Into the Role of Connecticut Citizens During World War One" at the Old State House. The exhibit runs from July 20 through November 2018. Christine also told the Board about a recently completed project involving copies of an unbound book, *Connecticut Fights, The Story of the 102nd Regiment*, written by Captain Daniel W. Strickland in 1926. 275 copies have been bound and will be sold as a limited edition commemorative volume to mark the centennial of World War One. An introduction written by State Historian Walter Woodward, foreword, written by State Librarian Kendall Wiggin, and a new afterword, written by Brigadier General Fran Evon, were added to the book. The sale price for the book has not been determined yet.

OTHER REPORTS

Connecticut Library Association (CLA): Kate Byroade introduced herself as the new President of CLA, and introduced Lisa Karim as the new Vice President. CLA is off to a good start and both Kate and Lisa are looking forward to working with the Board in the coming year.

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

Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC): Jennifer Keohane, Executive Director, stated that this has been an investment year for CLC. She is working with Ken and Dawn La Valle to get their grant contract and state funding in place. CLC has 2 new staff members, Amanda Stern, who is the Events and Special Projects Manager and Julie Yulo-Medeiros, the new Member Relations Manager, School & Academic Libraries. CLC has had a busy renewal period. Jennifer highlighted a couple of their programs and stated that they are looking to revamp their communications.

Association of Connecticut Library Boards (ACLB): Dawn La Valle reported for ACLB. She is ACLB's State Library liaison to the State Library Board and is an ex-officio member of ACLB. ACLB addressed a recent question that was posted on CONNtech, the library listserv, about freedom of information (FOI) with regards to library boards voting via email. Dawn consulted with Tom Hennick of the FOI Commission who stated that it is not appropriate for library board meetings to vote via email. Dawn reminded everyone that the ACLB Handbook is online. Chapter 30 of the handbook outlines what a public meeting is and Mr. Hennick's determination is being added to that section of the handbook.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Update: Ken stated that he expects to receive budget guidelines for the next biennial budget soon. Since the Library and Legal Materials budget was severely reduced a number of years ago, the State Library has been able to offset some of the budget reductions by using Capital Equipment Purchase Funds (CEPF) to purchase permanent or long term volumes for the collection.

OTHER REPORTS
CLA

ACLPD

CLC

ACLB

FOCL

OLD BUSINESS
Budget Update

For FY19, \$200,000 has been secured to supplement the book budget, which hopefully will limit the number of subscription cancellations. Doris Vieira and Ken have been working with the Dept. of Administrative Services to determine how many vacant positions can be filled and whether there is enough funding to refill vacancies that arise during the year. There are a number of retirements expected this fiscal year and maintaining current staff levels is a priority.

Legislative Update: Ken reported that at the last CLA Legislative Committee meeting there was discussion about possible legislative initiatives for the new legislative session. Ken had originally thought this might be a good time to do a complete overhaul of the public library statutes, but instead he is proposing focusing on donations to public libraries and library endowments; expand the current statute on forming regional libraries; clarifying which libraries are subject to the state FOIA; and adding academic libraries to the statute on the confidentiality of library records. Currently the law only applies to public libraries.

Legislative Update

There was discussion concerning the elimination of public hearing transcriptions for committees of the General Assembly. Justice McDonald asked if any legislative leaders talked with the State Library before they raised this matter. Ken replied that he was never approached about this. Ken has signed on with other organizations to oppose this. It used to be that public hearings were recorded, transcribed and then sent to the State Library for indexing and then permanently placed here. They are now only being audio recorded. Allen Hoffman asked if it would be advisable for the State Library Board to issue a statement on the importance of written transcriptions. Ken stated that he will bring an action item to the Board's September meeting for consideration. John suggested gathering information on what other states are doing and felt that it may not be in the best interest of the Board to take action since upcoming elections may change things. Judge Sheldon stated that the transcriptions are a record of public input and charts where public opinions come from. Documenting where Connecticut stands individually is important. Ken stated that he will bring information about this to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS
Grant Extension

Grant Extension for the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library in Coventry: The Town of Coventry is scheduling a referendum vote for November 6, 2018, to finance their library expansion project. The town plans to continue pursuing local funding after November should the referendum fail. The extension would guarantee that the Town of Coventry will have the extra time if needed. It was MOVED (M. Sheldon) seconded (B. Harris) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVES EXTENDING THE LOCAL FUNDING DEADLINE TO NOVEMBER 23, 2019, FOR THE TOWN OF COVENTRY - BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY, CONSTRUCTION GRANT #032P-SC-15. PASSED unanimously.

Motion

Revision of Connecticut Digital Library Advisory Board (CDLAB) Bylaws: It was immediately MOVED (A. Hoffman) seconded (M. Etter) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVES THE REVISIONS TO THE CONNECTICUT DIGITAL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD BYLAWS AS APPROVED BY THE CDLAB AT ITS JUNE 6, 2018 MEETING. PASSED unanimously.

Revision of CDLAB
ByLaws
Motion

At this point, John asked that the Resolutions be moved to the end of the

meeting agenda. First would be Ursula Hunt's Resolution and Jay Johnston's would be second. It was agreed.

State Librarian to Advise Communities on Outsourcing and Privatization of Public Libraries: John referred to the fact sheet that was included in the Board packets and asked if anyone in attendance had a question or comment on this matter. There were no questions or comments. It was MOVED (M. Etter) seconded (M. Sheldon) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD AFFIRMS THE PRINCIPLE THAT PUBLICLY FUNDED LIBRARIES SHOULD REMAIN DIRECTLY ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PUBLIC THEY SERVE AND THEREFORE OPPOSES ANY ATTEMPT TO SHIFT THE POLICYMAKING AND MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT OF LIBRARY SERVICES FROM THE PUBLIC TO THE PRIVATE FOR-PROFIT SECTOR.

SECONDLY, MOVED: THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD, PURSUANT TO SEC. 11-23, AUTHORIZES THE STATE LIBRARIAN, TO ADVISE COMMUNITIES ON THE OUTSOURCING AND PRIVATIZATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES. PASSED unanimously.

Mary Etter complimented Ken on the way this matter was handled in a delicate and balanced manner.

Library Service and Technology Act Grants: The State Library conducts a competitive grant program using federal LSTA grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Advisory Council for Library Planning and Development approved the grant categories that meet the goals set in Connecticut's current LSTA Five Year Plan. The categories for which applications for grants were sought are: Literacy Grants and Planning Grants.

Two literacy grants were approved at the May 21, 2018 State Library Board meeting. The deadlines for planning grants are scheduled for four weeks before each State Library Board meeting. One application was received by the deadline in this category.

DLD staff reviewed one planning grant application requesting a total of \$5,000. The application was competitively scored in accordance with established criteria. One grant totaling \$5,000 is being recommended to the State Library Board for approval.

It was MOVED (B. Harris), seconded (A. Hoffman) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVES THE ALLOCATION OF \$5,000 IN LSTA FUNDS FOR THE GRANT AS SPECIFIED IN THE DETAILED BREAKDOWN – LSTA PLANNING GRANT FOR FY18-19– Ferguson Library, Stamford (\$5,000). PASSED unanimously

Fiber to the Library Grants-in-Aid: In 2015 the legislature appropriated funds for Grants-in-Aid for high speed connections to the Connecticut Education Network (CEN). On May 27, 2016, the State Bond Commission approved an allocation and bond authorization to the State Library for \$3.6 million for the fiber grants. In August 2016, the State Library announced the Fiber to the Library grant program and began accepting non-competitive grants to principal public libraries for high-

State Librarian to Advise Communities on Outsourcing & Privatization of Public Libraries

Motion

Motion

Library Service and Technology Act Grants

Motion

Fiber to the Library Grants-in-Aid

speed fiber connections to the CEN. The fact sheet included in the State Library Board's packet explains the Description of Grants, Eligibility, and Eligible Grant Expenses. Also included in the Board's packet was a chart with one library, the Prospect Public Library, being recommended to receive a grant for \$27,825.00. It was immediately moved (M. Etter) seconded (B. Harris) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVES A TENTH ROUND OF GRANTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIVISION OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT. PASSED unanimously.

Motion

Nominating Committee: John stated that the State Library Board's election of officers will occur at the September meeting. In the past Jay Johnston has served as the liaison for the Nominating Committee. With Jay leaving the Board, we will need a new Nominating Committee. John stated that because of how the State Library Board ByLaws are written to have limited consecutive terms, he will not be eligible to be Chair in this term. It was agreed that Mary Etter and Sandy Ruoff will serve as the Nominating Committee.

Nominating Committee

Resolution for Ursula Hunt: John invited Ursula to stand with him as he thanked her for her service and congratulated her on behalf of the Board. John read Ursula's retirement resolution. It was MOVED (B. Harris) seconded (M. Etter) THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT ON THIS 23RD DAY OF JULY, 2018, THE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY BOARD HEREBY UNANIMOUSLY AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY ACKNOWLEDGES URSULA HUNT'S 28 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION FOR HER LOYALTY AND LONGEVITY, AND EXTENDS ITS SINCERE WISH FOR MANY FULFILLING, PLEASURABLE, AND HEALTHY RETIREMENT YEARS. PASSED unanimously.

Resolution for Ursula Hunt

Motion

Resolution for Jay Johnston: John stood with Jay as he thanked him for his insight and contributions to the Board. Jay was presented with a resolution and also a pewter box to acknowledge his service to the State Library Board. It was MOVED (S. Ruoff) seconded (M. Sheldon) THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT ON THIS 23RD DAY OF JULY, 2018, THE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY BOARD HEREBY UNANIMOUSLY AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY EXTEND THEIR HEARTFELT THANKS AND DEEPEST APPRECIATION TO MR. JOHNSTON FOR HIS DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE MISSION OF THE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY AND THEIR APPRECIATION FOR HIS EFFORTS TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE LIBRARY COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES FOR THE CITIZENS OF CONNECTICUT. PASSED unanimously.

Resolution for Jay Johnston

Motion

The meeting ended at 2:03 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 24, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. in the State Library's Reading Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendall F. Wiggin, Secretary

Jane Beaudoin, Recorder