

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
STATE LIBRARY BOARD
March 25, 2019

INDEX

Members present: Mary Etter, Judge Michael Sheldon, Allen Hoffman, Bob Harris, Sandy Ruoff

Members absent: Justice Andrew McDonald, Alison Clemens, John N. Barry, Dianna Wentzell, Diane Brown

Others present: Kendall Wiggin, Jane Beaudoin, Dawn La Valle, LeAnn Burbank, Damon Munz, Allen Ramsey, Jaime Rodrigues, Frank Calvi, Carol Trinchitella, Robert Kinney, Kris Abery, Debra Pond (State Library), Lisa Karim (CLA), Kate Byroade (CLA), Jennifer Keohane (CLC).

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Mary Etter.

MINUTES

It was MOVED (M. Sheldon) seconded (A. Hoffman) THAT THE MINUTES OF THE January 14, 2019, BOARD MEETING BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED. PASSED with one abstention.

BOARD COMMENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Ken distributed a letter to each Board member which served as his formal announcement of his intention to retire on January 1, 2020. He stated that it's been his privilege and honor to serve as State Librarian for the past 20 years. Ken stated that there is a lot to do between now and the end of the year and his goal is to leave things in an orderly fashion and have a smooth transition for his successor. He is hopeful that the amount of notice he is giving will ensure this process.

The Board expressed their appreciation to Ken for his dedication, hard work and leadership and also for the generous amount of notice.

Ken introduced the State Library's new Fiscal Administrative Manager, Frank Calvi. Frank has extensive government service and will not only oversee the financial matters at the Library but also the building issues and the IT support staff. The State Library also has a new Fiscal Administrative Assistant Doralis Hernaiz, who started the same day as Frank.

Ken informed the Board that State Data Coordinator Tom Newman will be retiring on May 1, 2019. Tom has requested a very low key retirement from state service so nothing formal will come before the Board. Tom is a great asset and very important resource at the State Library and will be missed.

Ken updated the Board on the Digging Into History project. Fifteen high school students have been selected to travel to Seicheprey, France to take part in a community service project to clear and restore a section of trenches Connecticut soldiers occupied. The application process was online and required the students to submit an essay and two recommendations. The students met each other this

MINUTES
Motion

BOARD
COMMENTS/
ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

STATE
LIBRARIAN'S
REPORT

past Sunday and are very excited. Fundraising efforts for this trip have been successful with some donations being designated specifically for individual students.

Ken reminded the Board members that their State Ethics filings are due May 1, 2019. Everyone should have received an email notification by now.

Mary Etter asked about the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) transition to multiple-book cartridges. This is a new audio book production process designed to put up to ten audio books on one cartridge. Ken replied that he will invite LBPH Director Gordon Reddick to the next State Library Board meeting to present on this subject.

Mary also asked if there could be a companion piece follow up to the deliverIT report that was included in the State Librarian's Report. She would like it to include the end user information. Ken stated that a survey could be done to get this information.

OTHER REPORTS

Connecticut Library Association (CLA): Kate Byroade, President, reported that CLA is looking forward to its Annual Conference which will be held on April 29-30 at the Mystic Marriot in Groton. On March 6, several librarians testified before the Appropriations Committee in support of the State Library's budget. Kate recommended the movie "The Public" which will be released soon. The movie does an excellent job showcasing what librarians do. CLA has remained involved in attending US Census events.

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

Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC): Executive Director Jennifer Keohane updated the Board on CLC activities. They just finished their membership drive and are partnering with the Goodspeed Opera House to connect them with schools for a writing contest. CLC will again be running buses to the Book Expo on May 30. Jennifer reported that behind the scenes they are working to identify alternative sources of funding to help with the percentage that has been cut from their budget over the years.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Update: Ken distributed a Legislative Update document that he prepared for the Board and will be kept in the permanent files with the minutes. Ken presented on the State Library's budget to the Appropriations Committee on March 6. CLA, CLC and a number of librarians testified on behalf of the State Library's budget. The State Library's bonding proposal hearing took place on March 11, before the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee. At the March 15 budget work session with the Elementary and Secondary Education Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, Ken presented a budget proposal to support public library participation in Census 2020. Ken presented this proposal at the request of a Committee member. It was in

OTHER REPORTS
CLA

ACLPD

CLC

ACLB

FOCL

OLD BUSINESS
Budget Update

addition to his answering questions raised during the budget hearing. Ken made it clear that this proposal was not in place of his budget request. The Office of Policy and Management included a little extra money in the budget for additional security costs that resulted from the transfer of building security to the State Marshals.

Ken stated that the March Bond Commission meeting was canceled. We continue to request bond funding for State Public Library Construction grants for Putnam, Weston, Danbury, Greenwich and Ridgefield.

Legislative Update: Ken stated that this has been a quiet legislative session for the State Library. We are supporting Raised H.B. 7211 "An Act Concerning the Preservation of Historical Records and Access to Restricted Records in the State Archives".

NEW BUSINESS

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 (S. Ruoff) seconded (B. Harris) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVE AN ELEVENTH ROUND OF GRANTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIVISION OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT.

\$3,223.00 to the Andover Public Library
\$5,290.00 to the Babcock Library in Ashford

PASSED unanimously.

Appointment to the Connecticut Digital Library Advisory Board: It was immediately MOVED (B. Harris) seconded (S. Ruoff) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF AMY SCHUMANN OF THE CYRENIUS H. BOOTH LIBRARY IN NEWTOWN, CT, TO THE CONNECTICUT DIGITAL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE TERM OF JANUARY 1, 2019 TO DECEMBER 31, 2020. PASSED unanimously.

At 1:40pm it was MOVED (A. Hoffman) seconded (S. Ruoff) TO ADJOURN.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. in the State Library's Reading Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendall F. Wiggin, Secretary

Jane Beaudoin, Recorder

Legislative Update

NEW BUSINESS
Fiber to the Library
Supplemental
Grants-in Aid

Motion

Appointment to
CDLAB
Motion

