**Association of Connecticut Library Boards**

Connecticut State Library

231 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, CT 06106

Date: January 14, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Location: Zoom meeting

Present: Gail Richmond, Wendy Berlind, Sue Phillips, Carol Mikulski, Jan Glover, Dawn LaValle, Barbara Leonard, Denise Stankovics

**Call to Order:**  President Gail Richmond called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

**Secretary’s Report:** It was moved (Carol) and seconded (Jan) to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2020 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Sue Phillips reported that memberships are coming in and that there is a $3/month bank fee for paper statements. There was a discussion of setting up a dedicated email for receipt of memberships.

**President’s Report:** Gail Richmond said that one board basics training had been rescheduled and that two more libraries have requested the training.

**FOCL Report:** Barbara Leonard let us know that FOCL held an on-line conference in November on book sales in the time of COVID. It was decided to hold zoom sessions for smaller groups of libraries to talk about how they are managing with covid closures; the groups will be divided into large and small libraries. FOCL will not hold an in-person June meeting but may have an outdoor meeting in the fall.

**State Library Report:** Dawn reported that Deborah Schander has begun work as the new head of the CT State Library. She expressed appreciation for the work of Maureen Sullivan as interim State Librarian. The State Library office has been busy planning for the budget; as always, a difficult year is expected, especially with reduced tax revenue due to covid-related closures of businesses. In addition, the State Librarian is no longer allowed to lobby; the CLA will do what it can but lobbyists have to have a license. Advocacy from library boards and Friends groups is more important than ever. Dawn also reported that ACLPD has created a “Digital Inclusion Task Force to:

* Model the work of the National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA) to facilitate sharing about digital inclusion including:
  + Digital Literacy Education
  + Access
  + Awareness
* Engage in strategic partnerships to strengthen the Task Force.
* Explore digital inclusion tools, resources and services to be provided by the State Library.
* Develop training modules to educate library staff on digital inclusion and technology skills to better understand how to meet the needs of their communities.
* Develop the framework for a digital navigator program in CT.
* Develop presentations to discuss the critical elements of digital inclusion.
* Make recommendations to ACLPD and the State Library Board for digital inclusion practices and policies.”

Dawn also reported on *Set the Stage*, “an early literacy initiative program designed for any library staff member who works with or wishes to work with children ages birth to five and their families. Initiated and designed by children’s librarians Allison Murphy and Caitlin Augusta, Set the Stage is a partnership initiative with the Connecticut State Library Division of Library Development (CSL DLD). Facilitated by CSL DLD's Children and YA Consultant Kymberlee Powe, this year-long program will begin in January 2021 with ten core courses including Child Development, Storytime 101, and Collection Management. Students will also participate in Project Ready, an online initiative of the Institute of Museum and Library Services dedicated to improving knowledge about race and racism, racial equity, and culturally sustaining pedagogy.”

Jan suggested that pandemic innovation stories should be collected from libraries across the state; it was also suggested that ACLB offer Board Basics as a webinar again as it was well received during our November series.

**Old Business:**

*Newsletter:* Denise reported that for the early winter issue to go out in January, she plans a re-cap of the November webinars, a column by Maureen Sullivan, and a report on the newly developed assessment tool. She has obtained email addresses for general assembly members and Sue is helping with library addresses. Wendy has the complete list (from Dawn) of library email addresses. Hard copies will be mailed to all libraries.

*Assessment Tool:* It was agreed that the tool does not need further tweaking and that Gail will use her board as “guinea pigs” as they try it at their next meeting.

**New Business:**

*Webinars:* Suggestions for webinars include one on genealogy by Gail, working together, on how Boards, Friends, and Directors can best cooperate; and advocacy with an emphasis on what would happen if libraries did not provide certain services.

**Adjournment:** It was moved (Denise) and seconded (Jan) to adjourn the meeting at 11:03 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be on Thursday March 11.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Berlind, Secretary

**ACLB ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT 2019**

**BEGINNING BALANCE – $23,843.24**

**ENDING BLANCE – $24,523.94**

**INCOME**

Membership -- $6760.00

Conference Registrations -- $3,150.00

TOTAL – $9,910.00

**EXPENSES**

MEMBERSHIP MAILING – 129.98

Stamps – 100.00

Envelopes – 21.00

Paper – 8.98

NEW BOARD MEMBERS DRIVE – 119.83

Stamps and supplies – 119.83

WEBSITE AND ONLINE PAYMENTS – 863.87

Maintenance Fee -- $300.00

Website Annual Fee – 540.00

Online Payments Fees – 23.87

SECRETARY OF STATE ANNUAL REPORT – 50.00

INSURANCE – 1160.00

NEW CHECKS – 41.71

TRAVEL – 24.85

NEWSLETTER – 1383.58

March printing – 338.70

March postage – 117.67

June printing – 340.06

June postage – 121.67

September printing – 340.06

September postage – 125.42

CLA SCHOLARSHIP – 1000.00

CONFERENCE – 5139.46

Program Packet Printing and Supplies – 844.25

Awards – 31.21

Plaque for Ken Wiggin – 79.76

Facility – 4184.24

TOTAL – 9913.28