**Association of Connecticut Library Boards**

Connecticut State Library

P.O. Box 263

Ellington, CT 06029

Regular Meeting

Date: May 11, 2023, 10 a.m. via Zoom

Present: Wendy Berlind, Jan Glover, Carol Mikulski, Sue Philips, Denise Stankovics

Absent: Gail Richmond, Dawn LaValle, Barbara Leonard

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

**Secretary’s Report:** It was moved (Jan) and seconded (Denise) that the minutes of the March 9, 2023 meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Sue’s report showed a balance of $26,130.71 There have been 23 more membership renewals since the reminder to renew letter was mailed. Expenses have been for the CLA scholarship fund, the newsletter, and raffle contributions for the CLA conference. Sue attended and made use of the opportunity to spread the word about the work of ACLB.

**President’s Report**: Gail is recuperating from a broken hand, so no report was available. There was an inquiry from someone interested in joining the board but his schedule is incompatible with the morning meetings.

**State Library Report**: Dawn LaValle sent the following report: CSL is amid legislative and budget season. We have requested an increase to the Digital Library line (to reflect inflation costs) and put forward a $700K bonding proposal to renovate the Middletown Library Service Center, which would include updating the HVAC system, making bathrooms ADA compliant, and shifting shelves for accessibility purposes. Meetings have occurred for both proposed budget items and we have received positive feedback so far.

The Division of Library Development is partnering with Libraries Without Borders (LWB) to create a first-in-the-nation pilot project with a group of six CT libraries that will result in temporary library spaces in their communities, modeled on LWB’s other international initiatives and customized for CT. The six libraries are:

* The David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, CT
* The East Hartford Public Library in East Hartford, CT
* The Norwalk Public Library in Norwalk, CT
* The Otis Library in Norwich, CT
* The West Haven Public Library in West Haven, CT
* The Willimantic Public Library in Windham, CT

CTLAB is partnering with public libraries across CT to establish CTLAB hub libraries. Nine of the public libraries that have signed on to serve as hub libraries have received equipment and CTLAB promotional materials for their in-library displays. Matt Geeza, CTLAB director has visited each of the eight libraries to provide library staff with training and information about CTLAB resources and services.

Lifetime Arts, the CT Office of the Arts (COA), and the CT State Library are partnering to pilot and strengthen arts education programing for older adults in CT public libraries, as well as build and deepen opportunities and relationships with established and emerging COA teaching artists and CT libraries. Lifetime Arts will provide training as well as access to new online resources, including Creative Aging Foundations On Demand, for all public libraries in the state and with the lead partners, will oversee the implementation, documentation, and dissemination of ten creative aging programs in CT libraries.10 CT Libraries will receive grants from Lifetime Art through DLD to participate in this program.

Launched last year, the purpose of the Summer Enrichment Grant is to empower public libraries to enhance their Summer Reading Programs with additional enrichment opportunities for their public by providing library-led programs and activities that spark creativity and productivity, engage individuals, and benefit their communities. This year, the CT State Library awarded 13 Summer Enrichment Grants, up to $2,000 per library. These grants will support summer activities that are outcome oriented, engage the community, and promote active learning experiences that are positive, experiential, educational, and fun.

**FOCL Report**: BarbaraLeonard sent the following report: FOCL is having their Awards Program on Saturday, June 10 at the Avon Library. All are invited to attend and you can register on the FOCL website.

**Old Business:**

 Newsletter: Denise proposes that the next newsletter come out in September, after the Intellectual Freedom Webinar on the 12th, and include a recap of Board Basics and the FOIA June 14 presentation as well as the September 12 program. She may write about the CT State Library monthly programs and will also ask State Librarian Deborah Schander and the head of CLC for ideas.

Board Basics Recap: Everyone agreed that this presentation is more effective when given in person, when possible. Next time we need to inform attendees that Q & A is available, and stop the presentation to answer questions. The powerpoint slides will be sent to all board members. The webinar was good P. R. for the board and its work.

June 14 and Sept. 2 Webinars: We need to get in touch with the FOIA Commission to see who will be speaking on June 14; Wendy will look for contact information. Sue will advertise the program on ConTech. Jan will do a mailing in August with publicity for the September 12 Webinar on Intellectual Freedom.

**New Business**:

There was an email from a man interested in serving on the board but his schedule conflicts with the board’s morning meeting time. Carol submitted a paragraph to the State Library summarizing our activities. In the next report we will mention attendance at the CLA conference and that we contributed $1000 to the CLA scholarship fund.

**Adjournment**  It was moved (Jan) and seconded (Denise) to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 a.m. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy Berlind

The next meeting will take place on July 13 at 10 a.m. via Zoom.