

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
STATE LIBRARY BOARD
November 24, 2008

INDEX

Members present: Bob Harris, Judge William Lavery, Barbara Westwater, Mollie Keller, Joy Hostage, Scott Hughes, Allen Hoffman, John Barry, Judge Francis Hennessy,

Members absent: Daphne Deeds, Linda Anderson, Eileen DeMayo

Others present: Kendall Wiggin, Jane Beaudoin, Sharon Brettschneider, Rich Kingston, Mary Louise Jensen, Lynne Newell (State Library), Carl Nawrocki (Friends), Suzanne Lee (ACLB), Jane Gallagher (Middlebury Public Library), Chris Bradley (CLC), Chris Nolan (Ridgefield Public Library), Jay Johnston (CLA).

MINUTES

It was MOVED (W. Lavery) seconded (B. Harris) THAT THE MINUTES OF THE September 22, 2008, BOARD MEETING BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED. PASSED unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Ken Wiggin reported that the State Library had a very successful All Staff Day on October 30. It was held at the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) in Rocky Hill. LBPH worked very hard to make the meeting space used very comfortable. Staff from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs did a great job of directing the parking situation. The day was filled with great speakers and interactive activities. Board members Mollie Keller and Bob Harris attended All Staff Day and encouraged Board members to attend next year.

Joy Hostage complimented Sharon Brettschneider on the two ½ day retreats for public library board members. Ms. Brettschneider stated that the retreats were for the Otis Library and the Kent Library. The mini retreats were to update the libraries plans and think about their priorities such as running effective board meetings, conflicts of interest and putting together a good agenda.

OTHER REPORTS

Connecticut Library Association (CLA): Jay Johnston, Executive Director of the Farmington Library, reported for the Chair of the CLA Legislative Committee. CLA's lobbyist, Bob Shea has already informed CLA that this will be a difficult year. CLA has judiciously determined the CLA agenda. Mr. Johnston listed the items on this year's legislative agenda. They are: to maintain funding for the CT Library Consortium's InfoAnytime and also add funding for the online homework assistance; to increase the funding for iCONN by \$100,000 so that it can add more resources; to increase Connecticut funding to reach full reimbursement for municipalities; to increase the funding for public library construction grants from \$8.5 million to \$10 million. CLA will be very busy lobbying in this year's legislative session. The Annual CLA Conference dates are April 29, 2009 - May 1, 2009.

Board member John Barry commended Jay Johnston for his positive role in changing the Southington Library while he was Director there.

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

MINUTES

Motion

PUBLIC COMMENT

**STATE
LIBRARIAN'S
REPORT**

OTHER REPORTS

CLA

ACLPD

Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC): Chris Bradley reported that CLC has been in negotiations with the vendor of InfoAnytime because they now have competition. The result is a lower annual cost. CLC has produced some Go Green tote bags and have been selling them for \$1. They are very popular at the public libraries.

CLC

Association of Connecticut Library Boards (ACLB): Suzanne Lee reported that ACLB's Annual Conference was a success with 134 people attending. ACLB's next meeting is scheduled for January, 2009.

ACLB

Friends of Connecticut Libraries (FOCL): Carl Nawrocki reported that the Friends also participated in the ACLB Annual Conference. Mr. Nawrocki reported that he spoke at a new Friends group in Shelton and that Friends groups are growing in numbers.

FOCL

Connecticut Heritage Foundation (CHF): Ken Wiggin reported that the CHF Board met in October. Rob Simmons has returned to the Board. Through Mr. Simmons' contacts Ken Wiggin has been in touch with Kostas Lake from the Department of Economic and Community Development. They discussed a traveling exhibit called the "Light on New Netherlands" that will be in the Museum of Connecticut History in February 2009. Mr. Lake is very interested in working with the State Library to market this exhibit and get some help from other businesses, including the Consulate General.

CHF

Museum Advisory Committee (MAC): No report at this time.

MAC

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Update: Ken Wiggin stated that the State Library had to submit a budget with a 10% reduction. Ken Wiggin went over a handout which was a Comparison of FY2009 and FY2010 Funding Levels for the State Library. Ken Wiggin is concerned about the Historic Preservation Fund's budget. The State Library proposed reducing grants to public libraries by a couple thousand dollars for each municipality.

Budget Update

Legislative Update: Mr. Wiggin reported that the State Library has submitted three pieces of legislation. The Museum Advisory Committee would like to have the option for the Executive Director of the CT Commission on Culture and Tourism to be able to appoint a designee to the Committee. The State Library would like to increase the fee for land recordings from \$3 to \$6. The State Library would also like to amend the Land Recording Act to allow for the advisory committee to begin its work as soon as possible so as to complete its work by the October 2009 effective date of the Act.

Legislative Update

There is no new information on the recently purchased Lafayette Street building.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Grant Extension for the Middlebury Public Library: Mary Louise Jensen introduced Jane Gallagher, Director of the Middlebury Public Library. Ms. Gallagher reported that Middlebury needs to complete its fundraising but is confident that it will meet the deadline of the grant extension. It was MOVED (W. Lavery) seconded (J. Hostage) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVES MIDDLEBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY'S EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE TO INITIATE ITS PROJECT FOR THE \$500,000 STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANT TO DECEMBER 29, 2009. PASSED unanimously.

Grant Extension

Motion

Grant Extension for the Ridgefield Library Association: Mary Louise Jensen introduced Christine Nolan, Director of the Ridgefield Library Association. Ms. Nolan reported that the Ridgefield Library Association will not be able to make their current grant deadline because of economic uncertainties and because they were not able to go to referendum in May of 2008. Ms. Nolan stated that Ridgefield Library Association now has a strong board and influence in the community. They are confident that they will be able to make the time frame if granted an extension. It was MOVED (W. Lavery) seconded (J.

Grant Extension

Motion

Hostage) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVES RIDGEFIELD LIBRARY ASSOCIATION'S EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE TO INITIATE ITS PROJECT FOR THE \$500,000 STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANT TO DECEMBER 29, 2009. PASSED unanimously.

Board member John Barry thanked both directors for coming to the meeting and making themselves available to the Board for questions.

Approval of FY 2008-2009 State Public Library Construction Grant Recommendations:

Mary Louise Jensen explained that the bonding grant allocation for FY09 is \$8.5 million, \$5 million for public libraries located in distressed municipalities and \$3.5 million for public libraries living in non-distressed municipalities. There is an additional \$2,983,277 in carryover funds available for distressed municipalities and an additional \$4,341,227 in carryover and returned funds available for non-distressed municipalities. 16 applications were received and all 16 are being recommended for funding. A description of all the projects and the ranking of all eligible applicants were distributed to the Board in their packets for review. It was MOVED (W. Lavery) seconded (B. Harris) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD ACCEPTS THE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH THE STIPULATIONS. AS STATED FOR THE STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANT AWARDS FOR FY08-09. STIPULATION ONE (1) SOIL-BORING TESTS AND THE ARCHITECT'S LETTER ABOUT THE SOIL BE SUBMITTED TO STATE LIBRARY STAFF BEFORE SIGNING WITH A BUILDING CONTRACTOR. STIPULATION TWO (2) IS THAT A PERK TEST FOR A SEPTIC TANK AND THE ARCHITECT'S LETTER ABOUT THE SOIL BE SUBMITTED TO STATE LIBRARY STAFF BEFORE SIGNING WITH A BUILDING CONTRACTOR. . Category #1 (projects that create additional usable library space, such as new buildings, additions, and renovations) DISTRESSED MUNICIPALITIES – New Haven (\$382,379), East Hartford (\$1,000,000 /with stipulation 1), NON-DISTRESSED MUNICIPALITIES - Cromwell (\$1,000,000), Sharon (\$100,000) Canterbury (\$793,666), Branford (\$793,666 /with stipulation 1), Avon (\$1,000,000), Sherman (\$1,000,000 /with stipulations 1 & 2), New Fairfield (\$1,000,000 /with stipulation 1), Category #2 (projects that make buildings handicapped accessible and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), correct fire or building code violations, remodel to accommodate new technologies, or provide for energy conservation) DISTRESSED MUNICIPALITIES – Meriden (\$144,205), Naugatuck (\$103,333), New London (\$11,366) NON-DISTRESSED MUNICIPALITIES – Haddam (\$98,333), Hamden (\$13,000), East Haven (\$184,000), West Hartford (\$153,333). PASSED unanimously.

Judge Lavery commended Mary Louise Jensen on the thoroughness of the fact sheet for these construction grant recommendations. Judge Lavery also feels that the libraries seeking construction grants should be encouraged to contact their legislators as an effort to have the funding move forward.

2009 Meeting Calendar: There was discussion on the proposed 2009 meeting schedule. There are some conflicts with a few of the dates. It was agreed that the proposed January 26 meeting would be moved to January 12. Other meeting dates may be changed at future meetings. It was MOVED (W. Lavery) seconded (F. Hennessy) THAT THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD APPROVES THE FOLLOWING DATES FOR ITS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS IN THE YEAR 2009: JANUARY 12, MARCH 23, MAY 26 (TUESDAY), JULY 27, SEPTEMBER 21, and NOVEMBER 23. PASSED unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Judge Lavery stated that it would be helpful if the urban and suburban library boards had a way to communicate with each other about local problems. Judge Lavery asked if it was possible for the State Library Board to spearhead this effort. Sharon Brettschneider stated that the Association of Connecticut Library Boards has been discussing the possibility of having regional meetings. It was agreed that this subject would be on the agenda for the January meeting. Ken Wiggin will bring a proposal.

FY 08-09 State Public Library Construction Grants

Motion

2009 Meeting Calendar

Motion

OTHER BUSINESS

Joy Hostage reported on the issue of inner city children having no books. The town of Cheshire responded with leftover books from a Friends book sale.

At 2:15 p.m., it was MOVED (W. Lavery) seconded (A. Hoffman) TO ADJOURN. PASSED unanimously. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 12, 2009, at 1:15 p.m. (lunch at 12:30 p.m.) at the Van Block Facility.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendall F. Wiggin, Secretary

Jane Beaudoin, Recorder