

CONNECTICUT DIGITAL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
MIDDLETOWN LIBRARY SERVICE CENTER
Minutes of the Meeting on September 1, 2004

Present: Melissa Behney, Alan Benkert, David Bretthauer, Patricia Daragan, Elizabeth Frechette, Al Hopkins (chair), Alana Meloni, Jonas Zdanys, Kendall Wiggin

Others: Lynette Baisden, Sharon Brettschneider, Stephen Cauffman, William Sullivan

Absent: Anne-Marie Kaminsky, Jenifer O'Connor, Deborah Salewski, Arthur Skerker

1. Call to Order

Al Hopkins called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 1, 2004 were approved as presented. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. State Library Report – Kendall Wiggin

Kendall Wiggin reported that Mary Jackson of the Association of Research Libraries will conduct a C-Card study to determine the true cost of a non-resident loan. The determined cost will be used when discussing funding to legislators in the next session. Sharon Brettschneider and Susan Cormier of the Willimantic Library Service Center are working on an early reading initiative, Connecticut Libraries: *It's Never too Early*. The State Library has joined the Summer Reading Collaborative with other state and regional libraries. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has offered a grant that will replace the computers in the poorest communities that had them awarded in the original State Partnership grant. Libraries in Connecticut will also be offered a two-day technical support training session. In addition the grant will subsidize one year of technical support for rural and poor libraries. Kendall Wiggin also reported that he and Sharon Brettschneider would be meeting with Rob Vietzke to discuss connecting libraries to the Connecticut Education Network.

6. Department of Higher Education Report – Jonas Zdanys

Jonas Zdanys welcomed Patricia Daragan to the Digital Library Board. He also reported that the University of Phoenix did not satisfy the expectations of the initial review of their application by the Advisory Committee on Accreditation for licensure to operate in Connecticut. One of the points of concern by that Committee was that the University of Phoenix did not meet the standard on library and learning resources.

The University of Phoenix application is now on hold, pending updates by the University on their plans to meet the library standard as well as the other standards of the Board of Governors. The Department of Higher Education is continuing its work on reviewing higher education standards, including those for libraries. They have put together statewide taskforces on Board standards and would like to have participation from Digital Library Board members. The Department is also continuing to have conversations with colleges about eliminating duplication in resources with iCONN. Jonas also talked about the work of the Taskforce on the Price of Textbooks in Connecticut and will report on its recommendations later in the year.

Jonas reported that the Department of Higher Education, which oversees private occupational schools, has received a request from the Association of Connecticut Career Schools for access to academic databases on behalf of their private occupational schools. The occupational schools do not offer higher education degree programs. Sharon Brettschneider explained that the licenses for the

academic databases do not cover these students. Adding these schools to the license would bring up the cost of the databases. These students do have access to the public and school databases with their public library card. After a discussion on the issue Patricia Daragan MOVED (2nd David Bretthauer) to affirm that access to academic databases be limited to institutions of Higher Education accredited by the Board of Governors. VOTED unanimously.

7. Old Business

a. Re-establishing Statewide Library Catalog Coordinator position

Bill Sullivan reported that he met with Sharon Brettschneider and Kendall Wiggin to discuss the priority of re-establishing the Statewide Catalog Coordinator position. The State Library has requested that this position be re-established. This position is the priority for iCONN.

b. iCONN Outreach Coordinator position

Bill Sullivan stated that they are still looking at the possibility for an Outreach Coordinator. Other options other than filling it as a full-time position are being considered.

8. Other Reports

a. Public Awareness – Sharon Brettschneider

Sharon Brettschneider reported that Betty Goyette is finalizing her work on the learning activities. Betty is hoping for more examples to come in. She received more high school and less elementary school learning activities. Betty is currently editing them and will finalize everything in the next month. Sharon reported that the learning activities as well as other support documents will be sent out to all schools on a CD.

b. Database Committee – Sharon Brettschneider

Sharon Brettschneider reported that the committee has not met again and is waiting for conclusion of the contract for the portal before proceeding.

c. Digital Library Progress Report – William Sullivan

Bill Sullivan described plans for exhibiting iCONN at the Durham Fair. He distributed a copy of the *Top 10 Reasons to Use iCONN* as well as a description of some of the items that would be used at the Durham Fair booth. The iCONN exhibit booth will include a tri-fold tabletop display board, including a large poster of the *Top 10 Reasons to Use iCONN*, an electronic message screen and a computer with flat panel display that will be used to demonstrate iCONN (using PowerPoint). Available for handout will be helium-filled balloons imprinted with the iCONN logo, iCONN business cards, iCONN kitchen magnets and iCONN promotional literature. The volunteers who will be at the Durham Fair booth will wear red Connecticut State Library polo shirts. Bill and his staff will also exhibit iCONN at the CEMA conference in November and the CECA conference in October. Also at CEMA, Jane Emerson will give an update on the databases and Betty Goyette will give an overview of the recently expanded iCONN learning activities compiled from a statewide survey. The formal 30-day acceptance period for the new iCONN/reQuest system that has been under development will hopefully start within a couple weeks, assuming completion of the authentication module. The staff is working with the vendor to perfect the authentication system.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:09 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2004 at the Middletown Library Service Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette Baisden,
Connecticut State Library