CONNECTICUT DIGITAL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
MIDDLETOWN LIBRARY SERVICE CENTER
Minutes of the Meeting on February 4, 2015

Present: Andrea Buka, Debbie Herman, Barbara Johnson, Elizabeth Joseph, Roger Kemp, Michael Murphy, Paula Orbe, Christina Russo, VivianLea Solek, Kendall Wiggin

Absent: Marie Shaw

Others: Lynette Baisden, Steve Cauffman, Eric Hansen, Gail Hurley, Dawn La Valle, Bill Sullivan

1. Call to Order
Christina Russo called the meeting to order at 1:05.

2. Introductions - Barbara Johnson, Jack Jackter Intermediate School, Colchester
Michael Murphy, Cora J. Belden Library, Rocky Hill
VivianLea Solek, Easton Public Library

3. Approval of Minutes
Andrea Buka MOVED (2nd Roger Kemp) to approve the minutes of December 3, 2014. VOTED unanimously.

4. Approval of Agenda
Bill Sullivan requested that one agenda item (reQuest 25th Anniversary) be tabled. Roger Kemp MOVED (2nd Galadriel Chilton) to approve the revised agenda. VOTED unanimously.

5. Public Comment
There was none.

Ken reported that there was a 2-week delay in the Governor’s budget, so it is expected out by February 18. The State Library had a 5% rescission in November and others in January. There was a 5% rescission to the iCONN budget so he is working on how to handle this because of the various contracts in place. On the Federal level, the President’s budget included additional money for digital library platforms, 21st century learning and national leadership grants for libraries and museums. The State Library applied for one of the National Leadership grants as well as a NEH grant to continue the CT Digital Newspaper Project and a Sparks grant for conservation training and other efforts. The Bond Commission released the $2.2 million for the eBook platform. The plan is to hire a consultant who is an expert in the eBook area. Ken requested bond funding to finish building the fiber network for the remaining 91 libraries.

7. Old Business
a. Awareness of iCONN in public schools (update) - CDLAB DOC 15-01 - Elizabeth Joseph
Elizabeth Joseph presented an update of her findings on public school library websites linking to iCONN.org, following a direct mailing about iCONN to all school libraries. Elizabeth took a look at 130 schools. There was an improvement in the number of schools that linked to iCONN. In some school districts, middle and high schools linked to iCONN more often than did elementary schools. iCONN.org could be found on some school library media center pages, but on other school pages, there was either no linkage or it was difficult to find the link because it was buried in the site. The presence/absence of a library media specialist could be a factor. Bill stated that increasing awareness of iCONN has to be an ongoing effort. Ken suggested involving the Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs). Barbara Johnson indicated that she has created catalog records for iCONN with course-relevant subject headings and loaded the records into Follett Destiny where students can find them.

Bill distributed a PsycINFO pricing update that will be updated again in preparation for meeting with the Council of Connecticut Academic Library Directors (CCALD) on February 6. We are in the process of obtaining the latest FTE counts for academic institutions so that APA can estimate the rate for FY 2017. Galadriel suggested looking at ProQuest’s interface (in lieu of EBSCO’s interface) to the same content as a possible way of reducing the cost of PsycINFO.

8. New Business
a. Demo new EBSCO interface - Eric Hansen
Nancy King from EBSCO presented a brief overview via webinar of EBSCO’s Explora, a more visually-appealing interface for public and school libraries that will eventually replace Searchasaurus, Kids Search and Student Research Center. Separate interfaces for grades K-5 and 6-12 were shown. The product includes 60,000 AP videos and is COPA-compliant. Support for mobile devices will come over the next 3-6 months. Chris Russo commented that the K-5 interface is not as user-friendly for the lower grades as it could be, citing the terminology used in the Tools section when viewing an article. Nancy King agreed and indicated this will evolve over the next 6-9 months. VivianLea Solek commented that even adult users benefit from plain language.

b. Contributing records to reQuest - CDLAB DOC 15-03 - Gail Hurley
In January, Gail sent a letter to libraries asking them to update their holdings in reQuest. Gail wrote personal notes on the letters and offered assistance by phone to help them with the exports. As a result, 100 updates were made in January, and at least 30 of the updates were by libraries that she worked with directly. Gail encouraged libraries to send their updates on a monthly or quarterly basis. Libraries that are part of a consortium have their holdings sent to reQuest by consortia staff. Standalone systems are responsible for their own updates. Gail will send out quarterly reminders to update. The serials catalog is current as of January 2015. The next serials update will be in July.

c. iCONN Usage Stats (1st six months 2014 vs. 2015) - CDLAB DOC 15-04 - Stephen Cauffman
Steve’s report compared iCONN page views from July-December 2013 and July-December 2014. iCONN views are down 25% overall. By library type, they are down 24.4% for academic libraries and down 44.7% for public libraries while K-12 libraries showed a 6% increase. Although views are down when comparing the first half of the past two fiscal years, views are up when compared to fiscal year 2013 (the last year with Gale).

9. Reports
a. Commission for Educational Technology – Kendall Wiggin
Ken reported that Booth & Dimock Library did a presentation at the last meeting on what the CEN meant to them. Elin Katz of the Office of Consumer Council spoke about a “gigacity” and how it would work with CEN to get big broadband into the communities. Ken suggested that the board sign up for CEN newsletters.

b. Digital Library Progress - William Sullivan
Bill showed the video “Real Searching with iCONN.” The video took out the use of the word, “unbiased” information and replaced it with “unfiltered.”
There is a new webpage for Open Access Scholarly Resources available on iCONN. Academic Search Premier includes 537 open source full-text titles, of which 519 are designated “peer-reviewed.” There are plans to create another webpage on open source textbooks. The contract for the statewide library catalog has taken much longer than anyone anticipated but we remain hopeful that it will be completed in time for system implementation in July. The January issue of the iCONN Times has been delayed in order to provide current information about the budget rescission and the new EBSCO interface.

c. Database Committee - Eric Hansen
Eric reported that the database committee met on January 22 and distributed the minutes from the meeting to the board. The database committee discussed Explora, EBSCO’s new user interface for grades K-5 and 6-12. At their last meeting, the Committee decided to evaluate Films On Demand for high schools. The Committee recommended making Films on Demand available to high schools as a resource for teachers, but they will need to sort out remote authentication questions.
The Committee is seeking the best way to make open source journals available to iCONN users. They
also discussed the high number of holds on popular fiction in OneClickdigital. The Committee discussed spending funds for more content and to include Nutmeg and Newbery award titles.

8. **Adjourn**
The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on April 1, 2015 at the Middletown Library Service Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette Baisden  
Connecticut State Library