Present:  Karen Fecko, Irene Iwan, Carol Kubala, Deborah Sanford
Absent:  John Coleman, Karen DeLoatch, Diane Faiella, Sarah Gager, Eric Kelly, Diane Klare, Kate Sheehan, Kendall Wiggin
Others:  Lynnette Baisden, Sharon Brettschneider, Stephen Cauffman, Eric Hansen, Gail Hurley, William Sullivan

1. Call to Order
Deborah Sanford called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes
The minutes were not able to be approved due to lack of a quorum.

3. Approval of Agenda
The agenda was not able to be approved due to lack of a quorum.

4. Public Comment
There was none.

5. State Library Report – Sharon Brettschneider
Sharon Brettschneider reported that the budget was passed and we received full funding for iCONN and reQuest. However, it is likely that we will have the same level of holdbacks that we had last year. Constitutionally, the Governor also can cut an additional 5%. The good news is that we most likely will know by July 1 what our budget allocation will be. Bill will send a message to the listserv by July 1 if we have to cut any additional databases. If we are able to restore any databases we lost last year, we will ask the vendors to issue credits to any libraries that have purchased them. The State Library approved Library Services and Technology Act grants for eight libraries. The State Library received an IMLS Connecting to Collections grant in the amount of $238,605 to help institutions care for the storage of their historical material. During the legislative session, a public library asked that changes be made to Chapter 190, sec. 1-32, 33, 36. The changes liberalize the language and will open up alternative ways for public libraries to get funding. On April 28, the Governor held her Summer Reading Challenge in the Memorial Hall at the State Library. The ceremony displayed the theme of this year’s kickoff, Make Waves at your Library and also acknowledged the winning schools from last summer’s challenge.

6. Reports
a. Commission on Educational Technology – Kendall Wiggin
No report.

b. Database Committee – Eric Hansen
Eric Hansen reported that the Database Committee met on May 20. The committee discussed the most desirable periodical content for the general periodical content. There is concern over loss of content due to exclusive deals made by aggregators such as EBSCO. There was also discussion about expanding the iCONN/Gale E-book collection by allowing individual libraries to purchase individual titles. iCONN currently has 67 titles but Gale has 5,000 titles available. A library would buy a title, iCONN would own it and everyone could access it. A survey was conducted regarding iCONN content. The results indicated that libraries want the newspaper titles that were cut to be restored. They would also like the Historic Hartford Courant gap of
1923 – 1984 to be added. Doing the latter in lieu of restoring the newspapers would still cost an additional $36,000. At the end of the fiscal year, $5,000 was available to purchase additional audiobooks. Eric demonstrated an interface change that Gale will make this summer to the Historical Resource Centers.

c. Digital Library Progress – William Sullivan
Bill Sullivan distributed and discussed a document prepared by iCONN staff for the Division of Library Development (DLD) planning committee, which is working to update DLD’s 5-year plan. The document describes a number of ways that iCONN and reQuest could be improved for all users, and several key issues that need to be addressed. Gale implemented an online, pop-up customer satisfaction survey that occasionally appears to users when using some Gale databases. The survey measures user satisfaction continuously over time and tries to identify what is driving the end-user satisfaction. Gale will use the survey results to prioritize product improvements for greatest impact. Bill will report on the results of the survey later in the Fall. A search widget will be added to the CT Digital Collections page so that users can search all three collections at once without having to authenticate. A link was added from the newspapers page to freely available news sources, including the Google News Archive that includes selected articles from the New York Times Historical Archive. To compensate for the loss of periodical content due to exclusive contracts, we created a “Popular Magazines on the Web” page which provides free access to the archives of many of these magazines, and have asked Serials Solutions to make this content findable in the E-Journal Finder as well. Gale is looking into indexing the same freely available content so that it is findable through PowerSearch. A professor from Trinity College is negotiating with his publisher for the right to distribute a digital, multimedia version of a forthcoming scholarly book through iCONN to every Connecticut resident.

8. Adjourn
The Board discussed urging members to give advance notification when they will not be present at the meetings to ensure that there is a quorum. The meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 5, 2010 at the Middletown Library Service Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette Baisden
Connecticut State Library