

CHILIS Board Monthly Meeting Minutes
Friday, December 9th, 2016
Local Government Center, Concord, NH
Minutes compiled by David Basora

In attendance: Amber Coughlin (President, Center for the Book Liaison/ Lebanon PL), Ann Hoey (State Library Liaison, Summer Reading Chair/ NH State Library), David Basora (Secretary, Intellectual Freedom Liaison/ Manchester City Library), Judy Russell (Treasurer/ Converse Free PL), Letty Goerner (Vice President-elect/ Wadleigh Memorial Library)

Quorum achieved

Not present: Sara Hydorn (Great Stone Face Chair/ Amherst PL), Yvette Couser (Isinglass Chair/ Merrimack PL), Tara McKenzie (Immediate Past President/ Conway PL), Susan Laun (Membership Chair/ Portsmouth PL)

Call to order: 10:40 AM

Secretary: The notes from the November meeting were approved of, with acknowledgement that much of the November discussion would be reviewed since we had an official quorum.

Treasurer: Judy submitted a report of CHILIS payments & deposits over the past six months for the board to review. The Fall Conference brought in approximately \$5100, and about \$2700 was spent on the conference itself. The company that catered the conference charged a \$100 late fee for their final payment being 2 days overdue.

Judy recommended that membership be more widely encouraged to use scholarship money offered by CHILIS for conference attendance costs, since it is professional development. Also, the board will discuss in February whether or not to fund the KBA grant at the full \$4000 amount which was budgeted in this year's budget.

Conference Committee: Amber acknowledged that the Conference committee is currently composed of herself and Judy. Amber reports that there is already a deposit down for holding the Spring 2017 CHILIS Conference at the Derryfield School in Manchester on 3/30/17. A caterer will not be provided by the Derryfield School, so one will need to be hired. David suggested the Bridge Café on Elm St. in Manchester as being a possibility, and emailed the board a link to their catering information.

Planning is underway, with the KBA showcase mostly lined up and possible program ideas including: inviting Duncan Smith from Novelist to talk about the service, or simply using adult reader's advisory skills in a youth setting; and having a program centered on hard data about why summer reading is important. Children's librarians need to be able to advocate for their summer programs with quantifiable data that they can accumulate and communicate themselves. Amber has reached out to the National Summer Learning Association to identify a speaker for this topic, but has yet to hear back. If that resource does not pan out, Amber suggested contacting a collegiate speaker such as James Kim of Harvard University to talk about summer reading statistics.

Membership has asked for more time to network at conferences, while the board as a whole acknowledged that we would like to see more attendee participation during the business meeting held during the conference. Thus, there is a tentative plan to have a guided “unconference” discussion session ahead of the KBA showcase as part of the business meeting.

Action Item: Amber will continue investigating summer reading advocacy speakers to have available for the March conference.

Great Stone Face Committee: GSFC contact information needs to be updated on CHILIS website, for members who may want to join the committee. Once confirmation is given from Cece Bell’s representatives, her thank you video will be posted to the CHILIS Facebook page.

Action Items: David will post the thank you video once permission is confirmed.

Summer Reading: Ann met with the Boston Bruins to talk about Summer Reading 2017. The partnership between CHILIS and the Bruins will continue next year, with a focus on improving the timing of informing winning libraries that the Bruins will be coming. The Bruins are very community-minded as an organization and enjoyed their time in NH for summer reading this year. Amber will be attending the CSLP meeting in Charleston, SC in April.

NERTCL: The CHILIS board is currently recruiting a new NERTCL Liaison, with the position to be offered to Sam Lucius of the Stratham PL. The next NERTCL meeting will be held 2/8/17.

Action Item: Amber has contacted Sam Lucius about becoming the NERTCL Liaison, and is waiting to hear back.

NHLA/CHILIS Website: Amber brought up the need to update both the NHLA website and CHILIS contact page to accurately reflect current board and committee members. Judy had recently updated the CHILIS website, so the current board composition will be accurate going forward. Additionally, Amber and David needed permissions to access the CHILIS website, which has been granted by Marina Buckler, the NHLA Website Administrator.

Center for the Book: As current Center for the Book Liaison, Amber is planning on recruiting a ready replacement for 2018. It should be a more attractive committee position for someone with less schedule flexibility since there are only about 2 meetings of the committee per year. The Ladybug Award results will be announced sometime before Christmas.

OLD BUSINESS

Recruiting a potential CHILIS VP: Ann suggested that a couple of candidates be contacted about the Vice President position on the board. Both Ann and David reached out to candidates, with Letty Goerner of the Wadleigh Memorial Library in Milford accepting the position. Congratulations, Letty!

1000 Books Before Kindergarten: Since there is only a \$1400 gap between the money needed for this year’s bag order and what was raised by participating libraries, an incentive will not be offered for larger orders of bags. The price per bag will also remain at \$2.50. The board will monitor the progress of the program for another year. The State Library has agreed to continue to store the bags.

Fall 2016 Conference: In review, the conference was a success in terms of attendance. One presenter in particular seemed to have been a poor choice in hindsight, but overall programs were received and there were not any overt complaint about the conference. Ann and Amber expressed an interest in evaluating the conference through attendees. Amber designed a short survey to submit to the membership by email about the previous Fall conference and ideas for future conferences. She will hone it further before distributing it.

Action Item: Amber will design and disseminate a survey evaluating the Fall conference.

Spring 2017 NHLA Conference: Following previous discussion about the fact that the board needs to find out about the progress of program proposals for the NHLA Conference, David contacted Dara Bradds of the NHLA Conference Committee regarding progress. None of the programs submitted to the committee have been formally approved, and overall scheduling for the conference appears to be behind. Of the 3 proposed CHILIS sponsored programs, one will have 4 parts and could be depended upon to be the majority of our involvement at the conference, if necessary. The conference will be held 5/4-5/5/17.

Also, Ann pointed out that a request was submitted from the NHSLMA to join the NHLA conference at a discounted rate for limited participation, and was denied. Future CHILIS conference plans may include an offer to NHSLMA to join one of our conferences instead.

Fall 2017 CHILIS Conference: Amber has investigated a possible location for the conference: Colby-Sawyer College. They offer costs of \$560 for the use of Wheeler Hall, \$35/hr for A/V equipment, and \$25/person for catering. They also offer a larger venue of their Fine Arts Center for \$640. The board moved to hold the conference on 10/19/17, and the College is sending a contract to be agreed upon. We are hoping to line up an author, and/or a Great Stone Face Award winning author, for that event.

NEW BUSINESS

Librarian of the Year Award: The board decided to continue this award, and will ask for submissions. The winner will be decided in February.

Action Item: The Board will examine submissions and decide on a winner in February.

Next Meeting: January 13th 2017 @ 10:30 AM

Adjourn: 12:45 PM