

**ILA Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
Friday, 8 June 2007  
Illinois Library Association**

**Present**

Officers

Tamiye Meehan, President  
Bradley F. Baker, Vice-President/President-Elect  
Charm N. Ruhnke, Treasurer

Directors

Laura L. Barnes  
Dean Bryan  
Jamie Bukovac  
Emily Guss  
Margaret Ming Heraty  
Richard McCarthy  
Theodore Schwitzner  
Jocelyn Tipton  
Tina Hubert

Ex Officio

Robert P. Doyle

Absent

Anne B. Craig  
Dianne C. Harmon, Immediate Past President  
Nancy Huntley  
Julie M. Milavec  
Christine Stupegia

Guests

Carole Dickerson  
Donna Dziedzic  
Kiplund Kolkmeier  
Michelle Petersen  
Blaine Redemer  
H Dayle K. Zelenka

The meeting began at 10:08 A.M.

### Review of the Agenda

T. Meehan reviewed the agenda and it was approved. T. Hubert moved, M. Heraty seconded and it was

Voted, That the Illinois Library Association's Executive Board approve the minutes of the ILA Executive Board Friday, 23 February 2007 meeting. (The motion passed unanimously. D. Harmon, N. Huntley, J. Milavec, and C. Stuepegia were not present to vote.)

### Committee and Forum Reports

T. Meehan reviewed the various submitted committee and forum reports (the GODORT Report, exhibit 1, p. 1, was distributed at the meeting). The Best Practices Committee, in particular, requested the board's direction and guidance. After considerable discussion, the board decided that the committee's charge needed to be revised and the first draft follows:

"The Best Practices Committee promotes excellence in Illinois libraries by collecting and publicizing real-life examples of solutions to problems and issues faced by libraries in their communities. These practices include, but are not necessarily limited to, successful programs, services, and management strategies."

### Public Policy Committee

#### *Update on 2007 Spring Legislative Session*

K. Kolkmeier stated that the Illinois General Assembly headed into overtime when the Illinois House and Senate could not come to an agreement on a new state budget or an electric rate relief package. Top Democrats and Republicans had unsuccessfully huddled with the electric companies and Attorney General Lisa Madigan's staff to negotiate the details of hundreds of millions of dollars in relief for ballooning electric bills.

Key lawmakers had hoped the negotiations would produce an acceptable resolution on the day the General Assembly was scheduled to finish its spring session. But without an agreement on rate relief or a new state budget, the House adjourned and made plans to continue working throughout June. The Senate followed suit not long after.

Downstate Democrats are vowing not to provide the votes needed to pass a Democrat-supported budget without an electric rate relief plan. Rep. Tom Holbrook (D-11, Belleville) even used a parliamentary move to block the Senate from considering the small-growth budget that the House approved.

Kolkmeier noted the association's advocacy efforts this spring successfully defeated legislation that would have required all Illinois public and school libraries to filter their computers, and defeated proposed social networking legislation. ILA opposed

proposed legislation weakening the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund. ILA sponsored bills to bring consistency to the management of public library district working cash funds, to allow greater transparency in the public library district annexation issues, and to allow greater flexibility for minimum signature requirement for a trustee nomination petition. It was an extraordinarily successful spring session in the Illinois General Assembly, where libraries faced many challenges.

#### *CapWiz Update*

R. Doyle noted after five years, he was successful in getting the American Library Association (ALA) to support a pilot CapWiz affiliate program. ALA will cover the costs for ten chapters, and will pay for ILA's subscription. It is hoped that this effort will lead to a more coordinated advocacy effort on the federal level.

#### *When Do You Call the Police Poster*

R. Doyle noted that the December 2006 *ILA Reporter* article, "Libraries as Sanctuaries for Criminals?" contained information that might be appropriate to post in library staff lounges. (The draft poster was presented to the board for their information, see page 29 of the board's packet.) The question for the board's consideration, however, was "Who should ILA partner with to fine tune content, lend greater credence to the poster, and obtain funding?"

Doyle suggested contacting the Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and he envisioned a variety of topics for discussion with the attorney general's office: the NetSafe bookmarks, the above mentioned poster, changes to the Illinois confidentiality law, and the library community's general operating principle regarding sex offenders. Several board members thought it would be helpful if we established a more proactive liaison with the police and prosecutorial community. K. Kolkmeier stated that he has attempted to set up a meeting and will continue with that effort. He did, however, suggest some caution on the variety of topics and projects that should be introduced, particularly in light of the basic philosophical and duty differences of our respective communities. By general consensus, it was agreed that ILA should continue attempting to arrange a meeting with the attorney general to present the NetSafe bookmarks and discuss partnering opportunities.

#### *DOPA Action Plan Progress Report*

R. Doyle reported on the work, to date, regarding the NetSafe bookmarks and their distribution at the 2007 ALA Annual Conference. He reviewed the association's action plan in the board's packet on page 30 and noted several of the action plan items are still to be accomplished. During the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., Doyle asked if ILA should go back to MySpace to ask for additional help. The question is, "What do we want?" It was suggested that ILA ask for funding to develop Internet safety presentations for use with children of all ages and adults. The objectives would be to:

- educate parents and communities with a PowerPoint presentation detailing online risks, statistics, resources, and tips for keeping children safer online;
- encourage tweens and teens to examine their online behavior and take steps to prevent victimization of themselves and others; and
- teach younger children what to watch out for on the Internet and how to avoid these risks.

*Training Employees and Officials to be Ready for Confidentiality Challenges*

With the anticipated changes to the Illinois Confidentiality Law, R. Doyle suggested that a training program might be necessary (Exhibit 2, pp. 3-6). K. Kolkmeier volunteered to write an article for *ILA Reporter*. D. Dziedzic reported that the Naperville Public Library was developing a form to use and maybe ILA could use this form as a model for all libraries in the state.

*2007 & 2008 Illinois Library Day*

T. Meehan noted that she will chair the 2008 Illinois Library Day.

*2007 & 2008 National Library Legislative Day*

B. Baker noted that he is currently working on accommodations and dinner arrangements for the 2008 National Library Legislative Day, Wednesday, 14 May 2008.

State Library Report

A. Craig was unable to attend the meeting. B. Redemer, representing the state library, noted there was no news regarding the state library's budget.

The state library staff continue preparations for a July soft launch of WebJunction Illinois, a new online community for library staff. State library staff met last week with Lisa Barnhart and Dawne Tortorella to review the site ideas they have developed. WebJunction will be the focus of the state library booth at ILA in October as we make a major push to get people signed up for the Web site.

Approximately, 350 LSTA grant applications were received this year and the library development staff met last week with grant reviewers to begin the process of reviewing the applications. Grant recipients will be announced at the end of August. During the 2007 ILA Annual Conference in October, the state library will hold a reception with CARLI to honor all of this year's recipients as a way of commemorating the tenth anniversary of the creation of the LSTA program.

The state library recently sent a memo to public libraries reminding them that they must submit a disaster plan as a requirement for public library and per capita grants this year.

B. Redemer noted the state library and state archives are the two divisions of the secretary of state's office that have a connection to Abraham Lincoln. Together, the two institutions are developing a statewide program to mark the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth in 2009. The campaign will actually kick off this fall with a statewide essay contest for young people. An award ceremony is envisioned for essay winners on Lincoln's birthday 2008. The rest of the campaign, at that time, will include the unveiling of a special logo, banners outside the state library, flags given to all public libraries, a series of commemorative bookmarks, teachers packets, posters, and an exhibit at the Illinois State Fair.

R. Doyle announced that Lawren Tucker of Petersburg has been hired as the new Chief Deputy Director of the Illinois State Library and begins work on Monday, 18 June. Tucker most recently served as Policy Director for Illinois Senate President Emil Jones, Jr. and the Senate Democratic Caucus. Tucker succeeds Mike Ragen, who retired in January.

#### Treasurer's Report

##### *Review of Financial Statements*

C. Ruhnke reviewed ILA Financial Statements including the Balance Sheet; Summary Income Statement and Detail Income Statement, Eleven Months May 31, 2007; Cash Available for Investment; Description of ILA's Investments and Cash Received by Due Period (see Exhibit 3, pp. 7-29). R. Doyle noted that this year's fiscal year, as usual, is very tight. The final figures will not be known until the auditor's review in August.

##### *Draft 2007-2008 Budget*

C. Ruhnke presented the drafted FY 2007-2008 budget, showing a small net for the year. The draft budget was determined at the last Finance Committee meeting. C. Ruhnke moved, D. Bryan seconded and it was

Voted, That the Illinois Library Association's Executive Board accepts the drafted FY 2007-2008 budget (see Exhibit 3, pp. 79-93 in the board's packet). (The motion passed unanimously. D. Harmon, N. Huntley, J. Milavec, and C. Stuepegia were not present to vote.)

#### President's Report

##### *Ad hoc Committee on Strategic Planning*

B. Baker distributed a draft of the ILA Strategic Plan FY 2008-2010 (Exhibit 4, pp. 31-36). Following a brief overview and some discussion, Baker requested that all members review the document and provide written feedback via email to the Board list (current and newly elected members). The task force will then revise the document for approval at the July Board meeting.

*Ad hoc Committee on Updating Serving Our Public*

C. Stupegia and C. Ruhnke are co-chairing this committee. Due to C. Stupegia's illness, this committee has been inactive. C. Ruhnke will be contacting the people who originally volunteered to help and setting up a meeting to begin work again on the revision of the library standards document.

*Ad hoc Committee on ILA Web Site Review*

T. Hubert said that there isn't any news to report. Hubert provided a brief demonstration of Web Junction Illinois and discussed some possible ways that ILA content can be included in this new platform. Web Junction Illinois will be launched in July. The ILA Executive Board reviewed the invitation from Leo Robert Klein to redesign the ILA Web site (see exhibit 4, pp. 95-96 of the board's packet), but declined his offer since the Web Site Review committee had not yet determined the elements that it wanted included in the new Web site. ILA President Tamiye Meehan will inform Klein of this decision.

*Status Report on 2007 Spring ILA Workshops*

R. Doyle reported the registration numbers for the 2007 spring workshop.

*Financial Manual for Illinois Public Library Districts & Boards*

R. Doyle reported that the publication has been copy edited and is now under review at Ancel Glick. After that review is over, the publication will be indexed. Doyle is unaware of any progress by J. Milavec and A. Lanham in finding a sponsor for the publication to pay for the editorial and printing costs.

Vice-President Report

*2007 ILA Annual Conference*

R. Doyle distributed the latest statistics regarding booth sales (Exhibit 5, p. 37).

*2007-2008 Appointments*

B. Baker presented the 2007-2008 committees. The objective is to have all appointments confirmed for the new edition of the *ILA Handbook of Organization and Membership Directory*, which will be distributed at the Thursday, 26 July 2007 orientation session in East Peoria. By consensus, the ILA Executive Board accepted the committee appointments and changes to the intern program as discussed at the meeting.

*Appointments & Election of ILA Treasurer*

B. Baker moved, C. Ruhnke seconded and it was

Voted, That the Illinois Library Association's Executive Board approve the election of Jamie Bukovac as the 2007-2008 ILA Treasurer in accordance with the bylaws: Article VI — Officers, Section 2: "The treasurer will be chosen from among the continuing directors-at-large, and will be elected by a majority vote of the Executive Board at its last meeting in the association year. The term of the

treasurer shall begin on the first day of the association year.” And, Section 2.1: “The treasurer may be elected to two consecutive one-year terms. (The motion passed unanimously. D. Harmon, N. Huntley, J. Milavec, and C. Stupegia were not present to vote.)

#### *Orientation Session*

B. Baker stated that the 2007 ILA Orientation Session for Forum and Committee Leadership will be held on Thursday, 26 July 2007 at the Alliance Library System in East Peoria. ILA has reserved a block of rooms at the Hampton Inn — East Peoria, 11 Winners Way, East Peoria, IL 61611; phone: (309) 694-0711; fax: (309) 694-0407. All forum managers and committee members are invited to the orientation session.

#### *ILA Executive Board Schedule*

B. Baker presented the draft ILA Executive Board schedule (Exhibit 7, pp. 162-66 in the board’s packet) and it was approved with changes.

#### Past President’s Report

##### *Nominating Committee*

R. Doyle reported that election results of the executive board were announced in the June 2007 *ILA Reporter* on page 23. This was the third year that ILA experimented with electronic voting. Based on the past three years disappointing election results and costs, ILA will explore the possibility of using SurveyMonkey, similar to the Illinois School Library Media Association.

##### *Statewide Study of Economic Benefits for Illinois Libraries*

Since the 2005 ILA Annual Conference in Peoria, ILA has been exploring the possibility of conducting a study on the economic benefits of libraries. R. Doyle stated that previously distributed state reports and/or information include: South Carolina, Florida, Ohio, California, Maryland, and Wisconsin.

At the Friday, 24 February 2006 ILA Executive Board meeting, the board received the ad hoc committee recommendation to:

- develop and seek grant monies to fund a multi-year project to determine the level of economic benefits provided by libraries to their community and to the state as a whole;
- develop and provide training to market the results in a manner meaningful to Illinois libraries;
- establish a small committee to develop and oversee the project;
- use public, academic, and governmental libraries; and
- use a representation of Illinois libraries based on population, budget, location, and type.

At the 27 March 2007 Illinois State Library Advisory Committee meeting, Commissioner of the Chicago Public Library (CPL) Mary Dempsey mentioned that CPL was conducting an economic benefits study with Northwestern University.

Dempsey suggested that the state library might want to sponsor a similar study on a statewide basis using federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds.

At this meeting, Doyle distributed information about two recent reports: "Worth Their Weight: An Assessment of the Evolving Field of Library Valuation," by the Americans for Libraries (ALC) and "Arts and Economic Prosperity III," by Americans for the Arts (Exhibit 6, pp. 39-40). On Monday, 25 June at the 2007 ALA Annual Conference, in Washington, D.C., a panel discussion will be held on the issue of using return on investment (ROI) as an advocacy tool for libraries. Doyle wondered if an ILA Executive Board member plans to attend.

Doyle said that to his knowledge there is nothing new to report regarding ILA sponsoring a similar study in Illinois.

The ILA Web site [www.ila.org](http://www.ila.org)/advocacy contains the various above-mentioned reports and ILA's discussions on this issue.

*Student Membership Dues Change: Action Plan*

R. Doyle reported that the ILA Membership Committee, under the direction of chair Larry D'Urso, proposed and the ILA Executive Board voted to bring to membership a proposal to reduce dues assessed for students. The goal of the Membership Committee is to recruit 95 percent of all library school students to ILA. A few students are from out-of-state or plan to work in other states, which makes a 100 percent goal unreachable. At present, 1,015 students are enrolled in the two ALA-accredited library programs in Illinois. As of October 2006, we had 70 student members. As of May 2007, we have 67 student members. Doyle requested a copy of the action plan.

Service Recognition

T. Meehan recognized the service of departing board members, L. Barnes, D. Harmon, M. Heraty, R. McCarthy, and C. Ruhnke. Each was presented a framed certificate of appreciation.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert P. Doyle  
Tuesday, 12 June 2007