

ILA Public Policy Committee

Minutes of the November 2021 Meeting

Call to Order

Chair S. Adams-Lanham called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

Roll Call

- Voting Members

- Sam Adams-Lanham – Barrington Area Library
- Brian Chase – Normal Public Library
- Monica Dombrowski – Winnetka Northfield Public Library District
- Melissa Gardner – Palatine Public Library District
- Ryan Livergood – Warren-Newport Public Library District
- Rebecca Malinowski – Cooperative Computer Services
- Daniel Matthews – Moraine Valley Community College Library
- Donna Schaal – Argenta-Oreana Public Library District
- Kyla Waltermire – Mississippi Valley District Library
- Nikeda Webb – Matteson Public Library
- Catherine Yanikoski - Engineering Systems, Inc
- Absent: Dee Anna Phares, Northern Illinois University

- Ex Officio Members

- Betsy Mahoney - Intellectual Freedom Committee
- Derek Blaida – ILA Legislative Consultant
- Deirdre Brennan – Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)
- Nanette Donohue – Champaign Public Library- Advocacy Committee
- Diane Foote – ILA Executive Director
- Jeanne Hamilton – Bloomington Public Library- ILA President
- Heather Jagman - DePaul University- ILA President-Elect
- Lou Ann Jacobs – Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE)
- Greg McCormick – Illinois State Library
- Ellen Popit – Illinois Heartland Library System (ILHS)
- Absent: Elizabeth Clarage – Consortium of Academic & Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI), Veronica De Fazio – Plainfield Public Library District- ILA Past President, Patrick Molloy – Chicago Public Library, Magan Szwerek – Schaumburg Township District Library- Advocacy Committee

- Guests

- Dennis Danowski - Macomb Public Library
- Sarai Barrios - Eisenhower Public
- Tina Hubert - Six Mile Regional Library
- Julie Milavec - Downers Grove
- Troy Brown - IHLS
- Jim Kregor - RAILS

Mary Witt - RAILS
Monica Harris - RAILS
Leila Heath - RAILS
Cyndi Robinson - ILA
Anne Slaughter - RAILS, SIL's Broadband Advisory Council

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the October 2021 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Report from Advocacy Committee - N. Donohue

- Ready Set Avocate - three part webinar starting next Monday, November 8. Registration information was shared <https://www.ila.org/advocacy/ready-set-advocate>. All PPC members are encouraged to attend
- Working on advocacy programming for Reaching Forward and ILA.

New business

- o Discussion of director concerns regarding public notice costs-M. Dombrowski
 - Costs to publish in local papers have increased as local papers have ceased print publication. Library budgets for legal postings have increased significantly and are still exceeded. During a group listserv discussion, it was suggested to bring publishing requirements to PPC for consideration in the future, perhaps lobbying for online publishing to satisfy the requirement.
- o D. Blaida reports that this is a perennial issue that is often opposed by the publishing industry in the State. R. Livergood noted that, unlike in years past, taxpayer dollars are going to large corporations rather than small, local papers.
- o C. Yanikoski questions whether public broadcasting would be more affordable and satisfy the requirements.
- o S. Adams Lanham will reach out to Best Practices Committee on this topic.
- o RAILS Board statement on universal library service - D. Brennan
 - RAILS Board issued a [statement on universal service](#): At this time, RAILS believes that it is essential that the library community in Illinois come together, under the leadership of the Illinois State Library, to develop a plan and timeline for achieving universal service. We ask that the State Library convene a group to discuss and develop the plan and timeline.

State update

- Fall veto session ended overnight Thursday-Friday October 29
 - o 2022 legislative calendar is front-loaded
 - o Requires PPC to finalize proposals by the end of November so they can be sent to the drafting agency and then filed by January 4, 2021.
 - o Governor's budget scheduled for Groundhog Day
 - o Legislative meetups - committee deadlines are February 10, about halfway through tentatively planned meetup dates. Member schedules will be tight.

Report from ILA Exec Board-J. Hamilton

- o Broadband, ebooks, levy and databases included in Exec Board polled

- Exec Board determined that Broadband and ebooks were ILA priorities

Legislative Priorities

- R. Livergood - eBooks - ALA State Chapter Advocacy Exchange takeaways
 - Using the right language “reasonable terms.” Where terminology is already defined in IL law, use that.
 - D. Blaida proposes using the Connecticut bill as a model, keep it simple, and get it in and see what response we get
 - D. Foote notes that we don’t know which area of law to address
 - NY - Commerce
 - CT - Civil
 - Will we target all libraries or only public?
 - L. Heath suggests that access/platform fees could increase if title costs are reduced
- T. Brown and A. Slaughter - Broadband - include libraries in Connect Illinois
 - T. Brown conducted some research with Illinois Century Network (ICN) on potential costs to connect every public library in the state.
 - \$5.68 million annually to cover ongoing costs of high-speed broadband, for every library in Illinois (including Chicago Public Library)
 - Bill should also include 1 time cost for equipment (2.88 million for all libraries including Chicago, Cisco routers low end. Silverpeak routers would be 13.9 million)
 - 1 GB service for any library with a population under 5000, 10 GB for population over 5000
 - State owns the circuit into the school, ICN is an e-rate agent.
 - Libraries would most likely phase in their participation; it may take several years to for 100% of public libraries to join Connect Illinois
 - Matt Schmit at the IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) reportedly loves the idea of including libraries in Connect Illinois
 - G. McCormick - buildout costs could be supported by DCEO through ARPA and Build Back Better
 - D. Blaida asks what happens if the annual funding goes away? Libraries would need to make cuts in other areas (personnel & collections) to account for broadband costs.
 - D. Blaida clarified that we are asking for three things
 - add libraries to K-12 language to the Broadband Advisory Act, Public Act 100-0833
 - router costs
 - annual appropriation for ongoing costs
 - D. Foote asks if we should work with the budget first and law second. D. Blaida suggests deferring to Springfield leadership. If there is interest, ask how they recommend moving forward
 - Without the funding AND legislation, libraries would pay significantly more for the same level of service. With legislation - Free; without \$2400 - \$4200/year? (estimate is that libraries are currently paying \$6456 to \$16488 annually, for slower service)
- Chair Adams-Lanham seeks volunteers for subcommittees. D. Foote takes note of volunteers.

eBooks

R. Livergood
K. Waltermire
M. Dombrowski
C. Yanikoski
Leila Heath

Broadband

T. Brown
D. Schaal
D. Matthews

B. Chase

Either

R. Malinowski
M. Gardner

D. Foote, D. Blaida, G. McCormick, S. Lanham-Adams, J. Hamilton should be included on all emails between the subgroups regarding the legislative priorities.

Next Steps

S. Adams-Lanham will reach out to Best Practices regarding publishing requirements and options to reduce costs.

D. Foote will note interest in publishing requirements as a future priority

S. Adams-Lanham will initiate subgroup work on legislative priorities

Subgroups will work to complete draft legislation by end of November

Next meeting - December 6

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/87093884885;](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87093884885) 312.626.6799; MEETING ID: 870 9388 4885

PPC Resources

[General committee info \(includes past minutes & upcoming meeting dates\)](#)

[ILA info on recent federal legislative work](#)

[ILA info on recent state legislative work](#)

[Creating or changing Illinois state library law](#)

[Legislative proposal form](#)