

Illinois Library Association Public Policy Committee
Meeting Minutes-June 6, 2022-Minutes taken by Nikeda Webb

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
- ☐ Dee Anna Phares – Northern Illinois University Libraries
- ✓ Donna Schaal – Argenta-Oreana Public Library District
- ✓ Kyla Waltermire – Mississippi Valley District Library
- ✓ Nikeda Webb – Matteson Public Library
- ✓ Catherine Yanikoski - Engineering Systems, Inc

Ex Officio Members

- ☐ Suzanne Arist or ____ Betsy Mahoney Intellectual Freedom Committee
- ✓ Derek Blaida – ILA Legislative Consultant
- ✓ Deirdre Brennan – Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)
- ✓ Elizabeth Clarage – Consortium of Academic & Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI)
- ✓ Veronica De Fazio – Plainfield Public Library District- ILA Past President
- ☐ 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
- ☐ Patrick Molloy – Chicago Public Library
- ✓ Ellen Popit – Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS)
- ✓ Magan Szwerek – Schaumburg Township District Library- Advocacy Committee

Guests

Guests include: Cyndi Robinson (ILA); Tina Hubert (Six Mile Regional Library District); Mary Witt (RAILS); Monica Harris (RAILS); and Leila Health (RAILS)

Review agenda for changes and additions—approved by unanimous consent
Approve 2022-5 minutes— approved by unanimous consent

Advocacy Committee Update-Magan Szwerek

The committee recapped their upcoming plans for programs at ILA. They discussed tentative plans for continuing the revamp of the “Bigger than a Building” communication piece. Committee will be working on succession planning. The committee issued an invitation for anyone who has an interest in learning about Ready, Set, Advocate. The committee shared thanks with their outgoing committee members.

Report out from ILA Exec Board—Jeanne Hamilton/Diane Foote

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The committee welcomed new board members and said goodbye to outgoing board members. Several nominations for new Illinois Library Luminaries were accepted.

Statement for Carli

Diane Foote shared that a letter has been drafted by Carli to be directed to the College Course Materials Affordability and Equitable Access Task Force. Dan Matthews stated that the statement needs to go to the Carli executive board. Their plan is to stay focused on Carli. They will have a sign-on option for current member institutions and organizations like ILA and ACRL. Carli is asking member institutions and organizations like ILA and ACRL to make their own statement of support. Jeanne shared that the ILA board decided to approve support for this statement with some flexibility. This will give Diane the room to adapt as however needed. ILA will support it as long as it's still in the spirit of what was seen at the board meeting. A draft of the document will be shared with BBC members.

Orientation

Orientation will be on July 20 via Zoom.

Goodbyes

Diane shared goodbyes and thank yous with outgoing members.

Sam Adams Lanham, PPC chair

Monica Dombroski, PPC member

Dan Matthews, former chair term

Dee Anna Phares, PPC member

Veronica De Fazio, past president

Hello to Ryan Johnson newly elected vice president, president-elect.

Staff Changes

Cyndi Robinson has been offered the director's position at ILA. The transition should be complete by September 1.

Federal update—Diane Foote

President Biden's budget request has been submitted. Congress is reviewing it. Congress would like the newly elected members to have a clean slate and not start off with a draft budget that hasn't been approved. President Biden's budget does include a very small increase for IMLS/LSTA to 201 million that ILA is seeking and advocating for funding at its fully authorized level, which is 232 million.

Kathy Cromer who is head of ALA's Office for library advocacy and public policy has left the organization. The head of their communications office, which used to be known as the public information office has left as well as the deputy. Alan Inouye has been appointed the interim director of that office. At this time, it is unclear if ALA will take on the charge of finding a legislative solution to ebook pricing.

Diane encouraged PPC members to look at the two initiatives from ALA, the Unite Against book bans, and the continuing one about ebook pricing.

State update—Derek Blaida, Diane Foote & Others

Two bills ILA has been following have been signed and are now law. They are the Cards for All (expanded version), known as Public Act 1020843, and the bill requiring parameters around

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vacancies for trustee positions. The full veto session is scheduled for the week before and the week after Thanksgiving, It's too early to tell what will be on the agenda but we can work on something for November or in early January. This means we have to get our legislative agenda ready to go out the door signed, sealed, and approved in early October.

Sam inquired about the Opening Meetings Act training for libraries. Diane stated that there was a bill drafted by townships that ILA was going to amend but it did not advance. Ryan suggested ILA reach out to the township association (or equivalent) and work together to draft something.

Members discussed budgets and levies. Members would like to explore the idea of more local control. Libraries would not be asking for more money but would have the flexibility in allocated budget funds in different ways.

New/other business

Sam shared her Thanks to the committee

"Thank you all for your investment of time and energy to the Public Policy Committee. On a personal note, I have very much enjoyed working with and learning from you all over the last three years, and I know Ryan will bring great things to the table!

We are all interested in ensuring funded universal library service across the state. As we consider 2022-23 legislative proposals, we encourage you to focus on initiatives that would reduce the number of unserved areas and residents."

PPC bestows the ***Robert R. McClarren Legislative Development Award***. The voting members went into executive session to select a recipient from the five nominees. At this time ex officio members and guests removed themselves from the meeting.

Committee returned from executive session the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 1:45 pm.