

Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- a. The meeting was called to order by Gail Graziani at 1:56 p.m.

Attendance

- Voting Members
 - Present: Gail Graziani, Amanda McKay, Betsy Adamowski, Sam Adams-Lanham, Joanna Bertucci, Dennis Danowski, Monica Dombrowski, Nanette Donohue, Chris Houchens, Laura Kirk, Tim Prendergast
 - Absent: Victoria Blackmer
- Ex-Officio Members:
 - Present: Cyndi Robinson, Alex Todd
 - Absent: Amy Byers, Ryan Johnson, Heather Jagman, Kyla Waltermire, Greg McCormick
- Guests: No guests present
- Also Present: Derek Blaida, ILA Legislative Consultant

2. Approval of Agenda: July 19, 2023

- a. Approved by unanimous consent

3. Approval of Minutes: [June 5, 2023](#)

- a. Approved by unanimous consent

4. 2023-24 – Ongoing Projects

a. Ready, Set, Advocate Training Modules: Update / Review? (Cyndi)

Cyndi provided some background on how the modules came into being and opened up discussion for updating the modules, as we are now more fully out of the pandemic, to make sure that they speak to our current time.

b. Legislative Meet-ups (Cyndi)

Cyndi reviewed the meet-ups and opened discussion on what those should look like moving forward. One concrete suggestion for in-person events is that we move them off of February as it does not work well for the legislators and is a challenge regarding weather. This usually results in librarians attending, but not enough legislators. The recommendation is to move them to early December if we do host them in person. A discussion ensued about how to proceed, including a suggestion to survey the membership to see what works for them. A draft schedule was shared with potential December dates. The suggestion was also made to pre-record a short version of Ready Set Advocate so that attendees are prepared for what might happen. We also discussed recording a brief message for legislators ahead of time as well. A suggestion was also made to consider early November as well as to consider holding the meet-ups after 4pm. Finally, a suggestion was made to not do all regions each year but instead spread them out over 2 or 3 years on a consistent cycle.

c. Other Advocacy Tools / Webpage Update (Gail)

Gail quickly reviewed the current page and all agreed that some updated content was in order.

d. Conference Programs and Ongoing Advocacy Training (Amanda)

ILA—Legislator panel. Ready, Set, Advocate: Frontline Edition.

AISLE—October 1 in Champaign presenting Ready, Set, Advocate

PLA—Submission has been made, but have not heard

Suggestion was to include a recorded version of various presentations on the updated web page.

5. 2023-24 – New ideas and Ways to Build on Ongoing Projects

Ideas discussed included focusing on local contacts with our advocacy training efforts as well as a toolkit of templates for people to be able to place data/stories to help share advocacy support.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29p.m. by Gail Graziani.

Committee Charge

- Supports the targeted advocacy efforts set forth by the American Library Association and the Illinois Library Association
- Strives to unite ILA members behind advocacy efforts set forth by the ILA Executive Board;
- Works in tandem with the Public Policy Committee (PPC) to implement an annual legislative agenda;
- Provides ILA members with the tools to make local, statewide, and national advocacy an integral part of their professional life;
- Develops a long-range advocacy plan in conjunction with PPC and the Executive Board; and
- Within this broad framework collaborates with the ILA President and ILA Executive Director to set an annual calendar of advocacy activities and to create communications, materials, and training in support of these activities.

Voting Members:

Nanette Donohue* - Champaign Public Library

Gail Graziani* - Indian Prairie Library District

Sam Adams-Lanham - Barrington Area Library

Joanna Bertucci - Park Ridge Public Library

Victoria Blackmer - Robert R. Jones Public Library

Dennis Danowski - Macomb Public Library

Chris Houchens - Charleston Carnegie Public Library

Qiana Johnson - Dartmouth University

Laura Kirk - Green Hills Public Library District

Amanda McKay - Effingham Public Library

Sara Murray - Algonquin Area Public Library District

Ex officio Members:

Ryan Livergood - ILA PPC Chair, Warren-Newport Public Library District

Cyndi Robinson - ILA

Heather Jagman - ILA President, DePaul University Library

Ryan Johnson - ILA VP/President-Elect, O'Fallon Public Library

Greg McCormick - Illinois State Library

Alex Todd - ILA Board Liaison

Guests:

Upcoming meeting dates and assigned minutes takers:

August 29, 2022 - Chris Houchens

October 3, 2022 - Qiana Johnson

November 7, 2022 - Amanda McKay

December 5, 2022 - Sam Adams-Lanham

January 9, 2023 - Victoria Blackmer

February 6, 2023 - Laura Kirk

March 6, 2023 - Sara Murray

April 3, 2023 - Dennis Danowski

May 1, 2023 - Joanna Bertucci

June 5, 2023 - Gail Graziani

All meetings are at 10 AM. In-person meeting locations will rotate; all meetings will also be accessible through Zoom. If you cannot take minutes on your assigned date, please trade with another Advocacy Committee voting member.