

Illinois Library Association Advocacy Committee

Monday, January 11 at 1:00pm
Virtual Meeting

Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call – meeting called to order at 1:01 pm
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Approval of Agenda: January 11, 2021 – approved by unanimous consent.
4. Approval of Minutes: December 7, 2020 – approved by unanimous consent.
5. Reports
 - a. ILA Executive Director, Diane Foote
 - Monitoring the news from Springfield, anticipating releasing ballot slate announcement.
 - Reaching Forward will be hosted on a new platform, pheedloop, this year. Registration will open soon.
 - Proposals for Annual Conference will be accepted through 3/31/2021.
 - Everyone has been asked to brainstorm ideas to bring back to the group for consideration.
 - Keith will put together a proposal for Ready Set, Advocate!
 - DEI subcommittee continues to work with the Executive Board, exploring the Courageous Conversation Academy.
 - b. ILA President, Veronica DeFazio
 - ILA will join monthly AISLE meetings to address ways association can support school library members.
 - AISLE joined ALA, AASL (American Association of School Librarians) and 47 additional state associations sent a [letter](#) to President-Elect Joe Biden's transition team stressing how school librarians are an equity-oriented solution to some of the most pressing concerns facing educators at this moment.
 - c. ILA Legislative Consultant, Derek Blaida – no update, currently on the hill in Springfield
 - d. ILA Public Policy Chair, Daniel Matthews
 - PPC monitoring the Black Caucus legislative agenda
 - Outreach [letter](#) drafted for directors to use with county health departments advocating for public librarians to be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine in Phase 1b or 1c.
 - [Letter](#) drafted to be sent to ILPH by ILA
6. Around the Table & Across the State – no update
7. Legislative meetups – Diane
 - 8 virtual meet ups are scheduled between 1/29 and 3/5, with some updates to the regional anchors from previous years.
 - Development of L2 legislative district tracking tool has been

invaluable in revising the regions.

- Registration opened 1/7, free to library staff and trustees, \$15 for nonmembers.
- A dedicated [page](#) for meet-ups on ILA website has been created.
- Invitations to legislators began going out last week. All legislators are being invited to their relevant meet-up.
- Newly seated legislators will be invited after 1/13 inauguration.

8. Advocacy Training Update

- Keith provided an overview of the work being done to update the current manual & develop attendant materials with the theme “Ready, Set, Advocate!”
- ILA graphic designer has been engaged to develop brand identify for training materials.
- Reaching Forward subcommittee (Keith, Gail, Nanette) have been meeting to create presentation materials.
- Plan is to reconvene after the legislative meet ups to revise the project timeline.

9. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 1:47

Advocacy Committee's 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. 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 Present:

Betsy Adamowski X Wheaton Public Library	Nanette Donohue Champaign Public Library	Keith Fiels X Retired/ALA
Matthew Fruth X Oak Park Public Library Board	Gail Graziani X Lisle Library District	Quiana Johnson Northwestern University
Amanda McKay X Effingham Public Library	Val Neylon City Colleges of Chicago	Magan Szwerek* X Schaumburg Twp District Library
Alex Todd* X Prospect Heights Public Library	Jeffrey Wheeler X U of I Chicago	Amanda Zagloba X Chicago Public Library
Ex-Officio Members Present: Veronica DeFazio X ILA President	Diane Foote X ILA	Jeanne Hamilton X ILA VP/President Elect
Marielle McNeal ILA Board Liason	Daniel Matthews X ILA PPC Chair	Greg McCormick X Illinois State Library

Guests:

Sam Adams-Lanham, Cynthia Robinson, Thomas Stagg, Mary Witt, Aaron Skog
