

Illinois Library Association Advocacy Committee

Monday, March 1 at 1:00pm
Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Co-Chair Szwerek called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM. Attendance is reflected on the roster below

2. Introduction of Guests – Guests listed on the roster below

3. The agenda of the ILA Advocacy Committee Meeting for March 1, 2021 was approved by unanimous consent

4. The Minutes for the ILA Advocacy Committee Meeting for February 1, 2021 was approved by unanimous consent

5. Reports

a. ILA Executive Director, Diane Foote

Diane Foote provided an overview of some federal legislation: Build America's Libraries act dedicates \$5 billion for library construction, particularly in marginalized communities. The \$1.9 trillion COVID relief act includes \$2 million in library funding per state.

Cyndi Robinson reviewed key upcoming dates for ILA's events and continuing education. These will be shared via email and posted on ILA's website.

b. ILA President, Veronica DeFazio

Veronica DeFazio shared how impressed she has been with the legislative meetups she has attended. Ms. Defazio gave particular praise to the local coordinators for working so hard and effectively to get so many legislators to attend.

c. ILA Legislative Consultant, Derek Blaida

Derek Blaida reported that he has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from legislators who attended a meetup. One suggestion he received from a few was, if they're online again, to start them early – 8am. This reduces the chances other meetings will block their schedules.

d. ILA Public Policy Chair, Daniel Matthews

The PPC discussed several house bills that would impact libraries if passed. They also discussed a proposal to include paid sick leave into the FMLA and the potential US Citizenship act and how that may lead to changes in LOC subject headings. Other topics included district library fiscal year dates and why city library boards have 9 members when all other public library types have 7 trustees. Mr. Matthews gave an update on the Inclusive History Committee which aims to provide diverse perspectives to history curriculums. Database funding is being advocated by other groups.

6. Around the Table & Across the State - Nothing

7. Legislative meetups update

Diane Foote gave an overview of the legislative meetups held to date. The Rockford meetup is scheduled for March 2. Ms. Foote also shared a slide presentation created by the

coordinators of the Central Illinois meetup. It may be used as template for local teams going forward.

8. Reaching Forward program update

Nanette Donohue and Gail Graziani gave an update on plans to present at Reaching Forward.

9. ILA Conference Submittals update

The Committee discussed potential program submissions for ILA's annual conference. The normal advocacy boot camp program and legislator panel discussion will be sent for consideration.

10. Adjournment – There being no further business before the committee, Co-Chair Szwarek adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM

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:

P Betsy Adamowski
Wheaton Public Library

P Nanette Donohue
Champaign Public Library

P Keith Fiels
Retired/ALA

P Matthew Fruth
Oak Park Public Library Board

P Gail Graziani
Lisle Library District

P Qiana Johnson
Northwestern University

P Amanda McKay
Effingham Public Library

A Val Neylon
City Colleges of Chicago

P Magan Szwarek*
Schaumburg Twp District Library

P Alex Todd*
Prospect Heights Public Library

P Jeffrey Wheeler
U of I Chicago

P Amanda Zagloba
Chicago Public Library

Ex-Officio Members Present:

P Veronica DeFazio
ILA President

P Diane Foote
ILA

P Jeanne Hamilton
ILA VP/President Elect

A Marielle
McNeal ILA Board
Liaison

P Daniel Matthews
ILA PPC Chair

P Greg McCormick
Illinois State Library

Guests: Derek Blaida – ILA Legislative Liasion, Cyndi Robinson - ILA, Thomas Stagg – Alpha Park Public Library