

**Illinois Library Association Advocacy Committee**  
**Wednesday, July 14, 2021, 1:45 pm**  
**Online Meeting**  
**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Magan Szwarek at 1:45 pm.

**Attendance**

**Voting Members**

**Present:** Joanna Bertucci, Keith Fiels, Gail Graziani - Lisle Library District, Kate Hall, Chris Houchens, Qiana Johnson, Amanda McKay

**Absent:** Matthew Fruth, Valerie Neylon, Jeffrey Wheeler

**Ex-officio Members**

**Present:** Diane Foote, Jeanne Hamilton, Marielle McNeal

**Absent:** Sam Adams-Lanham, Heather Jagman, Greg McCormick

**Approval of Agenda:** approved by unanimous consent

**Approval of Minutes:** approved by unanimous consent

**Introductions:** Committee members introduced themselves, their libraries, and what brought them to volunteer for the Advocacy Committee.

**Advocacy Committee Overview:** Members were reminded of where they can find the committee charge and calendar on the ILA website.

**Discussion of current projects**

**Legislative Meet-ups:**

There was a robust discussion of the goal of the legislative meet-ups and how the committee can best serve each of the areas. Although the response to the 2021 virtual meet-ups was more positive than anticipated, the committee would like to explore the idea of hybrid meet-ups.

**Items to explore at the August meeting:**

- Goals for the events
- Soliciting feedback from each area re: in-person or virtual events
- Bookending the meet-ups with preparation and next step process training, incorporating the module training.
- Development of trustee-specific training before the meet-ups?

**Ready, Set, Advocate! Training**

Keith gave an overview of the work that was done by Betsy and him to update the existing Advocacy Toolkit and develop a set of corresponding training modules for each section and outlined the Ready, Set, Advocate framework. Jeanne shared the slide deck used by Keith, Nanette, and Gail to present Advocacy 101 at Reaching Forward to give new committee members a preview of the logo and design.

**Next Steps:**

- Content has been delivered to ILA for formatting by the designer

- Official launch at ILA, but if the final product is ready by September, Kate can communicate it out to Director's University past participants and potentially have it included in the next session. Development of a communication plan for making the library community aware, after launch.
- Familiarizing committee members with the content, partnering with more seasoned committee members to present, identifying conferences, meetings, networking groups, other opportunities to present the content

### **Future Planning**

- Potential revamp of the Bigger than a Building Campaign
- Further discussion of the Advocacy Committee's role in supporting the PPC agenda, how the committees are intended to work together, are there areas for improvement/increased impact?
- Jeanne confirmed that the ILA Executive Board plans to meet remotely until January 2022
- The meeting schedule and note-taking roster are included in the agenda.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 pm by Magan Szwarek

### **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  
 Magan Szwarek\* - Schaumburg Township District Library  
 Joanna Bertucci - Park Ridge Public Library  
 Keith Fiels - Retired/ALA  
 Matthew Fruth - Oak Park Public Library  
 Gail Graziani - Lisle Library District  
 Kate Hall - Northbrook Public Library  
 Chris Houchens - Charleston Carnegie Public Library  
 Qiana Johnson - Northwestern University Libraries  
 Amanda McKay - Effingham Library  
 Valerie Neylon - City Colleges of Chicago  
 Jeffrey Wheeler - U of I Chicago

**Ex officio Members:**

Sam Adams-Lanham - ILA PPC Chair, Barrington Public Library

Diane Foote - ILA

Jeanne Hamilton - ILA President, Bloomington Public Library

Heather Jagman - ILA VP/President-Elect, DePaul University

Greg McCormick - Illinois State Library

Marielle McNeal - ILA Board Liason, Edward Hines VA Hospital

**Upcoming meeting dates and assigned minutes takers:**

August 30, 2021 - Joanna Bertucci

October 4, 2021 - Keith Fiels

November 1, 2021 - Matthew Fruth

December 6, 2021 -Gail Graziani

January 10, 2022 - Kate Hall

February 7, 2022 - Chris Houchens

March 7, 2022 - Qiana Johnson

April 4, 2022 - Amanda McKay

May 2, 2022 - Valerie Neylon

June 6, 2022 - Jeffrey Wheeler

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.