

Illinois Library Association Advocacy Committee

Monday, August 31, 2020 at 1:00pm

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81576986152>

Dial by your location

(312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 815 7698 6152

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Alex. Attendees noted at the end.

2. Introduction of Guests - Noted at the end.

3. Approval of Agenda: August 31, 2020 -Approved by unanimous consent.

4. Approval of Minutes: July 16, 2020 – Approved by unanimous consent.

5. Reports

- ILA Executive Director, Diane Foot
 - ILA Annual will be virtual, registration is open.
 - September ILA Reporter will be coming out shortly. Alex/Amanda answered questions about COVID impact on public library budget, included in article.
 - Diane reminded everyone that the ILA Alert e-newsletter comes out each Thursday and encouraged all to [subscribe](#).
 - Federal legislation – COVID 19 Relief funding (detailed in legislative update in Alert).
 - Libraries relief funding act – higher priority, able to add supporters (details in Alert).
 - Special districts relief act (details in Alert).
 - Following Post Office support relief activities.
 - Launching iRead 2021; Reading Colors Your World (lends to variety of interpretations). Online store should flip in a few weeks, have added a number of states.
 - ALA Midwinter will be virtual.
 - Illinois YS Institute has been canceled, organizing body opted not to virtualize, next one in 2023.
 - Reaching forward May 2021 will be virtual.
 - Executive board subcommittee formed to explore DEI (tied to strategic plan).

- ILA President, Veronica DeFazio
 - Veroncia noted that in addition to the Diversity Committee, all ILA committees are working on DEI initiatives.
 - Learned during a recent leadership call with AISLE (Association of Illinois School Library Educators) has reformed its advocacy committee, who are looking for opportunities to collaborate. Dawn Scuderi is the AISLE Advocacy

Manager (advocacy@aisle.org).

- ILA Legislative Consultant, Derek Blaida – no update, available to answer questions
 - ILA Public Policy Chair, Daniel Matthews
 - Legislative proposals discussed
 - Will be voting on priorities remotely
 - Discussion of potential PPC collaborators (applicable for Advocacy Com.)
6. Around the Table & Across the State – no update
7. Train the trainer – Keith, Betsy, Magan
- Will meet prior to October meeting, update to dovetail with training prior to meetups, Board Activity, timing for opportunities for rest of the year.
 - Structure in a format that makes it simple to review.
 - Retooling for Zoom./virtual environment a challenge.
 - General discussion – plan for organizing sessions (train the trainer) v roadshow
 - Will look at updating toolkit, update by 10/20
 - Aimed at committee membership, codifying what we have for future members
 - At conference could be looking ahead at legislative session, what will be asked of them at meetups in February?
 - Could model on the [video](#) Derek and Diane did at 2020 meetup.
 - Goal of finding an opportunity to present through winter/spring for committee members after training.
 - Alex & Keith will do a literature search.
8. Committee Composition Statement
- Nanette will follow up with Jeffrey and the two will reach out to current President and
 - Will have a timeline for process in place by October meeting, goal to have it ready for December 3 Executive Board meeting.
9. Legislative meetups
- Alex will arrange a call with coordinators to discuss how we can get the message out, without public meetings.
 - No announcement yet from ILA
 - More targeted events, with chairs of legislative committees & library staff (modeled on ALA fly-in days), less inclusive as there isn't equal opportunity to participate, but size limit might work in COVID times
 - Designate a period of time and encourage people to communicate with legislators using tools available from ALA engage (customized messaging).
 - Virtualizing eliminates geographic barriers.
10. Advocating for Diversity in Libraries
- Alex will reach out to the Diversity Committee to find out how we can support their efforts, as well as other committee's efforts.

- Diane noted that the ILA Executive Board recently formed a DEI subcommittee is planning a survey, as well as reviewing current policy.
- There may be opportunities to collaborate with the Sylvia Murphy Williams scholars.

11. ILA Annual Conference Panel discussion - Alex, Magan, and Jim D.

- With the conference moving online, the theme for the program will be how to work virtually with your legislator.
- Suggestions for legislators who would be a good fit are welcome.
- All committee members are encouraged to attend the session (and Betsy & Keith's Advocacy Bootcamp session!).

12. Health Science Librarians of Illinois conference

- This conference has been canceled and rescheduled for October 2021.
- The advocacy calendar will be updated to reflect the current virtual meeting environment.
- Revisit the Advocacy Plan?

13. Adjournment -The meeting was adjourned by Alex at 2:25 p.m.

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
Wheaton Public Library

✓ Matthew Fruth
Oak Park Public Library Board

✓ Amanda McKay
Effingham Public
Library

✓ Alex Todd*
Prospect Heights Public Library

✓ Nanette Donohue
Champaign Public
Library

✓ Gail Graziani
Lisle Library District

Val Neylon
City Colleges of Chicago

Jeffrey Wheeler
U of I Chicago

✓ Keith Fiels
Retired/A
LA

Qiana Johnson
Northwestern University

✓ Magan Szwerek*
Schaumburg Twp District Library

Amanda Zagloba Chicago
Public Library

Ex-Officio Members Present:

✓ Veronica
DeFazio ILA
President

Marielle McNeal
ILA Board Liaison

✓ Diane
Foote
ILA

✓ Daniel
Matthews
ILA PPC Chair

✓ Jeanne Hamilton
ILA VP/President Elect

✓ Greg McCormick
Illinois State
Library

Guests: Derek Blaida, Dee Brennan, Mary Witt, Tom Stagg
