

Illinois Library Association Advocacy Committee
Monday, November 7, 2022, 10:00 AM
Online Meeting
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Gail Graziani at 10:00 am.

Attendance

Voting Members

Present: Sam Adams-Lanham, Joanna Bertucci, Dennis Danowski, Nanette Donohue, Gail Graziani, Chris Houchens, Qiana Johnson, Laura Kirk, and Sara Murray

Absent: Victoria Blackmer and Amanda McKay

Ex-officio Members

Present: Ryan Livergood, Cyndi Robinson, Heather Jagman, Ryan Johnson, Greg McCormick, and Alex Todd

Also Present: Derek Blaida, ILA Legislative Consultant

Approval of 11/7/22 Agenda: approved by unanimous consent

Approval of 10/3/22 Minutes: approved by unanimous consent

1. Updates

- a. ILA Public Policy Committee (Ryan Livergood, PPC Chair)
 - i. PPC will be meeting on 11/7 to discuss statewide databases
- b. ILA Executive Board (Heather Jagman, ILA President and Cyndi Robinson, ILA Executive Director)
 - i. The Fall conference was a success! 1,210 people attended and feedback was very positive.
 - ii. ILA will be asking the ILA Board to support the Unite Against Book Bans campaign
 - iii. Cyndi will be meeting with Greg Claus, a Federal Program Officer dedicated to Illinois via the US Dept. of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for the Broadband, Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program. Cyndi will share a report of this meeting at the next AC meeting.
- c. Illinois State Library (Greg McCormick, ISL Director)
 - i. No report.
- d. Legislative Update (Derek Blaida)
 - i. ILA does not have a legislative ask for the next session.
 - ii. ILA will work with the new Secretary of State on the Local Records Act

2. Recap of ILA Annual Conference Advocacy Programs

- a. Ready, Set, Advocate! Unlock Your Advocacy Potential (session 1)
- b. Ready, Set, Advocate! Putting Your Advocacy Skills to Work – Today (session 2)
- c. Advocacy Tips & Tricks from Legislators
 - i. Laura shared that both ILA Advocacy programs were well done, but participants expressed a desire for more time to work through the materials. Cyndi suggested

that perhaps these sessions could be offered as a preconference session in the future. This would allow for a half-day session (4-5) to give presenters and participants an opportunity to take a deeper dive into the materials. There was some concern that attendees would not participate if these programs were part of the preconference offerings. Sam suggesting taking one portion of the training and working through that during the regular session and then asking participants to continue their work on their own. Gail will share feedback received from the training sessions with the group to help us decide how to present the material going forward.

3. Subcommittee Updates:

- a. Conference Program/Noon Network Coordinating - Nanette, Sara, Sam, Joanna, Qiana
 - i. Nanette and Sara submitted a proposal for the Youth Services Institute conference to present a Ready, Set, Advocate “remix” to a youth services staff audience.
 - ii. Sara agreed to work with Joanna on a proposal for Reaching Forward 2023.
- b. Bigger than a Building Revamp - Gail, Amanda, Laura, Chris, Victoria, Sam
 - i. Gail asked that subcommittee members review the current [web page](#) and share their feedback
- c. Ready, Set, Advocate Training Modules - Nanette, Gail, Dennis, Sam, Joanna, Qiana
 - i. This subcommittee has not met yet.
- d. ILA Legislative Meetups - Nanette, Sara, Dennis, Amanda, Victoria
 - i. Nanette suggested that the committee pause the legislative meet ups for 2023 and take the time to evaluate and decide on what direction future meet ups should take.
 - ii. Alex, Sara, Laura, and Sam felt that the meet ups should continue as the meet ups are a good opportunity to form relationships, talk up resources, and hear Derek’s legislative updates.
 - iii. The group reached consensus insofar as there is no one size fits all solution for the meet ups. The virtual format does well in areas of the state where long commutes to meet up locations are not preferable. Additionally, the pandemic continues to make the virtual option more practical in terms of planning and safety for attendees.
 - iv. Gail suggested that the subcommittee take some time to consider these ideas and thoughts before making a final decision.
 - v. Next steps include:
 1. Nanette will reach out to last year’s local coordinators and start looking at dates for the end of January – March 2023.
 2. Cyndi Robinson asked to be included in future conversations and planning regarding the meet ups as planning the meetups require a good deal of ILA staff time.
- e. ILA Reporter Articles - Laura, Joanna, Chris
 - i. No updates

4. Other Business

- a. Nanette was appointed to the ALA Ecosystem Initiative, One Voice: [Building a Strong Library Ecosystem](#). Please take a look at the website so the committee can discuss in December or January.
- b. Cyndi mentioned that ILA meets monthly with AISLE and the IL State Library and that AISLE is also doing advocacy work within their organization.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 by Gail Graziani

**Respectfully Submitted,
Joanna Bertucci
November 7, 2022**

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 Public Library
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 - Northwestern University Libraries
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

Diane Foote/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

Upcoming meeting dates and assigned minutes' takers:

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 - Amanda McKay

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.