



Illinois Library Association

ILA Forum and Committee Reports

This form is to be completed by committee chairs/ forum managers in collaboration with board liaisons. The ILA Executive Board will have meetings on the following dates in 2018-19: September 20, 2018; November 29, 2018; January 31, 2019; April 11, 2019; and June 13, 2019. Reports should be submitted two weeks before each board meeting to the board liaison and the ILA office, 33 W. Grand Ave., Ste. 401, Chicago, IL 60654-6799; fax: 312-644-1899; email: dfoote@ila.org.

Advocacy Committee

Forum or Committee

Jim Deiters & Alex Todd

March 27, 2019

Report completed by

Date

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

See attached sheet

Projected activities during the upcoming months:

The Committee will work with Diane in analyzing the results from the legislative Meet-up participant survey. A summary of those results is in the Executive Board packet.

The Committee will promote steps libraries can do to build strong relationships with local agencies after the April 2 election. These steps include sending letters of congratulations to election winners and condolences to election losers; making appointments to meet with newly elected people to discuss the central role the Library plays in the community.

The Committee will begin brainstorming ideas for FY19-20.

Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Board:

See attached sheet

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

ILA's annual legislative meet-ups were held in February and were once again very successful. We are particularly proud of the fact that each meet-up is starting to evolve their own event to best suit their regional needs. Buffalo Grove, for example, had library patrons talk to their audience about how their library helped change their lives.

Well, "we are particularly proud" is a bit of a misnomer because although the Committee is proud we also acknowledge that the bulk of the work in organizing the meet-ups was done by Diane and her staff at ILA and the individual event coordinators. These meet-ups would not have happened, let alone been as successful as they were, without their work of these people.

The Committee submitted 3 programs for ILA - a legislator panel discussion, a workshop highlighting ways libraries can enhance their community profile during local elections, and an advocacy boot camp. The boot camp was submitted as an extended program - sort of a pre-conference event scheduled during the conference.

Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Board:

A concern we have is whether we should be posting our meeting minutes and other documents online for easier accessibility and if so, where we should post them.

New committees start in July, but they are tasked with continuing the projects begun the prior year. Posting the minutes can help give new members insight into what the Committee has been working on.

Rene Descartes walks into a bar.

The bartender asks "Do you want a drink?"

Descartes responds "I think not."

What happened next?