

Illinois Library Association Advocacy Committee
Monday, December 2, 2019, at 1:00pm
Reaching Across Illinois Library System – Burr Ridge
125 Tower Drive, Burr Ridge, IL 60527

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 1:01pm by Mr. Deiters
The Roll Call is included at the end of this document.

2. Introduction of Guests

A list of guests in attendance is attached to the end of this document.

3. Approval of Agenda: November 4, 2019 were approved by unanimous consent.

4. Approval of Minutes: October 7, 2019 were approved by unanimous consent.

5. Reports

a. ILA Executive Director, Diane Foote

Director Foote reported that the ILA Executive Board approved the legislative agenda as recommended by the Public Policy Committee (PPC) except for patron privacy. The wording on that legislation is being revised. Three funding proposals were approved – CARLI's OERs, RAILS' state purchase of databases, and Per Capita Grant rate increases.

Director Foote reported that part of the revised wording for patron privacy is stating that self-service hold slips cannot show both the first and last name. Previous wording read first or last name.

Mr. Todd stated that Cooperative Computer Services (CCS) is working on patrons privacy/self-hold privacy standards. The ILA Best Practices Committee is working on this as well.

The Executive Board approved a new Committee Open Meetings Policy for ILA's various committees and forums. The policy is on the [ILA website](#). Meetings are open to ILA members with the exception of the nominating and awards committees. Other committees and forums may have closed sessions for specified reasons.

b. ILA President, Molly Beestrup – no report

c. ILA Legislative Consultant, Derek Blaida

Mr. Blaida reported on a recent [Chicago Tribune](#) article on property tax task force. A report from the task force is due to leadership by Dec 31, 2020. There is little likelihood that a consensus will be reached. There was discussion about this being something we raise during the legislative meetups in February. Tax freezes have already been rejected a number of times.

The legislative session is shorter in 2020 than in 2019 likely because of the very busy 2019 leaving fewer priorities to address.

d. ILA Public Policy

There was discussion about ILA's proposed consolidation bill. Questions remain on how to facilitate the merger two municipal libraries into an independent district without requiring one/both to form a district first; how to merge the boards of consolidating library entities, and making trustee qualifications uniform across library type.

6. Around the Table & Across the State – No additional comments.

7. Legislative Meet-ups

PLA and ALA legislative fly-in are complicating planning. ILA Deputy Director Cyndi Robinson will cover the Effingham Meet-Up.

The dates for the each meetup is set except for Chicago. Coordinators are set except for Buffalo Grove.

There was discussion about who the primary audience for these meetups should be – trustees or legislators?

Mr. Fiels said that the meetups are critical opportunities to push the three funding asks on our legislative agenda.

Director Foote and Mr. Blaida will create a webinar/video to make available to library boards. This will not replace attending the legislative meetups. Instead, it will be designed to help educate trustees on the issues and talking points beforehand.

Thoughts to share with meetup coordinators

- Have a photo/videographer at the meetup making content to show those who didn't attend in the hopes of boosting future attendance.
- Work with trustee forum to encourage trustee attendance
- Offer training for trustees on how to talk to legislators.
- Mr. Wheeler added that gearing webinar/recording to "this will help you when" will help the "en lieu of" mentality.

8. ILA Legislative Priorities Messaging

Director Foote is drafting the 2020 ILA legislative handcard. It has contained 2 evergreen items – opposing unfunded mandates and supporting library through funded appropriations. Those should remain but might be incorporated into this year's specific priorities. Mr. Fiels believes our funding asks should be listed in priority order on the handcard so people who only read one or two items see the most important ones.

9. Advocacy Plan

Mr. Fiels and Ms. Donahue will work on proposals for Reaching Forward North and South by December 13. These proposals will be based upon advocacy training modules that will form the basis for training other audiences and in different formats.

Ms. Adamowski and Mr. Deiters will incorporate the modules into training for Director's University.

10. Review the Committee's Annual Calendar - Messrs. Deiters and Wheeler will draft a calendar for the Committee's review with the aim of having it approved in conjunction with the Advocacy Plan by July 1, 2020. Discussion on content yielded the following ideas:

- Mark the dates of legislative sessions
- Include the ILA legislative agenda process
- ALA, PLA, ILA etc program submission deadlines

- Include future planning time (spring?)

11. Reminder: Agendas, Minutes & Reports on the ILA website 12. Other

Reminder – there will be no Advocacy Committee meeting in February due to the legislative meetup events.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Committee, Mr. Deiters declared the meeting adjourned at 2:49 P.M.

Voting Members Present:

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| X Betsy Adamoski
Wheaton | X Jim Deiters
Oak Lawn | X Nanette Donohue
Champaign |
| X Keith Michael Fiels
ALA (retired) | ___ Matthew Fruth
Oak Park | X Qiana Johnson
Northwestern |
| ___ Val Neylon
City Colleges of Chicago | ___ Michelle Nielsen Ott
Methodist College
of Unity Point Health | X Magan Swarek
Schaumburg |
| X Alex Todd
Prospect Heights | X Jeffrey Wheeler
UIC | ___ Amanda Zagloba
Chicago |

Ex-Officio Members Present:

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| ___ Molly Beestrum
Northwestern | ___ Dennis Danowski
Macomb | X Diane Foote
ILA |
| X Veronica DeFazio
Plainfield | ___ Kate Kite
Six-Mile Regional | X Greg McCormick
State Library |

Guests: Dee Brennan & Mary Witt (RAILS), Derek Blaida (Legislative Consultant), Noreen Bormet (Peotone Library District), and Ashley Stewart (Caseyville)

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.