Illinois Library Association  
Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, November 4, 2019

Call to Order: 10:04am

Roll Call:
Voting Members
Present: Dennis Danowski (Chair), Sam Adams-Lanham, Marian Albers, Anthony Auston, Monica Dombrowski, Betsy Mahoney, Daniel Matthews, Karolyn Nance, Dee Anna Phares.
Absent: Kathy Parker, Scott Pointon, Mike Starasta.

Ex Officio Members:
Absent: Molly Beestrum, Jim Deiters, Anne Craig, Paul Mills, Patrick Molloy.

Guests: Derek Blaida, Leila Heath, Jim Kregor.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Monica Dombrowski, second by Dee Anna Phares, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from October 7, 2019: Motion by Marian Albers, second by Anthony Auston, to accept minutes with corrections (Patrick Malloy is ex officio not guest and add Elizabeth’s last name), motion carried.

State Legislative Priorities

CARLI’s Proposal: PPC voted to Support
Daniel Matthews spoke about the proposal from CARLI and would like to see the committee support the proposal which then goes to the ILA Executive Board for their approval. Anne Craig was unable to attend so Elizabeth Clarage provided an explanation of what CARLI was hoping to accomplish with an appropriation of 4 million dollars for a grant program. Anne Craig has already spoken to Greg McCormick, State Library Director, to put in a request for these monies in the preliminary State Library budget to then be added to the Secretary of State’s budget.

Funding Increase (Per Capita & Databases): PPC voted to Support pending further hard numbers and results from the survey from Deidre Brennan and her committee.
Deirdre Brennan and Leila Heath are working on a proposal for statewide databases. The cost would be 1-2 million dollars with the hope of funding the project by increasing the Per Capita
Grant rate. Currently the rates are $1.25 per person for public libraries which brings in approximately 15 million dollars statewide. Schools receive .75 per student per school which brings in 1.2 million dollars annually. The amount of money allocated each year also includes RAILS, IHLS, and CPL per capita monies. A survey has been distributed to all libraries in Illinois to learn what databases they use, what are the costs and what databases they would like to have.

Net Neutrality: PPC voted to monitor and continue to support.  
The Federal government decided to rescind Net Neutrality rules put in place by the Obama administration. Several States filed lawsuits challenging the proposal. The Court upheld the FCC ruling but gave States the right to create their own Net Neutrality legislation. ILA supports HB1582, Broadband Procurement & Disclosure Act. It is currently in Rules Committee and remains viable.

Merger of Tax Supported Public Libraries into Library Districts: PPC voted to monitor at this time.  
Deirdre Brennan reported on her committees work on making it easier for libraries to merge. It is a great idea but the proposal needs some tweaks. There were some questions about Board members’ terms once the libraries consolidate and several suggestions on some options to address the board member issue. Derek expressed some concern as to how legislators would react to the proposal. The committee will continue to work on improving the document and bring it back to the PPC group.

Patron Privacy/Senate Bill 585 Amendment 1: PPC voted to support SB 585.  
Some language was stricken from the current law and new language was added to address library patron policy concerns. The law may end up being introduced as a new bill and not an amendment.

Sales Tax Referendum: PPC voted no action at this time.  
Derek Blaida stated that any general type of tax proposal would be frowned upon at this time due to other initiatives by the Governor’s office.

Cannabis Revenue: PPC voted no action at this time.  
In the future Public Libraries could possibly ask their county for a share of the proceeds from cannabis sales but the policies/rules governing the new law are still being discussed.

ALPLM’s Proposal: PPC voted to Support.  
The Illinois Historical Collection is the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum’s card catalog. This publication is and has been published online through Carli-i-Share and has not been disseminated to various Libraries in decades. Changes to section 45 (20ILCS 3475/45) are to ensure that the ALPLM statute is consistent with the duties currently laid out for the State
Historian in the State Historical Library Act. They are also seeking to repeal the State Historical Library Act (20 ILCS 3425)

**HJR9 Media Literacy Task Force: PPC is already on record Supporting.**
House Joint Resolution 9 pertains to the creation of a Media Literacy Task Force. The Resolution explains the makeup of the committee membership. Lou Ann Jacobs, AISLE representative, gave a summary of AISLE’s efforts to get a School Librarian on the Task Force.

**Federal Legislative Priorities:**

**Macmillan/ebooks: No action by PPC at this time.**
Diane Foote reported on Macmillan limiting access to ebooks and ALA is working with committees in Congress to address the issue. There is no Legislation to support at this time.

**Summer Meals and Learning: No action by PPC at this time.**
Diane Foote proposed that the Committee take an interest in this due to ILA’s Summer Reading program. It is a grant program that authorizes schools to serve meals and provide reading opportunities to low income students during the summer months. School would need to open their media centers and cafeterias and provide staffing for this project. It was mentioned that this type of service is already being provided by other agencies and some schools. The grant appears to target school libraries and not public libraries. The suggestion was made to possibly add public libraries to the proposal.

**Federal Funding: No action by PPC at this time.**
The American Library Association (ALA) reported that Appropriation bills are stalled in Congress. There is currently very little legislation being passed.

**Dennis Danowski (PPC Chair) proposed, and the Committee agreed to do one vote to cover all proposals and PPC’s recommendations for each item.**
Anthony Auston made the motion, second by Karolyn Nance, motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Dennis Danowski at 12:02pm.

The next PPC meeting will be December 2, 2019 at 10:00am

Respectfully submitted by Marian Albers