Call to order: 10:02AM

Roll Call:

Voting Members
Present: Dennis Danowski (Chair), Sam Adams-Lanham, Marian Albers, Anthony Auston, Monica Dombrowski, Betsy Mahoney, Daniel Matthews, Karolyn Nance, Kathy Parker, Dee Anna Phares, Scott Pointon, Mike Starasta
Absent: None

Ex Officio Members
Present: Molly Beestrum, Derek Blaida, Deirdre Brennan, Elizabeth Clarage (CARLI for Anne Craig), Jim Deiters, Diane Foote, Michelle Frisque (CPL for Patrick Molloy), Cynthia Fuerst, Lou Ann Jacobs, Greg McCormick, Ellen Popit, Alexander Todd
Absent: Veronica De Fazio, Paul Mills

Guests: Monica Harris, RAILS

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Sam Adams-Lanham to approve with changes, second by Karolyn Nance, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from February 3, 2020: Motion by Marian Albers to approve with changes; seconded by Kathy Parker; motion carried.

Public Comments: None

State Legislative Priorities (Derek Blaida):
There is a lot in flux at present as legislators move toward the Easter recess; more to come from Derek after the legislature adjourns this week—state lawmakert will return after the primary elections on March 17, 2020 and there will be a flurry of activity through March 26; Friday, March 6, 2020 Derek will send out one omnibus report.

- Budget—Governor’s FY 2021 budget is dependent on proposed changes to Illinois constitution (Constitutional Amendment Tax Increase) which calls for the adoption of graduated tax rate
  - More than 21% increase over FY 2020 for library grant programs (from $12.5 to $15.128 million-) for equalization, per capita and area grants in Secretary of State (SOS) Grant Program
  - Public Library Per Capita: Increase to $1.47 ½
  - School Library Per Capita: Increase to 88 ½ ¢
  - Greg McCormick and Secretary of State worked hard on securing these increases
  - Dennis Danowski put together a list of libraries named in the FY 2021 budget—this, however, is a proposed budget and money could be re-appropriated; once budget is approved, libraries set to receive money via SOS will be notified; other
libraries named in the budget, but receiving funds via Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) or Capital Development Board (CDB) will need to go back to their legislator to ask for the release of the funds
  o Whatever is in the budget as of 03/21/20, funds will not be available immediately

• Multiple Property Tax Bills
  o HB0320 (PROP TX-PTELL FREEZE)—“Provides that, for the 2019 levy year, the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law shall be calculated by reducing the district's 2016 aggregate extension by 5%. Provides that, for the 2020 levy year, the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law shall be calculated by reducing the district's 2018 aggregate extension by 10%. Provides that, beginning with the 2021 levy year, the extension limitation is 0%. Preempts home rule. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.”
  o HB2320 (PTELL-EXTENSION LIMITATION)—“Provides that, for the 2019 and 2020 levy years, the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law applies to all non-home rule taxing districts. Provides that, for the 2019 and 2020 levy year, the extension limitation under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law is 0% or the rate of increase approved by the voters. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.”
  o HB4241 (PTELL-LIMITING RATE)—“Amends the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law in the Property Tax Code. Provides that, for levy year 2021 and thereafter, the limiting rate shall include 50% of the value of new property (currently, 100% of the value of new property is excluded).”
  o SB0685 (PTELL-REFERENDUM-EXTENSION)—only this bill does not constrain or eliminate the ability to ask for money; this bill “Provides that, on and after January 1, 2020, a referendum to increase the district's aggregate extension for up to 4 consecutive levy years may be submitted to the voters.”

• HB3135 (LOCAL ACCUMULATION OF FUNDS)—caps the amounts of cash units of local government can accumulate or have on hand, excluding the capital fund. Does not outline any penalties. The bill has little chance of passing.

• HB4135 (LIBRARY DIST-CANNABIS REVENUE)—Counties can impose a 3% tax on cannabis; county would lose 1% of that property tax to library districts; it does not seem likely pass.

• HB4065 (PUBLIC OFFICIALS-BODY CAMERAS)—proposes the use of body cameras when state officials interact with the public; Derek is not sure it will move.

• Missouri HB2044 (Parental Oversight of Public Libraries Act)—proposes the creation of a board that chooses what is acceptable reading material for children, with failure to conform leading to penalties for libraries/librarians. It is not likely to pass and there are no examples of similar legislation proposed in Illinois at present. ILA will continue to monitor the situation.

• SB2523 (LIBRARY RECORD CONFIDENTIALITY)—Sponsored by Sen. Linda Holmes (42nd Dist.); the bill is focused on PIN (personal identifiable information) confidentiality. ILA does not support the bill as the language currently stands; it is on leadership’s radar, but the bill may not go anywhere.

• SB3796 (LOCAL-COMPENSATION POSTING)—one of many open government disclosure bills, this one requiring monthly posting of the name of anyone earning more than
$1000—seem likely this would apply to anyone employed, even student workers under 18 years of age.

- Open Meetings and Audio Recordings—many bills are out there, but most are never heard on floor of the House or Senate; they may get a little traction, but these measures are too costly because of the price of transcription; they are not likely to pass.
- Discussion of pervasiveness of FOIA-related bills—these are usually proposed because of complaints by constituents, thinktanks, or good government groups. Sometimes it is a direct response to a specific situation or request that was unsatisfactory for whatever reason. Most do not make a lot of practical sense and are unlikely to go anywhere.

Federal Legislation (Diane Foote):

- Top priority is budget and appropriation. The proposed FY 2021 Federal Budget is again trying to remove federal funding for libraries—calling for elimination of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and the defunding of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) program.
- ILA and ALA asking members to send “Dear Appropriator” letters to legislators, encouraging them to sign a commitment to fully fund the LSTA and IAL.
  - There is a widget on the ILA site—[http://cqrcengage.com/ala/app/write-a-letter?4&engagementId=506273](http://cqrcengage.com/ala/app/write-a-letter?4&engagementId=506273)
  - Information on who had signed, committing to fund these programs is available on ALA’s website—[http://www.ala.org/advocacy/fund-libraries](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/fund-libraries)
  - Rep. Cheri Bustos and Rep. Mike Quigley are on the House Appropriations Committee, so members will need to adjust their letters if writing to them; the widget allows for personalization of the letters.
- 2020 Census
  - Discussion of differential privacy vs data distortion—Census website provided a space for open comment
  - ALA is less concerned about these issues than about the count being suppressed

ILA Legislative Meet-Ups (Diane Foote):

The meet-ups are nearly complete; registration numbers close to 2019 numbers.

- West Suburban Library Legislative Lunch, Oak Brook (Monday, 3 February 2020)
  - 113 attendees (same as 2019)
  - 12 legislators attended, including Reps. Bill Foster (D-IL 11th) and Sean Casten (D-IL 6th)—they spoke enthusiastically about the value of libraries
- Metro East Breakfast, Edwardsville (Friday, February 7, 2020)
  - 55 attendees (59 in 2019)
  - 7 legislators attended
  - There is a new local chair
  - Good feedback on the site
- Southern Illinois Lunch, Effingham (Monday, February 10, 2020)
  - 35 attendees (29 in 2019)
  - 7 legislators attended
- Central Illinois Breakfast, Normal (Friday, February 14, 2020)
  - 43 attendees (52 in 2019)
  - 3 legislators (10 had actually registered)
  - Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL 13th) did attend and speak
• Western Illinois Lunch, Galesburg (Friday, February 14, 2020)
  o 32 attendees
  o 6 registered, but only 3 came
• Presidents Day Breakfast, Buffalo Grove (Monday, February 17, 2020)
  o 137 attendees (146 in 2019)
  o 16 legislators (15 had RSVP’s)
• South Suburban Breakfast, Tinley Park (Friday, February 21, 2020)
  o 57 attendees (60 in 2019)
  o 6 legislators
• Chicago Library Lunch, Harold Washington Library (Friday, March 6, 2020)
  o 47 registered for this last event
  o 6 legislators have RSVP’d
  o Kimberly Black-Parker, Chair of Information Studies at Chicago State University—which has recently received ALA accreditation—will be speaking
• Derek Blaida will speak at Trustee Workshop (Springfield) Saturday, March 7, 2020

ALA Fly-In (Diane Foote):
ALA Washington Fly-In Event was held on February 10 and 11, 2020. The focus was on funding and appropriations.

• Diane met with staff from the offices of Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL 5th), Cheri Bustos (D-IL 17th), Jan Schakowsky (D-IL 9th), and both senators Dick Durbin (D) and Tammy Duckworth (D).
  o Focus on talking points
  o IL reps seemed library friendly
• National Library Legislative Day
  o Will take place in Washington DC on May 4-5, 2020
  o ILA contingent will attend (about a dozen coming from IL)
  o Be aware that the price has gone up

Old Business:
None

New Business:
• RAILS (Deirdre “Dee” Brennan) is proposing two simple amendments to the local library act; the Systems Act says we should try to address issues of accessibility; these ideas came from RAILS’ Universal Service Committee, specifically from Dee, Larisa Good (Warren County Public Library District, Director) and Carole Medal (Executive Director, Gail Borden Public Library District).
  o Non-resident laws amended so local boards could choose to make exception to allow minors card at no fee; amending the statute to allow temporary cards and teacher cards
    ▪ Survey suggested that libraries are already giving out temporary or teacher cards
    ▪ Not mandates, but allows boards to make choices
    ▪ A lot of debate on the overall impact, feasibility, logistics, who is financially, and possible legal challenges
    ▪ Suggestions that these issues could be handled in administrative rules, not the law since these are easier to modify
  • Sen. Laura Murphy (D 28th—Des Plaines and Schaumburg) has filed a bill (SB3177) that would mandate boards provide cards to children in poverty who are unserved
The language says “students”—no geographical links, a lot of questions about implementation. It has gone to committee but has been postponed.

ILA does not want to go on the record in opposition, but we are opposed to unfunded mandates

Senate republicans asked if ILA supported this bill, but it is hard to figure out the impact on libraries

Need clarification on where the students will be served and how we get at unserved populations—maybe checking the Dept. of Education website to find out the number of K-12 students on free or reduced lunch program

ILA not supporting as written because of verification issues and the practicalities; not voting today, but we do want comments from libraries across the state; this is the start of a conversation about expanding access

**Robert R. McClaren Legislative Development Award**—presented by PPC, nominations come through regular nominations process; sometimes if there are no nominations, PPC can generate a list; no nominations yet; could also choose not to nominate anyone this year.

- Due date is May 15th
- Committee asked to generate suggestions for nominees
- Cynthia Fuerst agreed to serve as Chair of a McClaren Award subcommittee—other PPC members should contact her if they wish to serve
- The subcommittee will work on nominations before the May 11th meeting of PPC
- Discussed past suggestions whose nominations did not go forward
- List of past winners is available on the ILA website: [https://www.ila.org/about/awards-and-scholarships/robert-r-mcclarren-legislative-developme](https://www.ila.org/about/awards-and-scholarships/robert-r-mcclarren-legislative-developme)

Scott Pointon moved to adjourn meeting; Marian Albers seconded.

The meeting was adjourned by Dennis Danowski at 11:42AM

The next PPC meeting will be on Monday, April 6, 2020

Respectfully submitted by Dee Anna Phares