

Illinois Library Association
Public Policy Committee Meeting minutes
Monday, October 7, 2019

Call to Order: 10:05am

Roll Call

Voting Members

Present: Dennis Danowski (Chair), Sam Adams-Lanham, Marian Albers, Anthony Auston, Monica Dombrowski, Betsy Mahoney, Daniel Matthews, Dee Anna Phares, Scott Pointon

Absent: Karolyn Nance, Kathy Parker, Mike Starasta

Ex-Officio Members

Present: Molly Beestrup, Derek Blaida, Deirdre Brennan, Veronica DeFazio, Jim Deiters, Diana Foote, Cynthia Fuerst, Elizabeth Clarage, Lou Ann Jacobs, Greg McCormick, Patrick Molloy, Ellen Popit

Absent: Paul Mills, Alex Todd

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Marian Albers, second by Anthony Auston, unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes (September 9, 2019 Meeting):

Motion by Betsy Mahoney, second by Marian Albers, unanimously approved.

Corrections to the minutes include: Committee member Anthony Auston's name was misspelled as "Austin"; Under HB2124, it should read "Proposed" not "Proposing"; Under AISLE, Lou Ann "will attend" the IATE conference on 10/10-12 (in the minutes it sounded like she had already attended), and "Literacy bill" should read "Media Literacy bill"; Under ISL, Gail Borden received a grant from the "Secretary of State", not the "State Library," and the "\$50,000" capital bill should read "\$50 million".

Guest Comments

None.

Legislative Priorities Reports

- a. ILA Legislative Consultant, Derek Blaida
 - i. Update on PPC's legislative agenda
Derek is requesting PPC feedback for recommended legislative actions for 2020 legislative agenda no later than Monday, November 4, 2019.
 - ii. List of current bills (General Assembly not in session)
None.
 - iii. Property Tax Relief
November 2020 ballot initiative will ask voters if they wish to change the state's income tax structure from a flat tax to the graduated tax. The state receives no property taxes; all of those dollars are collected locally for local governments. The Property Tax Relief Task Force has been established; there 177 total members of the legislature and over 90 members of the task force and its subcommittees. Scott Pointon and Diane Foote have testified before

the committee.

iv. Census

Diane Foote provided this report. Illinois is at risk of losing a congressional seat unless there is full participation in Census 2020. ILA is encouraging all libraries to provide resources to help the public complete their forms. Forefront is partnering with ILA. Campus Compact IL chapter is working with CARLI to foster civic engagement on college campuses. The new library service area map has been circulated to membership; note how broad the unserved areas are through the state. Dee Brennan reported that RAILS has been awarded a grant related to the Census from Illinois Department of Human Services, one of 39 applications received by IDHS. Diane asked all libraries to consider their approach and efforts to support the count. Ellen Popit asked the source for content in Dennis Danowski's handout on census statistics. Greg McCormick said the data in Dennis's report likely came from United Van Lines National Movers Study. Diane and Greg encouraged ILA attendees to attend the Census session at the ILA annual conference in Tinley Park on Tuesday, October 22. The Census contains 7 questions, and is based on one's residence on April 1, 2020.

v. Net Neutrality

The FCC cannot block states from passing their own Net Neutrality bills. Derek will provide updates as he receives more information. Diane reported that ISPs continue to oppose related legislation, including ICN, however ILA is still considering taking a position in support of Net Neutrality despite the position of its partner. Diane will reach out to California and New York library associations for assistance with forward progress in Illinois.

vi. Merger of tax supported public libraries into library districts.

Dee Brennan presented documentation to the committee in advance of the meeting. Dee and Scott Pointon summarized details of the bill in the meeting. Scott explained details affecting unserved areas and how they could be incorporated into served areas as part of merging libraries, and addressed questions from the committee. The committee discussed impacts and opportunities as outcomes of this proposed change to the Public Library District Act.

vii. Public Comment

Molly Beestrum reported that ILA has reconvened its Policy Taskforce, and that discussion of open meetings and public participation therein has been re-opened. The default for ILA meetings is "open" for members; non-committee attendees may be recognized by the chair during a meeting and may also comment as a guest during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. The committee discussed scenarios related to this topic.

viii. Senate Bill 585 Senate Amendment 1

Derek reminded the committee that this is the patron privacy bill proposed last year, which cites concern in reference to the Illinois Library Records Confidentiality Act. The bill proposed a fine for libraries in violation of the privacy act. After meeting with library officials, sponsoring Senator Holmes amended the bill (<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?GA=101&DocTypeID=SB&DocNum=585&GAID=15&SessionID=108&LegID=116522>). Revisions to the proposal were informed by Diane and Greg, in the event this bill were resurrected in the next session. The committee discussed scenarios related to this topic. Molly asked Greg for direction on ILA's support. Greg and Derek agreed that ILA should support the bill. Patrick Malloy asked if a portion of

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patron's name would be acceptable with this amendment, and Diane confirmed this.

b. ILA Advocacy Committee Chair, Jim Deiters/Alex Todd

Jim Deiters confirmed the committee's agenda for later today, including forthcoming legislative meetups and 3 advocacy-related ILA conference programs.

c. ILA Report/Federal Priorities, Diane Foote/Molly Beestrup

Diane reported on the House Appropriations Committee LSTA funding increases; the Senate has not taken action yet. We grateful that our Illinois senators remain supportive of library priorities. ILA annual conference is coming up, October 22-24 in Tinley Park. The iREAD themes have been released for the next 2 Summer Reading programs, including *Dig Deeper: Read, investigate, Discover!* for 2020; 2022 theme will be camp-related. Last week's CPL fine-free news is getting great press. Committee members Diane Foote and Anthony Auston attended the "More Speech: A Conversation about the First Amendment" panel discussion last Tuesday at CPL's Harold Washington Library, featuring Diana Brawley Sussman, Director of the Carbondale Public Library. This event was simulcast at various sites across the state (available online now at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qwj0F4mR-3U&feature=youtu.be>), and was made possible through the partnership of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), American Library Association, and Illinois Library Association.

d. Library Systems, Dee Brennan/Ellen Popit

None.

e. AISLE, Lou Ann Jacobs

Lou Ann reported that HB 1559 Media Literacy Curriculum stalled, and that the Media Literacy Task Force has moved forward to the Senate Rules Committee. Diane requested that Lou Ann advocate for a school librarian to participate as part of the task force.

f. Illinois State Library, Greg McCormick

None.

g. CARLI, Elizabeth Clarage

None.

h. Intellectual Freedom Committee, Paul Mills

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Cynthia Fuerst reported that several north suburban libraries recently met with local Rep. Didech and discussed opportunities and impacts related to TIF districts, developer impact fees for new growth, and sales tax revenue.

Adjournment

Dennis Danowski adjourned the meeting at 12:09pm.

The next PPC meeting is Monday, November 4, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Anthony Auston