



Illinois Library Association

ILA Forum Report

Committee or Forum: Trustee Forum

Report completed by: Kathy Caudill, ILA Trustee Forum President/Manager **Date:** November 5, 2019

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

ILA Orientation - Trustee Forum VP/President Elect Kathy Caudill attended this summer's ILA Orientation.

Newsletter launched - The "Trusty Trustee" newsletter for ILA trustee members was launched in August.

Bylaws Amended - Following the adoption of the new ILA strategic plan, the Executive Board of the Trustee Forum reviewed the Forum's Bylaws. Proposed bylaws amendments were included in the September 19, 2019 Trusty Trustee newsletter emailed to the Trustee Forum membership (<https://mailchi.mp/0311faf89328/the-ila-trustee-forum-newsletter-734541>), and were unanimously approved at the October 24, 2019 Trustee Forum annual meeting. The Bylaws now identify the Trustee Forum President's responsibility to file quarterly reports with the ILA Executive Board; provide for 7-15 members on the Forum board (including Forum officers); require officers to be personal members of ILA and serve as a public library trustee or trustee on a library system board; allow only one trustee from any given library to serve on the Forum Board; and simplify approval of future bylaws amendments.

Annual Conference Attendance - There were 35 trustees registered for the full conference, and 143 trustees registered for Trustee Day, representing nearly 36% of the ILA trustee membership.

Change in Forum Leadership - Trustee Forum Board President/Manager Jay Kasten resigned from the Trustee Forum Executive Board before the annual conference following a quick sale of his home. We are grateful for his years of service on the Trustee Forum Board.

Resolution Honoring Trustee Forum Board Member Rose Mosely – A resolution was prepared following Rose's death: (https://www.ila.org/content/documents/rose_e_mosley_resolution.pdf).

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months, intended outcomes/goals of project(s), and anticipated timeline(s) and completion date(s) for each project:

Scheduled Trustee Forum Board meetings - Trustee Forum Executive Board meetings are scheduled for:

- i. November 16, 2019 – Brookfield Public Library, Brookfield
- ii. January 18, 2020 – Bellwood Public Library, Bellwood
- iii. March Trustee Workshop – Springfield and Oak Brook (dates still being finalized)
- iv. May 30, 2020 – Fountaindale Public Library, Bolingbrook
- v. August 15, 2020 – Bartlett Public Library, Bartlett

Increasing access and opportunities for diversity/inclusion

The availability of Zoom for the Trustee Forum’s online quarterly meetings will help make it possible for trustees across the state to remotely attend the board’s quarterly meetings. The current Forum Board members are diverse in gender and race. It is hoped that Zoom will encourage younger trustees, and those residing in central and southern Illinois, to remotely attend meetings and consider becoming members of the Trustee Forum Executive Board.

Increasing leadership opportunities - A number of trustees have inquired about joining the Trustee Forum Executive Board. As these inquiries are vetted, the Board looks forward to offering increased opportunities for trustees to become forum leaders.

Guarantee of Equal Representation - The new bylaws limit membership on the Executive Board to one trustee per library. This will ensure that every library represented on the Forum Board will have an equal vote.

Legislative and Community Advocacy - Conference programming, legislative meetups, and legislative information shared with ILA members prior to the meetups will assist in ILA trustee advocacy efforts.

Delivery of Member Value - Trustee trainings in Springfield and Oak Brook in March, and trustee programming at ILA’s annual conference in October, will assist in providing delivery of value to both new and veteran ILA trustee members. Continued distribution of the Trusty Trustee newsletter will provide another important venue for advocacy information and trustee education opportunities.

Activities should be designed to advance the ILA Strategic Plan. Which strategic goal areas are best addressed by the activities above? Check all that apply and describe briefly how the activities will advance the goal(s). View the full plan at <http://www.ila.org/about/strategic-plan>.

- X *Goal area: Advocacy—Legislative Advocacy* – Legislative Meetups; trustee training, and Trustee Day programs at the annual conference.
- X *Goal area: Advocacy—Community Advocacy* - Trustee Day programs at the annual conference.
- X *Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Profession* – Trustee Day, broadening opportunities for trustees to attend board meetings remotely, and increasing the number and geographical location of potential trustees serving on the board.
- X *Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Association* – Opportunities to increase trustees’ level of involvement of trustees in the association and trustee forum.
- X *Goal area: Delivery of Member Value* – Trusty Trustee newsletter, ongoing trustee training, and Trustee Day at Annual Conference.
- X *Goal area: Leadership* – Increased opportunities for trustees to become leaders in the Trustee Forum.