

REACHING ACROSS ILLINOIS LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD MEETING

Friday, April 27, 2018 | 1:00 PM

East Peoria Service Center | 600 High Point Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Kate Hall, RAIL Board President called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL OF RAILS BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Fister called the roll of the RAILS Board members:

East Peoria: Dave Barry, Sue Busenbark, Gwen Gregory, Scott Pointon, Laura Turner

Vernon Area Public Library: Kate Hall

Telephone: Christine Barr, Dee Runnels, Nadia Sheikh, Michelle Simmons,

Absent: Judy Crocker, Paul Mills, Joseph Skibinski, Lori Wilcox

3. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Kate Hall

Burr Ridge: Veronda Pitchford, Mark Hatch, Anne Slaughter, Louise Svehla, Rachel Burns, Mitchell Davis

East Peoria: Deirdre Brennan, Jane Plass, Jim Kregor, Ryan Hebel, Amanda Musacchio, Emily Fister, Dan Bostrom, Kendal Orrison, Angela Campbell, Mary Aylmer, John Sayers, Jeff Brooks, Thom Stagg, Barbara Love, Liza Hickey, Kellie Green, Lisa Schmensky, James Campbell, Courtney Young, Doug King, Amanda Gray, Russ Theobold, Joe Filapek, Martha Troxell

Vernon Area Public Library: Mary Witt

Illinois State Library: Greg McCormick, Debra Aggertt, Joe Natale, Pat Berg

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Kate Hall

There were no public comments.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – Kate Hall

Ms. Hall asked that agenda item 8.3 Capital Fund Projects Fund review be tabled until the May meeting. Mr. Barry moved for the approval of the agenda as amended. Ms. Turner seconded and the motion was approved.

6. APPROVAL OF RAILS BOARD MINUTES, FINANCIAL REPORTS AND EXPENDITURES

6.1 RAILS Board Minutes of March 30, 2018 Regular Meeting

Mr. Barry moved for the approval of the minutes with one amendment. Ms. Gregory seconded and the motion was approved.

6.2 RAILS Financial Report - Jim Kregor

Mr. Kregor reviewed the financial report for March 2018 stating the unassigned General Fund (\$14.1 million) cash and investment balances, would fund an estimated 15.2 months of operations. RAILS received a payment of the FY18 per capita grant of \$3,550,531. Investment income for FY18 will be approximately \$150,000, more than double the \$65, 466 budgeted. Capital Projects Fund expenditures were \$457,531 below budget through March. Buildings and Improvements expenditures, were \$251,781 below budget as \$172,427 of the budgeted

expenditures were spent in FY 2017, with the Burr Ridge renovation project \$80,000 below the budgeted amount.

Mr. Pointon moved for the approval of RAILS March 2018 financial report. Mr. Barry seconded and the motion was approved.

6.3 Approval of Expenditures

Ms. Busenbark moved for the approval of the check voucher/register for March 2018 for \$ 801,168.52. Mr. Pointon seconded and roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Christine Barr, Dave Barry, Sue Busenbark, Gwen Gregory, Kate Hall, Scott Pointon, Dee Runnels, Nadia Sheikh, Michelle Simmons, Laura Turner

Nays: none

7. REPORTS

7.1 Report from the RAILS President

Ms. Hall reported that she has sent the Executive Director evaluation form to all board members. Please complete and return to her for compilation.

7.2 Rails Board Committee Reports-Committee Chairs

7.2.1 Consortia Committee

Ms. Plass reported that a meeting was held on April 23 and the FY20 LLSAP support formulas were discussed.

7.2.2 Executive Committee- Kate Hall

The committee has not met.

7.2.3 Policy Committee-Laura Turner

The committee has not met.

7.2.4 Resource Sharing Committee-Charm Ruhnke

The committee has not met.

7.2.5 Nominating Committee-Kathy Parker

Ms. Brennan reported the committee of Kathy Parker, Pam Leffler, John Sayers, Brian Shepard met last week to approve the ballot. Ms. Laura Keyes has resigned from the Board and that opens up a third at large seat for the 11 candidates. The election opens on Monday April 30 and closes Friday May 18.

7.3 RAILS Reports

7.3.1 RAILS Monthly Report– Deirdre Brennan

Ms. Brennan reviewed her written report. Staff will be analyzing data from the listening tour for strategic plan. She congratulated Veronda Pitchford for receiving the 2018 Cathleen Bourdon Service Award from the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA). The award recognizes an ASCLA personal member for outstanding service and leadership to the agency that is a division of the American Library Association (ALA).

7.4 Illinois State Library Report- ISL Staff

Mr. McCormick reported that \$700,000 was awarded for the Live and Learn construction grants and the recipients will be notified soon. Over 300 libraries received \$1.2 million for book grants, 50% school and 50% public libraries, utilizing federal funds. The FY18 public

library per capita grants have all been funded at statutory level. The Elevate Leadership conference will be held in Springfield on Saturday. On Monday, Secretary White will present awards to the employee of the year and volunteer tutors. The Letters about Literature program is a national reading and writing contest for students sponsored by the Library of Congress in cooperation with the Illinois Center for the Book and other participating state centers for the book. Illinois students submitted 6900 letters for the contest.

Michelle Simmons left the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Biblioboard presentation

Ms. Pitchford introduced Mitchell Davis co-founder of Biblioboard, a tech company that works with libraries. This differs from the traditional model of library companies that get into the technology business. RAILS began working with Biblioboard as part of the econtent strategy which is to expand econtent for all Illinois residents. RAILS provides access to all content on the Biblioboard platform to Illinois residents through geolocation which means that it is not necessary for a reader to use a library card to access the content. RAILS is a key development partner with Biblioboard and was the first organization in the country to help develop and pilot the Pop Up Picks project. Mr. Davis said that his company is always evolving their software, and their practice is to release and enhance based on feedback from their users. He said RAILS has been helpful in breaking down barriers with libraries and have worked on three major issues: the first, getting publishers to provide access to unlimited copies to eliminate friction and to reach more people with the digital experience and bring people back to libraries; second is outreach to the self-publishing community and engaging readers in identifying the top self-published content through innovative programs like the Soon To Be Famous Illinois Author Project. He attended the Soon To Be Famous Author winning author event this week and was struck by pride of the libraries who have sponsored authors. The Soon to be Famous Illinois author project will be introduced in seven other states. The third is the Biblioboard platform's ability to provide support to schools by giving them complete access to econtent and common core curriculum resources available. Biblioboard will soon be rolling out an Illinois school specific website to more easily point teachers, students and parents to school specific resources on the platform.

8.2 Membership Changes

8.2.1 Certification report

Ms. Musacchio reported that 2018 marks the first year that RAILS has 100% member response since certification started in 2011. No libraries have been recommended for suspension.

8.2.2 New Member

Ms. Musacchio reported that she conducted a site visit to the DuSable Museum of African American History in Chicago. The library meets the RAILS membership requirements and due to a recent endowment, they have a new space for extensive archival material and plan on taking advantage of the continuing education opportunities at RAILS.

Ms. Sheikh moved to approve the recommendation as presented and request final approval from the Illinois State Library. Mr. Barry seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

8.3 Capital Projects Fund Review

This item was tabled until the next meeting per the agenda amendment.

8.4 System area per capita grant application

Ms. Brennan presented the draft narrative that outlines the plan of service for FY19 for services provided to members. The final APC application will be presented for approval at the May board meeting. The plan includes expanding multi-type collaborative grants in scope; reinstatement of LLSAP membership grants; Find More Illinois; and continued support for eresources.

8.5 Disposal of Surplus Inventory and Auction

Ms. Plass presented the list of surplus inventory from all the RAILS service centers. The online auction will run from May 25 through mid-June.

Ms. Busenbark moved for the approval of the disposal of the surplus inventory. Ms. Turner seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Christine Barr, Dave Barry, Sue Busenbark, Gwen Gregory, Kate Hall, Scott Pointon, Dee Runnels, Nadia Sheikh, Laura Turner

Nays: none

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9.1 System Membership Standards Update

Ms. Brennan reported that the beta test for the Membership Standards has been completed with participation from approximately 70 libraries of all different types from RAILS and IHLS. The results were very informative, and the supplemental questions regarding collection budgets and related expenses were very helpful. The collections questions asked that all expenditures be included such as costs for LLSAP membership, OCLC, ebooks, etc. When that information was included, only one library, which was in RAILS, did not meet the expenditures criteria. Staff suggests that those current sitting directors be grandmothers/fathered in and be considered compliant with the professional leadership and training standards. The training required under professional development will be provided by RAILS. More data such as hours open from each library will need to be reported, and the waiver process, revisions to definitions and some other pieces need to be tweaked. There was some discussion with the State Library regarding final implementation and the need to be included in the administrative code. The first year required reporting will strictly be the core standards. RAILS will continue discussions with IHLS and the State Library.

10. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

10.1 Net Neutrality

Ms. Brennan attended "Preserve net neutrality: all data is created equal" a debate at Northwestern University Law School. There were two teams of two debaters: for the motion to preserve net neutrality were the dangers that content will be blocked or slowed by ISP providers and it is in the public interest to regulate the internet just as cable companies and

utilities are regulated. Those arguing against the motion of net neutrality say a problem doesn't exist, and net neutrality is bad for innovation and therefore bad for customers.

11. RAILS BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Hall reported that the Northbrook Public Library has just completed their new maker space "The Collaboratory." She will attend ILA Legislative Day in DC and will report on that at the May meeting.

Mr. Pointon reported that the Pinnacle Library Cooperative started a library rewards program. They enlisted local business to offer incentives to patrons that show their library card, and patrons gain points for using the library. Ms. Gregory reported that University of Illinois – Chicago library just received the collection of Richard M. Daley papers, including photos and books. This adds to their collections of other political figures such as and Richard J. Daley and Emil Jones. They will be digitizing parts of the collections and the many photos.

12. AGENDA BUILDING FOR THE NEXT RAILS BOARD MEETING

The May board meeting will be held at 10 am on Friday, May 25 in Burr Ridge. Approval of System APC application; approval of membership standards, election results, and a possible closed session to discuss Ms. Brennan's evaluation will be part of the agenda.

13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.