

**REACHING ACROSS ILLINOIS LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
**Advocacy Committee Meeting**  
**February 22, 2019**  
**125 Tower Drive**  
**Burr Ridge, IL 60527**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Gwen Gregory, RAILS Advocacy Committee Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting and at 11:00 a.m. called the meeting to order.

*Committee members:*

*Burr Ridge:* Laura Turner, Liza Hickey, Gwen Gregory,

*East Peoria:* Tom Stagg

*Guests:* Deirdre Brennan, Jay Kasten, Jane Plass, Jody Rubel, Mary Witt

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

Ms. Hickey moved, and Ms. Turner seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

The motion carried.

**3. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**4. Review of Committee Charge and discussion of committee roles**

The committee reviewed the charge that was approved in October 2018 which is attached.

**5. Discussion of advocacy issues**

Committee members and guests agreed the ILA Legislative meet ups were an opportune time to educate legislators about RAILS and learn about key advocacy issues.

The committee identified organizational events, conferences, and local groups where RAILS may benefit from attending meetings or connecting with to be more informed on advocacy issues. Turner volunteered to reach out to AISLE, Association of Illinois Library Educators; Hickey, ILA PPC, and Gregory, ILA Advocacy. To facilitate conversation, RAILS staff will prepare an elevator speech about RAILS services and how tax dollars are being used. RAILS staff will look into ways to engage school libraries and educate about their RAILS services. It was agreed to add Advocacy to future RAILS Board agenda.

**6. Next Meeting and Future Agenda Items**

- Future agenda items:
  - Elevator speech

- Tell Us Your Story Campaign survey results
- How best to support prison libraries
- Committee meeting schedule
- Report on ILA and other advocacy meetings committee members attended
  
- Future Meeting Dates:
  - March 22, 2019, 11:00 a.m.
  - April 26, 2019, 11:00 a.m.

**7. Adjourn**

By acclamation, at 11:58 a.m., the RAILS Board Advocacy meeting adjourned.