

REACHING ACROSS ILLINOIS LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD MEETING

Friday, August 23, 2019 | 1:00 PM
RAILS Burr Ridge | 125 Tower Drive
Burr Ridge, IL 60557

Minutes

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mills, RAILS Board President called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. at the RAILS Burr Ridge service center.

2. ROLL CALL OF RAILS BOARD MEMBERS

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

Burr Ridge: Michael Campbell, Halle Cox, Selina Gomez-Beloz, Dianne Hollister, Jay Kasten, Sarah McHone-Chase, Paul Mills, Scott Pointon

Coal Valley: Sue Busenbark

East Peoria: Thomas Stagg

Telephone/Zoom: Gwen Gregory, Dee Runnels, Nadia Sheikh,

Absent: Dave Barry

3. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Burr Ridge: Deirdre Brennan, Jane Plass, Jim Kregor, Anne Slaughter, Mary Witt, Joe Filapek, Diana Rusch, Brian Smith, Wesley Smith, Emily Fister, Jenna Nemec-Loise

East Peoria: Kendal Orrison

Illinois State Library: Karen Egan

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Kasten moved for the adoption of the agenda. Ms. McHone-Chase seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

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

6.1 Approval of Minutes

6.1a RAILS Board Minutes of July 26, 2019 Orientation Meeting

Ms. Cox moved for the approval of minutes of the July 26, 2019 RAILS board orientation meeting.

Mr. Kasten seconded and the motion was approved.

6.1b RAILS Board Minutes of July 26, 2019 Regular Meeting

Ms. Sheikh moved for the approval of minutes of the June 28, 2019 RAILS board meeting. Mr. Campbell seconded and the motion was approved.

6.2 RAILS Financial Report

Mr. Kregor reviewed the financial report for July 2019 which is the first month of FY2020. The audit reports for FY2019 will be presented at the September meeting. The unassigned cash and investment amount of \$15.1 million would fund 16.1 months of operations.

Mr. Kregor gave an overview of the monthly report and highlighted its different components.

Mr. Pointon moved for the approval of RAILS July 2019 financial report. Mr. Stagg seconded and

the motion was approved.

6.3 Approval of Expenditures, July, 2019

Mr. Kregor reported expenditures for July in the amount of \$1,752,017.46.

Mr. Kasten moved for the approval of the check voucher/register for July 2019. Mr. Pointon seconded and roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Sue Busenbark, Michael Campbell, Halle Cox, Gwen Gregory, Selina Gomez-Beloz, Dianne Hollister, Jay Kasten, Sarah McHone-Chase, Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Dee Runnels, Nadia Sheikh, Thomas Stagg

Nay: none

7. REPORTS

7.1 Report from the RAILS President

Mr. Mills reported that he had discussions with Deirdre Brennan and Greg McCormick about the possibility of an all systems board meeting.

7.2 RAILS Board Committee Reports-Committee Chairs

7.2.1 Advocacy Committee – Michael Campbell

The committee has not met.

7.2.2 Consortia Committee - Paul Mills

The committee has not met.

7.2.3 Executive Committee - Paul Mills

The committee met and the results of the meeting will be discussed later in the agenda.

7.2.4 Policy Committee - Gwen Gregory

The committee has not met.

7.2.5 Resource Sharing Committee – Jane Plass

The committee will meet on September 9. Ms. Plass welcomed the new board committee members Dianne Hollister and Jay Kasten.

7.2.6 Universal Service Committee – Sue Busenbark, Deirdre Brennan

The committee has not met.

7.3 RAILS Reports

7.3.1 RAILS Monthly Report

Ms. Brennan reported that staff is working on a census grant through the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) with RAILS as the regional intermediary. The grant would include the collar counties and has involved many meetings with libraries and county representatives.

7.4 Illinois State Library Report- ISL Staff

Ms. Egan reported that the state library staff has been reviewing the Illinois Library laws in particular the state library responsibilities. The joint system board meeting is also being discussed at the Heartland board meeting. Applications have been coming in for the school library grant program. The public library grant portal will open on October 15. Family reading night is scheduled for November 21.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Selection and possible swearing in of board member for school library seat

Mr. Mills reported the Executive committee chose three of the seven very qualified candidates for phone interviews. Jenna Nemec-Loise was chosen unanimously to fill the school board seat vacancy. Jenna is completing the term of Christine Barr which expires June 30, 2019. If she chooses, Jenna will be eligible to run in the May 2020 election.

Ms. McHone-Chase moved to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee and appoint Jenna Nemec-Loise to fill the school library seat of Christine Barr. Ms. Sheikh seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. Ms. Nemec-Loise was sworn in and recited the oath of office.

8.2 Service of the month – *My Library is* Campaign update

Ms. Witt explained the *My Library is* Campaign showcases libraries of all types and helps to prove the value of the libraries to the stakeholders and current and prospective patrons. The idea was taken from member feedback from the strategic plan. The campaign and website are open to all Illinois libraries. Mr. Bostrom said the campaign will be presented at both AISLE (Association of Illinois School Library Educators) and ILA (Illinois Library Association) conferences and highlighted at the RAILS booth. Mr. Filapek reported that RAILS is continuing the CE grants and some of them are given to partnerships focused on the *My Library is* campaign. Ms. Rusch reported that the CE department identified training that gives members building blocks, templates, and takeaways that they can use immediately. Some of the upcoming CE highlights: Pat Wagner from Pattern Research will do Marketing Plan workshop; Barbara Alvarez co-founder of The Library OnConference, will present a webinar on Oct. 9 on social media marketing. Jennifer Burke, a former New York advertising executive, and a founding member of the national Library Marketing + Communications Conference, will present workshops on how to create affordable and effective video content and an interactive workshop on creative copywriting. In December, she will be presenting on Media Relations and PR via webinar. Mr. Smith reviewed the various aspects of the website and noted that libraries can log on and share content such as marketing materials, training, press releases and social media posts.

8.3 Disposal of surplus vehicle

Ms. Plass presented the vehicle that is no longer deemed viable for inclusion in the RAILS fleet. Ms. Cox moved to approve the disposal of the vehicle. Mr. Pointon seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9.1 System Membership Standards status update

Ms. Brennan reviewed her memo regarding the history of the board-initiated membership standards. She noted that some of the systems had standards before the merge and all of the states surrounding Illinois have them as well. The standards are not punitive in any way but instead show a pathway to excellence.

10. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

10.1 Troubling trends in e-book access for libraries

Ms. Brennan explained the embargo by publishers on ebooks in libraries. The fact that libraries have policies that restrict access to ebooks is lost on publishers. The board discussed advocacy for ebook access and adding to the *My library is* campaign.

11. RAILS BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Campbell reported that Fox River Grove will host a centennial celebration this weekend and the library trustees and friends will be giving out ice cream blizzards. Ms. Runnels said the Moline Library will host Pulitzer finalist Rebecca Makkai on September 9. Ms. Gomez-Beloz said the Waukegan Public Library had its Ray Bradbury sculpture dedication attended by the Waukegan symphony and Captain James Lovell. She said Waukegan Public Library received a census grant from the state and gave out some sample census materials they will be distributing at outreach events. Mr. Pointon reported the White Oak Library Comicon event was very successful and doubled in size due to marketing funding from the City of Lockport. White Oak Authorfest will be held October 19 featuring Jeff Mudgett, author of "Bloodstains", his great grandfather was the serial killer featured in the book "Devil in the White City". Ms. Nemecek-Loise reported that on February 1st the polar vortex caused a frozen pipe to burst flooding the North Shore Country day school library. Renovation of the library was in the strategic plan but got fast-tracked by three years. This is also the 100th anniversary of the school and September 27-28 will be homecoming and the centennial celebration. Ms. Hollister reported the Bloomington Public Library hosted an open participation "how to" Fest which included a wide range of artisans and crafts. The library is partnering with the McLean County museum for a Route 66 theme, with book themes, authors and music. Ms. Cox reported that the Kane County Law Library coordinates with the Gail Borden Public Library to have 2-4 attorneys present once a month to meet with patrons for 15-20 minutes. Questions for the attorneys range from real estate to evictions to contracts. Mr. Mills said the Fountaindale Library has hosted a similar event where an attorney does a power of attorney event and even executes the power of attorney at the event.

12. AGENDA BUILDING FOR THE NEXT RAILS BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting will be held September 27 in Coal Valley at 1:00 p.m. Items for the meeting include draft of annual report due to ISL September 30, review and acceptance of Annual Audit Report and attorney Julie Tappendorf will be present in Burr Ridge to discuss privacy.

13. ADJOURN

The Motion was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.