

RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING

November 22, 2019 | 11:00 a.m.

RAILS Burr Ridge and Videoconference Sites

125 Tower Drive, Burr Ridge, IL 60527 | 630.734.5000

MINUTES

1. Welcome

Mr. Campbell, Advocacy chairperson, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. Designation of Minute Taker—Stacy Palmisano

3. Roll Call of Members

Burr Ridge: Michael Campbell, Selina Gomez-Beloz, Sarah McHone-Chase, Thomas Stagg

4. Introductions, Guests, and Announcements

Burr Ridge: Deirdre Brennan, Percy Harris, Carolyn Kinsella, Jenna Nemec-Loise, Sylvia Norton, Stacy Palmisano, Mary Witt

5. Public Comment

No public comments

6. Adoption of the Agenda

Ms. McHone-Chase moved, and Ms. Gomez-Beloz seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE AGENDA BE ADOPTED.

The motion carried.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the October 21, 2019 RAILS Board Advocacy Committee Meeting

Mr. Stagg moved, and Ms. McHone-Chase seconded, that

THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 21, 2019 RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MINUTES BE APPROVED.

The motion carried.

8. School Libraries- Carolyn Kinsella from AISLE (Association of Illinois School Library Educators) will be discussing AISLE

Ms. Kinsella, Interim Executive Secretary at AISLE joined the meeting to discuss the association. The 2020 AISLE conference will be November 5-7, at the Tinley Park Convention Center. AISLE has just completed a new strategic plan 2019-2024 focusing on three areas; advocacy for licensed school librarians, increase membership and provide responsive professional development. Recently the association has started local chapters to be more accessible to members. Each chapter is given small financial support through Zoom meetings and professional development. Mr. Campbell offered to initiate a chapter in the Fox River Grove area. Ms. Kinsella will supply RAILS with information on the chapters to be publicized through RAILS

marketing. Ms. Brennan offered monetary support to AISLE and is interested in talking in more detail in what ways RAILS can help the association. Ms. Sylvia Norton, Executive Director of AASL (American Association of School Librarians) joined the meeting at 11:10 p.m. and contributed to the conversation regarding the lack of information literacy skills in college level students due to the loss of librarians in high schools. With technology in the classroom teachers assume that students have the skills to research, but that is not the case. Ms. Nemec-Loise shared success stories as Director of Library and Information Literacy at North Shore Country Day School and how she was hired to create a curriculum of comprehensive information literacy skills. Having discussions with school administrators is a key component to dispensing information about how important school librarians are. AASL has created a national group of seven members consisting of school administrators to address this issue. AISLE gives an Administrator of the year award and has found that it is a great resource that advocates for school librarians.

9. Discussion of progress on advocacy efforts and topics

Ms. Witt gave an overview of the My Library Is.. website and campaign including the continuing education RAILS provides members. The traffic on the website is growing steadily.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Advocacy Committee Members:

- Michael Campbell, Chair
- Selina Gomez - Beloz
- Sarah McHone - Chase
- Tom Stagg
 - Ex Officio: Deirdre Brennan, Mary Witt