

**RAILS**  
**REACHING ACROSS ILLINOIS LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
**Resource Sharing Committee Meeting**  
**March 9, 2020**  
**Minutes**

**1. Welcome**

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Ms. Charm Ruhnke, at 10:00 a.m. at the RAILS Burr Ridge Service Center.

**2. Designation of Minute Taker**

Anna Duff, RAILS Administrative Assistant, was designated minute taker.

**3. Roll Call of Members**

*RAILS Burr Ridge:* Andy Allen, Keith Barlog, Ryan Livergood, Sarah Mchone-Chase, Jeanne Modelski, Sia Paganis, Michelle Roubal, Charm Ruhnke

*Conference Call:* Brian Chase, Dianne Hollister

**4. Introductions of Guests; Announcements**

*RAILS Burr Ridge:* Deirdre Brennan, Joseph Filapek, Monica Harris, Mark Hatch, Mary Witt

- a. Ms. Ruhnke introduced the two new committee members, Keith Barlog and Sarah Mchone-Chase.

**5. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**6. Adoption of the Agenda**

Jeanne Modelski moved and Andy Allen seconded, that

THE RAILS RESOURCE SHARING COMMITTEE ADOPT THE MARCH 9, 2020 AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

The motion carried.

**7. Approval of Minutes of the September 9, 2019 Resource Sharing Committee Meeting**

Michelle Roubal moved and Andy Allen seconded, that

THE RAILS RESOURCE SHARING COMMITTEE APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

The motion carried.

**8. Old Business**

a. **Revised committee charge and membership**

Ms. Harris reported that an updated charge for the Resource Sharing Committee was recommended to the RAILS board and approved. On the whole, the changes include some clean-up work with new wording and added appointments. The amount of representatives increased from seven to eight, with the addition of a representative of E-book consortia not handled by RAILS. Find More Illinois was also added.

**b. Discussion of role of the committee**

Ms. Harris opened up discussion on the Role of the Committee by highlighting work that has already been done. She announced some of the things already identified as resource sharing barriers. Many school libraries, public libraries, board members, and staff do not possess a thorough knowledge of what RAILS does and the services provided. Also, larger libraries often times do not look outside their library for support. Additionally, the Resource Sharing Committee has pinpointed territorial issues in Illinois and a need for the right mindset from everyone to make resource sharing more possible.

**c. Review/revise barriers to resource sharing identified in 2018**

Ms. Harris opened new discussion on what other resource sharing barriers should be addressed. Attention was brought to academic libraries, where it is not widely known what RAILS is or that RAILS handles delivery. It is also the case in public libraries that patrons do not know RAILS handles delivery. One resource sharing barrier pointed out was E-book terms with publishers and all sorts of digital material. Libraries do not currently have a viable competitor to provide patrons for what is already available elsewhere for free.

**d. Committee goals for FY 2020: priority setting and next steps**

Ms. Harris led an exercise in which every Committee member shared a top priority for the next year. Then these goals were voted on. A few of the topics shared included marketing the value of resources sharing with brochures written for the public without library jargon. Getting the word out to schools, expanding reciprocal borrowing, and keeping the unserved a main priority were highlighted. The top three goals chosen for the Resource Sharing Committee's FY 2020 were: 1. Increase a statewide culture of resource sharing 2. Improve awareness of resource sharing 3. Provide services for the unserved.

**9. New Business**

**a. My Library Is... campaign**

Ms. Witt gave a brief background on My Library Is... In 2018 RAILS did a survey with four hundred responses and discovered members from all different types of libraries wanted help telling their story to legislators, customers, and colleagues. So RAILS included it in their strategic plan. The campaign was named, "My library Is..." because that is how anyone would begin a sentence describing their library. The My Library Is... web site includes instructional information for all types of libraries on how to tell their story. It also gives libraries the ability to share resources they utilized to tell their story and hear what others libraries have used. Aside from the website, there is a heavy CE component with multiple events available. RAILS awards three grants to networking groups, libraries, or consortia who have helped libraries tell their story. My Library Is... grants have replaced, temporarily, RAILS partner grants. Ms. Witt stated that talking points (basically infographics) for all different types of libraries will be debuting later this month. She reported that the My Library Is... website has been growing and has had 8,422 visits. There is a sharing showcase on the site where libraries can upload marketing plans. There are also twenty-three library stories shared on the site. These

include stories about how libraries help people find jobs or help them start a business. Patron quotes are shared and Ms. Witt said she is looking for more blog entries. On the networking side of My Library Is..., in person meetings are being held. An online roundtable is coming up, with "Solo Marketers" as the topic. Ms. Brennen shared that the My Library Is... video has had, 52,900 viewers through Facebook and 353,000 views on twitter. Ms. Witt said that the video has been helpful in showcasing the unwavering value of libraries amidst the digital age.

**b. Universal service**

Ms. Brennan reported on the Unserved Survey Analysis. The Universal Service Committee asked RAILS to do a survey to find out how libraries are serving people who are not residents. This Unserved Survey Analysis highlights the results. One aspect which stands out is that libraries are carrying out practices that are not strictly legal because they do not know the exact rules. The libraries really want to serve people so they do. They give out temporary cards and teacher cards. At the last meeting in November the Committee had a long conversation about the analysis and members asked RAILS to work with the Illinois State Library to look at whether some of these practices could be made legal. Since then, RAILS has asked for legislation to mend acts, making it permissible for library boards locally to vote to give nonresident cards free of charge for minors, teachers, and temporary patrons. This legislation has been drafted. RAILS brought it up at the ILA Public Policy Committee last week. Most members thought these were great ideas. Meanwhile, Senator Laura Murphy from Des Plaines 28<sup>th</sup> District filed a related legislation, a bill that calls for public libraries to provide free of charge library cards to students living in poverty. It would be a mandate and was not met with as much enthusiasm. Ms. Brennan said RAILS is waiting to see what happens with Senator Murphy's bill. Serving the unserved is a big piece of extended resource sharing. In addition to work on legislation, RAILS has also revamped the RAILS website. There is a post page, and a template for IGA. Ms. Brennan concluded that RAILS is and will continue trying various creative ways to make it more desirable to everybody to have library service.

**c. OCLC Update**

Ms. Harris delivered the update on OCLC, which entails a long term overview of the many challenges that have been documented regarding OCLC. A lot of the issues around mitigating things came down to cataloging. Many of the problems also came down to transparency of pricing and consumers not understanding what went into the bill they were paying. When consumers see no changes in what OCLC provides, they wonder why the price goes up. Ms. Harris announced that a tipping point is being reached where all types of libraries are expressing discontent with OCLC. To explain some of the frustration with OCLC: it is a main asset data base of library holding materials with a fill rate of about sixty percent. As more libraries pull out, the database becomes less accurate, yet rates continue to escalate. Galileo dropped many of its OCLC services. Ms. Modelski pointed out that some special libraries use Ohio Link (which they do not have to pay for) instead of OCLC due to their frustrations. Project ReShare is another opportunity where people are coming together and looking at an alternative way to share these holdings.

**10. Reports**

**a. Resource Sharing Committee Chair**

There was no report.

**b. RAILS report**

Ms. Harris reported that RAILS has been working to get deals for libraries, such as Swank movie licensing and free public web browsers for libraries. The Illinois Library Association released two new books that are available through RAILS to order. The E-Content group met in January 2020 and the next meeting is scheduled for April 13 at the RAILS Burr Ridge location. Ms. Harris reported that the RAILS January 2020 Sparks Podcast included a conversation about E-Content. Simply-E is expecting to add audio books by July 2020, Explore More Illinois is growing, and RAILS was awarded \$750,000 to help with the census. RAILS found out on Friday, March 6, that an additional \$50,000 was awarded for the census.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.