

**VIRTUAL MEETING**  
**RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING**

April 22, 2020 | 2:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting to attend

<https://railslibraries.zoom.us/j/744073138?pwd=bkxDWm9ZQ2hMdGlaVWp6YW5xaWJEUT09>

Meeting ID: 744 073 138

Password: 021335

Dial in number: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

**MINUTES**

1. Welcome  
Mr. Campbell, Advocacy chairperson, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.
2. Designation of Minute Taker—Stacy Palmisano
3. Roll Call of Members  
*Committee members in attendance via Zoom:* Michael Campbell, Percy Harris @2:26, Sarah McHone-Chase, Jenna Nemece-Loise, Thomas Stagg
4. Introductions, Guests, and Announcements  
*Guests in attendance via Zoom:* Deirdre Brennan, Anna Duff, Monica Harris, Stacy Palmisano, Mary Witt
5. Public Comment  
No public comments.
6. Adoption of the Agenda  
Sarah McHone-Chase moved, and Thomas Stagg seconded, that  
  
THE RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE AGENDA BE ADOPTED.  
  
The motion carried.
7. Approval of the Minutes of the March 12, 2020 RAILS Board Advocacy Committee Meeting  
Sarah McHone-Chase moved, and Thomas Stagg seconded, that  
  
THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 12, 2020 RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MINUTES BE APPROVED.  
  
The motion carried.
8. Discussion of progress on advocacy efforts  
Mr. Campbell suggested to host a trustee virtual cocktail hour to promote advocacy efforts for library trustees.

Ms. Brennan reported that she attended the ILA Advocacy Committee meeting on April 6 where the conversation focused on the COVID-19 virus and the issues facing libraries. There is a working group with RAILS, Heartland and ILA that will focus on how libraries are essential and

the common concerns that libraries are currently facing. Ms. Brennan reported the unfortunate news that Moline Public Library laid off their employees and the library is closed indefinitely due to a decrease of 5% of their budget from the city of Moline.

The committee discussed the unique situation of being under the stay at home order and how libraries are offering innovative virtual services. Ms. Nemec-Loise reported that at her school the situation of remote learning has brought the school library to the forefront with support for the students and the staff. Important topics within school libraries right now are copyright and fair use of information during extraordinary circumstances and how some schools are focusing on curricular subjects only and removing all special classes including the library. Ms. Nemec-Loise will be hosting a virtual wellness fair for students to address the socioemotional wellness concerns while not at school.

Ms. Brennan reported that with the relaxed rules regarding offering library cards to unserved communities Wheaton Public Library has seen an increase with their nonresident cards. An educator from Elk Grove Village contacted Ms. Brennan and was interested in getting library cards for the unserved families in his community for e-resources. Another topic discussed was the importance of resource sharing between all types of libraries during this time of crisis and how there will be a continued need for resource sharing.

Mr. Harris reported that the ILA Trustee Forum has cancelled all in person meetings and will host a Zoom workshop on April 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

9. Next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at RAILS Burr Ridge. If the shelter at home order has not been lifted by that date, then the meeting will be a Zoom virtual meeting.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

**Advocacy Committee Members:**

- Michael Campbell, Chair
- Percy Harris
- Sarah McHone – Chase
- Jenna Nemec-Loise
- Tom Stagg
  - Ex Officio: Deirdre Brennan, Mary Witt