

## RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING

December 9, 2020 | 3:00 p.m.

### MINUTES

1. Welcome

Ms. Nemec-Loise, Advocacy chairperson, greeted members and called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Ms. Nemec-Loise read the following: In accordance with the Government Emergency Administrative Act PA100-0640, the RAILS Board of Directors finds an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent and believes it is in the best interest of RAILS to hold a virtual meeting to perform essential business. This meeting will be recorded as per the statutory requirements.

2. Roll Call of Members

Ms. Palmisano called roll of the RAILS Board Advocacy Committee.

Committee members in attendance via Zoom: Michael Campbell, Percy Harris (joined at 3:16), Sarah McHone-Chase, Jenna Nemec-Loise, Thomas Stagg

3. Introductions of Guests

Guests in attendance via Zoom: Dan Bostrom, Deirdre Brennan, Monica Harris, Mary Witt

Guests in attendance in Burr Ridge: Stacy Palmisano

4. Public Comment and Announcements

Ms. Brennan announced to the committee that according to the OMA, Open Meetings Act, requirements it is in the best interest for a Board committee to set a meeting schedule in advanced for the public to attend. The committee agreed that a regularly scheduled meeting date and time would be convenient. An amendment to today's agenda will be voted on in item number five to include this discussion. Ms. Brennan also informed the committee that due to possible OMA violations, the chat option in Zoom during a committee meeting should not be used to hold private conversations but can be used to address the entire group.

No public comments were submitted.

5. Adoption of the Agenda

Michael Campbell moved and Sarah McHone-Chase seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS AMMENDED TO THE FOLLOWING, #9 SCHEDULE FOR MEETINGS FOR 2021 and #10 AJOURNMENT.

The motion carries. Roll call was taken: Ayes: Michael Campbell, Sarah McHone-Chase, Jenna Nemec-Loise, and Thomas Stagg. Nays: none

6. Approval of the Minutes of the November 12, 2020 RAILS Board Advocacy Committee Meeting

Sarah McHone-Chase moved and Thomas Stagg seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 12, 2020 MINUTES BE APPROVED.

The motion carried. Roll call was taken: Ayes: Michael Campbell, Sarah McHone-Chase, Jenna Nemec-Loise, and Thomas Stagg. Nays: none

## 7. Discussion of progress on advocacy efforts and topics

### 7.1. Follow up on advocacy for special libraries

Ms. Nemec-Loise reported that she was unable to meet with Ms. Cox to draft a post for the RAILS special library list serve. At the January committee meeting, she will report on the progress. Mr. Bostrom, RAILS Member Engagement Manager joined the meeting to report on RAILS' activities with special libraries and his work with SLA, Special Libraries Association. In 2019, RAILS hosted two networking events held at special libraries that were well attended by all types of libraries. One networking event was at Caterpillar and the other event was at John Deere. Mr. Bostrom attended the SLA Midwest Symposium held virtually in July 2020 that brought together speakers from all over the Midwest. RAILS has created an advisory team for the My Library Is campaign where special librarian, Laura Turner from Caterpillar and past RAILS Board President, is part of the team and is a valuable voice for special libraries. Mr. Bostrom has volunteered as a member of the Illinois Community of SLA for the past several years and will be the President Elect for 2021 and the President for 2022.

### 7.2. Follow up with partnership opportunities for school and academic libraries

Ms. Nemec-Loise reported that she and Ms. McHone-Chase met to collaborate on partnership opportunities for school and academic libraries. They discussed the set of national standards for each library association, AASL, American Association of School Librarians, AISLE, Association of Illinois School Library Educators and ACRL, Association of College and Research Libraries. They plan to explore the two associations' standards to look at the framework of what student expectations are for K through 12 libraries and academic institutions. Both school and academic librarians share the issue of having either faculty status or staff status at their institutions. The status of the position can determine the level of discussion with school administrators and faculty. A concrete approach is to have a conversation on "cross walking" the standards between AASL and ACRL with the goal to prepare students in K-12 and university. Four ideas were discussed as potential partnership opportunities. The first was the IACRL, Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries, Spark webinar series as a good format to start communication, the second was to start an inclusive virtual member meet-up, and the third was to have a school librarian present at the next IACRL conference and an academic librarian present at the next AISLE conference. The fourth potential partnership opportunity is to create another panel at the ILA conference with school and academic libraries talking about their experiences. Ms. Nemec-Loise and Ms. McHone-Chase will meet to narrow the focus to move forward and report back to the committee.

### 7.3. Mr. Harris to share details on the ILA Trustee Forum meeting

Mr. Harris reported that he did not attend the ILA Trustee Forum meeting on November 21, 2020 due to an illness, Mr. Stagg and Ms. Brennan did attend the virtual meeting. Mr. Harris reported that Mr. Stagg is now part of the ILA Trustee Forum committee. As the new manager of the forum, Mr. Harris is working on a webinar that will focus on the coordinated effort of the COVID-19 vaccine. Mr. Harris is planning on a podcast for the ILA Trustee Forum, a video for YouTube and Facebook as well as focusing on the content of the forum newsletter. The next ILA Trustee Forum Board meeting will meet on January 16, 2021. On January 20, 2021 RAILS is hosting an Online Roundtable: Trustee Update 2021 at noon. This will be a webinar style program with a networking component for trustees. There will be two guest speakers at the roundtable discussing budgetary issues during the pandemic and on the importance of trustee onboarding and training. The roundtable will be a starting point to future opportunities for RAILS to communicate with library trustees.

7.4. Ms. Brennan to report on communication ideas for library trustees

Ms. Brennan reported that RAILS is hosting the Online Roundtable: Trustee Update 2021 on January 20 as previously mentioned in agenda item 7.3. Due to OMA concerns RAILS is limited in engaging with trustees and talking library business for the reason of potential violations. Ms. Brennan thanked Mr. Stagg for encouraging RAILS to pursue communication ideas to include library trustees and for attending the ILA Trustee Forum last month.

8. Agenda building for next meeting

Ms. Nemec-Loise discussed agenda ideas for the January meeting. Continued discussion on partnership opportunities for school and academic libraries will be on the agenda. Any additional agenda items should be emailed to Ms. Brennan.

9. Schedule for meetings for 2021

Added to the agenda was the discussion of a meeting schedule for the committee starting in January 2021 and to go through June 2021. The consensus was to hold the Advocacy meetings on the second Thursday of the month at 3:00 p.m. The meeting schedule will be posted on the RAILS website and on the calendar of the Library Directory & Learning Calendar website.

10. Adjournment

Ms. Nemec-Loise thanked the board for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 3:58 p.m.

**Advocacy Committee Members:**

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