

RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 10, 2021 | 3:00 p.m.

Minutes

1. Welcome

Ms. Nemec-Loise, Advocacy chairperson, greeted members and guests and called the meeting to order at 3:01 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.

2. Roll Call of Members

Telephone/Zoom: Michael Campbell, Percy Harris (3:08 pm), Sarah McHone-Chase, Jenna Nemec-Loise, Thomas Stagg

3. Introductions of Guests and Announcements

RAILS Burr Ridge: Deirdre Brennan (*ex-officio*), Monica Harris (*ex-officio*)

Telephone/Zoom: Anna Duff, Karen Goyer, Ellen Popit, Mary Witt (*ex-officio*)

There were no announcements.

4. Public Comment

There were no comments.

5. Adoption of the Agenda

Ms. Mc-Hone Chase moved and Mr. Stagg seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE ADOPT THE JUNE 10, 2021 AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

The motion carried. 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 May 13, 2021 RAILS Board Advocacy Committee Meeting

Mr. Stagg moved, and Mr. Campbell seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE APPROVE THE MAY 13, 2021 MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

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

7. New Business

7.1. Review Committee Charge

Ms. Brennan brought the charge for review due to the upcoming change of membership. The members reviewed the committee charge and discussed the focus of the committee going forward.

It was agreed that Ms. Brennan would revise the Advocacy Committee charge and bring it before

the RAILS board for approval. The revised charge changes the membership to include RAILS board and non-board members representing multi-library types. The committee will work through the RAILS board members and partners to educate the broader community. Members noted issues and challenges to be included in the charge: intellectual freedom, funding initiatives, educate library trustees, and enforcement of the school librarian requirement. Members agreed the committee's work must be inclusive of all library types.

8. Discussion of Progress on Advocacy Efforts and Topics

Items 8.1 through 8.3.1 are postponed. Advocacy efforts will be discussed at a future meeting once the revised charge is in effect and new committee members are present. It was recommended members view the ILA Advocacy site at <https://www.ila.org/advocacy>. Ms. Popit (IHLS) expressed the Illinois Heartland Library System's interest in collaborating with RAILS in any initiative to prepare high school students for college and beyond.

8.1. Figure out how to reach those not advocating for libraries and why they are not advocates - postponed

8.2. Discuss how to bring another dimension to advocacy - postponed

8.3. Determine short-term and long-term projects for school/academic collaboration and advocacy - postponed

8.3.1. Assign actions to complete toward projects - postponed

9. Agenda Building for Next Meeting

Due to losing three members of this committee, the July 8th meeting will be canceled. The next scheduled meeting is August 12, 2021. The new Board president will make committee appointments and that meeting may be canceled or rescheduled once the new committees have been established.

10. Adjournment

Ms. Nemeć-Loise thanked the outgoing committee members for their outstanding work on the Advocacy committee, bringing their passion, thoughtful conversations and perspectives.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm.

Advocacy Committee Members:

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