

VIRTUAL MEETING
RAILS CONSORTIA LLSAP SUSTAINABILITY WORKING GROUP

Monday, November 15, 2021

10:00 a.m.

125 Tower Drive

Burr Ridge, IL 60527

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Paul Mills RAILS Consortia Committee LLSAP Sustainability Working Group Chair welcomed everyone at 10:16 a.m. and called the meeting to order. Mills read the following statement:

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

Burr Ridge: Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Alex Vancina

East Peoria: Kendal Orrison, Thomas Stagg

Telephone/Zoom: Dawn Bussey, Carolyn Coulter, Rebecca Malinowski, Jennifer Slaney

3. Introductions of Guests; Announcements

Burr Ridge: Deirdre Brennan, Jody Rubel, Anne Slaughter

Telephone/Zoom: Eric Bain, Joe Filapek, Karen Goyer, Grant Halter, Greg McCormick

4. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

5. Consent Agenda

Pointon moved, and Malinowski seconded, that

THE RAILS CONSORTIA LLSAP SUSTAINABILITY WORKING GROUP APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

A roll call vote:

Ayes: Dawn Bussey, Carolyn Coulter, Rebecca Malinowski, Kendal Orrison Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Jennifer Slaney, Thomas Stagg, Alex Vancina

Motion carried.

6. New Business

6.1. Funding data for LLSAP member libraries

Grant Halter, RAILS Data Analysis Manager prepared a funding data report for LLSAP public member libraries statewide. The analysis compared public library operating expenditures per Capita, LLSAP fees per Capita, and LLSAP fees and operating expenditures per LLSAP. The data

also compared LLSAP service population, operating expenditures, LLSAP fees in contrast to the other LLSAPs. For clarification, the data did not include school LLSAP member data, but included OCLC fees. Analysis demonstrated some libraries are under-funded for their service population. The data also revealed details about library budgets and fees allocated for LLSAP membership fees. A link to the data dashboard was emailed to the working group after the meeting and can be accessed at https://datastudio.google.com/reporting/80246fbf-f41b-41e2-aead-88bb5a82e3ab/page/p_Orutoi16oc

6.2. Alternative funding possibilities for LLSAPs

Brennan reached out to other agencies and found that in general, similar organizations are funded by the state or by membership fees. Consortia designated as non-for-profit organizations have more options to apply for grants.

6.3. Delivery statistics

Slaughter clarified the statistics excludes ILDS delivery data. ILL data was captured through the LLSAP support grant application to determine the percentage of LLSAP material transported in delivery. Material from LLSAPs represents 57% of the traffic in delivery based on the numbers included in FY2021 reporting from both RAILS (delivery) and LLSAPs (interlibrary loans). RAILS Staff would investigate delivery statistics further and invite Mark Hatch, RAILS Delivery and Facilities Director, to a future meeting for a better understanding.

7. Unfinished Business

7.1. Revised working group charge

There was no further discussion.

7.2. Working group timeline

Brennan summarized the timeline memo included in the packet. The insightful data Halter presented highlights the varied library circumstances regarding operating budgets, service population, and LLSAP membership fees. Brennan referred to the historical goal to have every library participate in a LLSAP as a noble initiative, but a possibly outdated model that needs to be revisited. RAILS needs to find a sustainable pathway toward increasing resource sharing for libraries who cannot afford LLSAP membership or libraries that do not want to participate in a LLSAP. Find More Illinois is a possible interlibrary loan and cataloging option for some libraries. Working group conveyed that support and training is important for libraries transitioning from LLSAP services. It was suggested to invite Find More Illinois libraries to a meeting to highlight their experience. Mills expressed concerns that historical funding trends do not indicate hope for increased funding in the future, and the working group should keep this in mind.

Brennan stressed the importance to extend the timeline for the working group to meet through December 2022. The scope of work is complex, and it necessitates a clear and shared understanding to develop a plan. The working group timeline conversation led to a discussion on advocacy, property taxes, increased per capita funding, public library standards, and demonstrating value. Mills asked for a motion on extending the timeline to meet through December 2022 and to cancel the December 20, 2021 meeting. Coulter moved, and Vancina seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD CONSORTIA LLSAP SUSTAINABILITY WORKING GROUP EXTEND MEETING THROUGH DECEMBER 2022 AND CANCEL THE DECEMBER 20, 2021 MEETING.

A roll call vote:

Ayes: Dawn Bussey, Carolyn Coulter, Rebecca Malinowski, Kendal Orrison Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Jennifer Slaney, Thomas Stagg, Alex Vancina

Motion carried.

Brennan recapped her first OCLC Global Council meeting and a recent ICOLC meeting discussion.

7.3. LLSAP operational costs

The working group was asked to review the LLSAP operational costs comparison in preparation for future discussions, and submit any questions to Slaughter.

7.4. LLSAP services offered

Slaughter noted LLSAP services vary, and are therefore difficult to compare due to the individual ILS contracts and varying ranges of staffing and services offered. She thanked everyone for submitting. The group was asked to review for future discussion. Submit any corrections or questions to RAILS Staff.

7.5 Find More Illinois update

Mills, Brennan, and Slaughter highlighted enhanced features and incentives of the Find More Illinois growth plan. RAILS staff are reviewing the MARCIt cataloging tool.

8. Next steps and recap action items

Mills recapped next steps and asked the working group to consider the Find More Illinois benefits and LLSAP membership criteria. Review data presented and ILA public library standards. RAILS Staff were tasked with looking deeper into delivery data. Next meeting, January 10, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. The working group will continue to meet through December 2022. The December 20, 2021 meeting canceled.

9. Adjournment

Mills thanked everyone for attending and at 12:06 p.m. adjourned the meeting.