



125 Tower Drive
Burr Ridge, IL 60513
630.734.5000
railslibraries.info

August 19, 2022

RAILS Board Committee Reports

Advocacy Committee Report- Chair Robin Helenthal

The committee met on August 11, 2022. The next meeting is on September 8, 2022.

The committee met on August 11, 2022. Janette Derucki, RAILS Data Research Specialist, presented an update on the School Library Data project. Data on the level of formal library training of school library staff, building level staffing, correlations between school district size and staffing, collections, budgets, and grants was reviewed. The next steps in data collection will be to expand and refine the future questions to improve results in the areas of building level data, library collections, library budgets and funding resources. The project will focus on developing tools to support advocacy efforts.

Brennan updated the members on the ILA Public Policy Committee's focus on the Statewide Access to Online Resources legislation. Brennan led a discussion on efforts to enforce school librarian standards in Illinois and how the data project can support the effort. Members discussed the difficulty of asking schools for library data and school library advocacy efforts in times when there are difficult decisions to be made by school districts experiencing budget cuts.

The topics for the next meeting agenda are:

- School Librarian Standards
- Advocacy Committee Goals for FY2023
- Update on Suspension of RAILS School Library member
- Legislative Update
- Report on ILA Advocacy Committee Meeting

Consortia Committee Report-Chair Thomas Stagg

The next meeting Monday, October 17, 2022

EDI Committee Report - Chair Dianne Hollister

The next meeting is on August 30, 2022

Executive Committee Report - Chair Alex Vancina

The Committee met on July 26, 2022, August 16, 2022 and August 23, 2022

The committee met on July 26, 2022 to review the six proposals from search firms. The proposals vary in scope and cost. The committee decided to interview three firms: Bradbury Miller, Deiters and Todd, and Keister & Associates. Pre-screen interviews and reference checks were completed prior to the interviews which took place August 16 and August 23. The results of the August 23rd meeting will be discussed, and a recommendation may be presented at the August 26 board meeting.

Resource Sharing Committee Report - Chair Becky Spratford

The committee met on August 8, 2022 / The next meeting is on November 14, 2022

Becky Spratford welcomed the committee as the new chairperson of the Resource Sharing Committee. Julie Milavec, RAILS Board, Guillermo Gasca, Morton College, and Annie Miskewitch, Schaumburg Township District Library joined the committee as new members. Monica Harris gave a RAILS Report with a focus on resource sharing initiatives that fall within the four strategic goals of the new RAILS Strategic Plan. Anne Slaughter gave a comprehensive presentation on Find More Illinois. Mark Hatch gave a presentation on the RAILS' delivery service. Harris encouraged the committee members to review the RAILS Strategic Plan and the RAILS Resource Sharing plan to familiarize themselves with the documents. Both of the plans are important guiding principles for RAILS. At the next committee meeting there will be an opportunity for committee members to suggest any updates to the RAILS Resource Sharing Plan, which was last updated in 2018.

Universal Service Committee Report - Chair Alice Creason

Next meeting: Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 1 p.m.