RAILS RESOURCE SHARING COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, February 13, 2023 │10:00 a.m.
RAILS Burr Ridge and Videoconference Sites
125 Tower Drive, Burr Ridge, IL 60527 | 630.734.5000

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Call to Order
   Spratford, Chairperson, greeted the members and called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

2. Roll Call of Committee Members—Mary Kate Murray
   Murray called the roll of the RAILS Board Resource Sharing Committee.
   Present via Zoom: Dianne Hollister, Julie Milavec, Annie Miskewitch (left early at 10:50 a.m.), Jeanne Modelski, Sia Paganis (arrived late at 10:13 a.m.) Becky Spratford
   Absent: Keith Barlog, Lois Bruno, Guillermo Gasca.

3. Recognition of Guests and Announcements
   Spratford read the following: In accordance with the Governor's Disaster Proclamation, 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. In order to comply with the Open Meetings Act, anyone is allowed to join the meeting as an attendee; any comments put into the chat during the public comment period will be read aloud. All votes will be by roll call.

   Guests in Burr Ridge: Monica Harris, Mark Hatch, Leila Heath, Mary Kate Murray (designated note taker), Stacy Palmisano
   Guests in attendance via ZOOM: Eric Bain, Leslie Bednar, Anna Behm, Janette Derucki, Barb Miller, Anne Slaughter, Aaron Skog, Lynn Sheedy

   Spratford announced the appointment of Monica Harris as the new Executive Director of RAILS.

4. Public Comments
   There were no public comments.

5. Consent Agenda
   5.1 Adoption of the Agenda
   5.2 Approval of the RAILS Board Resource Sharing Committee Minutes of November 14, 2022
   Modelski moved to approve the consent agenda. Miskewitch seconded and the motion was unanimously approved on a roll call vote. Ayes: Dianne Hollister, Julie Milavec, Annie Miskewitch, Jeanne Modelski, Becky Spratford
   Nays: None

6. Reports: RAILS Report
   Harris gave a summary of the RAILS Report. There were two poster sessions at the ILA conference in November 2022 that focused on Resource Sharing: SWAN Executive Director, Aaron Skog, presented a poster session at ILA about Illinois Library Resource Sharing: The Three Pillars; RAILS also

presented a poster session at ILA Annual, focused on the RAILS School Library Data Project. RAILS will be debuting a new website and email listserv software in spring 2023. RAILS has increased social media engagement since hiring Digital Marketing and Communications Specialist, Ola Gronski, in November 2022. Explore More Illinois had its most successful year in 2022 with 832 reservations made through the program. eRead Illinois is updating its fee structure for the first time in July 2023 to ensure that every library is contributing equitably. Heartland Illinois Library System received a grant from the Illinois State Library to create a new interactive trustee training portal, which is currently in its development process. A statewide program is being planned for fall 2023 with the goal of offering networking and training opportunities for school librarians.

7. Find More Illinois

    Miller presented the Find More Illinois Report. In 2022, 21 libraries joined Find More Illinois (FMI), which means a 65% increase in FMI libraries from 2021, taking the total number of libraries participating in FMI up to 53. Three more libraries are currently in the process of joining FMI. One of the libraries in the process of joining FMI is The Old Town School of Folk Music, which will be the program's first special library. Slaughter shared a flyer used to market the FMI program and talking points that can be shared to promote FMI to libraries (See Document 7.0). Slaughter shared that with two-thirds of RAILS member libraries being standalone libraries, FMI wants to offer a single platform that allows for the expansion and automation of interlibrary loan processes, regardless of consortium, that integrates with any catalogue software. FMI is in the beginning stages of working with Auto-Graphics to offer a version of the Verso ILS Software as an option for non- and under-automated libraries. FMI is currently in conversation with approximately 40-50 libraries about their needs and how a program like this might serve them. Spratford noted that Slaughter will be presenting on this effort at the ILA board meeting in March.

8. New Business
    8.1. RAILS School Data Project
         Derucki presented information on the RAILS School Data Project. There are ongoing issues with data collection at the state and national level—not all libraries are accurately reporting their information, not all schools have libraries, not all school libraries have dedicated school library educators, and not all school library spaces are accessible when staff are not present. The School Data Project focuses on library staff, library finances, and library collections. Data collected so far shows that school library workers surveyed work under 300 unique position titles and that one in three school library workers is certified. 79% of school libraries receive the ISL School District Library Grant, and there is a demand for digital resources among school libraries. The next steps RAILS plans to take is to analyze how the data collected correlates with student outcomes and educational needs, and how RAILS can implement advocacy for professional development for school and administrative staff.

    8.2. eRead Illinois Formula Change
         Behm presented information on the fee structure change for eRead Illinois. The original fee structure was complex and no longer reflects the reality of e-content in libraries. The fee

structure for eRead Illinois will be updated for the first time in 2023 to be more sustainable, equitable, and responsive. The new fee structure will be tiered for public libraries based on the library's operation expenditure, for school libraries, based on enrollment per building, and for academic and special libraries, based on population served. Over fifty one-on-one meetings have been had with member libraries so far, which resulted in feedback such as the need for more popular titles in Spanish. Renewal begins March 2023, and new fee structure will be in place July 2023. Behm emphasized that one hundred percent of the annual fee that libraries pay to eRead Illinois goes directly to the collection. RAILS covers all admin and related fees, including platform management, selection, and collection development, supports and vendor negotiations.

8.3. Statewide Online Educational Resource Program Update Harris briefed the committee on a proposal that was developed in July 2022 to address the lack of access to a statewide online resource platform. Illinois is one of only two states that doesn't have access to a statewide online resource platform. The proposal asks for $5 million annually and would support libraries in Illinois in accessing online resources, including the 1 million people who are completely unserved by a public library. A statewide online resources program would greatly aid school libraries and help gear existing budgets toward expanding collections, programming, and other library services. The Transition Report that came from the office of Secretary of State Giannoulias' office identified an interest in and an immediate need for an online resources program. The Illinois Library Association's Public Policy Committee identified online resources as being their number one priority to move forward in this legislative cycle. Spratford, a member of the ILA board, noted that there has been nothing put in process yet in terms of a bill regarding online resources, but that there are many bills going into the legislative process regarding access to information, specifically the banning of books.

9. Meeting Recap and Agenda Building for the Next RAILS Board Resource Sharing Committee Meeting
On the agenda for the May 8, 2023 Resource Sharing Committee meeting will be a continued look at the statewide online educational resource program, a report on Find More Illinois, and a more detailed walkthrough of the new RAILS website features.

10. Adjournment
Spratford adjourned the meeting at 11:34am