



ADVOCACY & EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 2, 2022

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Karen Bounds called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Karen Bounds, Tiffany Droege, Jenna Griffith (entered at 3:03 p.m.), Ryan Johnson, Tammy Krouse

Others present: Andrew Azuara, Leslie Bednar, Ellen Popit

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Ryan Johnson motioned to approve the January 5, 2022, minutes. Tammy Krouse seconded. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

ILA Legislative (Virtual) Meet-Ups

Ellen Popit provided an overview of the January 28, 2022 Legislative Meet-Up which was focused on Central Illinois. There was good representation from legislators present, and all supported broadband for public libraries as an ILA initiative. One legislator discussed how the pandemic demonstrated a definite need for increased broadband service to their constituents.

Ready-Set-Advocate!

Karen Bounds encouraged committee members to review the webinar series.

IHLS Membership Coordinator/School Library Liaison

Ellen Popit gave an update on Leah Gregory, the IHLS Membership Coordinator/School Library Liaison. Leah's first two weeks at IHLS have been filled with getting to know her colleagues, connecting with some of our school members, and participating in the February meeting of the AISLE working group.

Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE) Working Group

IMAGINING TOMORROW ~ DELIVERING POSSIBILITIES TODAY!

Ellen Popit reported on the February AISLE Working Group meeting. This provides an opportunity for all stakeholders to be on the same page. The certification process in 2022 will provide a better idea of school library staffing across the state. There was good discussion about activities of member agencies to address school library challenges.

New Business

Intellectual Freedom Awareness

Ellen Popit stated that AISLE has slated a series of 3 Saturday workshops in March to help school districts be ready for any potential intellectual freedom concerns. IHLS put together a webpage with many good resources. Cassandra Thompson facilitated an ILA @ Noon webinar on intellectual freedom. IHLS will continue to support members by adding more resources such as policy templates to the webpage.

Committee Activity Moving Forward

The Advocacy and Education Committee can be helpful by maintaining awareness of issues of concern to public libraries as well as school libraries. Members suggested additional resources and ways to reach new library directors.

Public Comment

None

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Ryan Johnson motioned to adjourn meeting. Jenna Griffith seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.