



Illinois Heartland Library System

MEMO TO: IHLS Board of Directors
 FROM: Leslie Bednar
 DATE: July 21, 2016
 RE: Members Matter Meetings

As a newly merged organization, IHLS developed an advisory group based on best practices from several of the legacy library systems. The IHLS Member Advisory Council (IMAC) was created to provide additional member input on topics of interest to all member libraries. IMAC met for a few years however it never achieved its goal of discussing issues of concern across the library spectrum, and meetings were often focused on SHARE-related concerns.

Please understand we love the SHARE consortium and the improvement it has made in many member communities. However, roughly 60% of our member agencies participate as full members of SHARE and IHLS is charged to support all 527 member libraries. And the SHARE consortium has member-based governance who are well-equipped to address all questions!

Because member input is so crucial to the services we provide, we retooled the council concept. This month we held the first Members Matter meeting. The format is similar to a town hall event where IHLS staff share current system information with attendees, seek feedback on services, and answer questions. The meetings take advantage of our videoconferencing technology and members can attend from the following locations: Decatur Public Library, Gilman-Danforth District Library, Marion Carnegie Library, Morrison-Talbot Library (Waterloo), Olney Public Library, the Illinois State Library, and our three system hubs in Champaign, Du Quoin and Edwardsville. IHLS staff attend at different physical locations each meeting.

It would be terrific to have at least one IHLS board member present at each meeting. Please see the schedule below and let me know which meeting (and at which location) you can attend. I have included the URL to register for the meetings in L2 (LibraryLearning) as well.

Thank you.

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Register in L2 (LibraryLearning)
September 6, 2016	2 – 4 p.m.	http://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=23197
November 1, 2016	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	http://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=23198
January 3, 2017	2 – 4 p.m.	http://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=23199
March 7, 2017	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	http://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=23200
May 2, 2017	2 – 4 p.m.	http://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=23201
July 11, 2017	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	http://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=23202