



Illinois Library Association

## ILA Forum Report

---

### **Committee or Forum: Trustee Forum**

**Report completed by:** Kathy Caudill, ILA Trustee Forum Vice President/Manager-Elect

**Date:** November 21, 2020

### **Activities underway or completed since the last report:**

#### ***Trustee Forum Executive Board meeting – November 21, 2020***

The Trustee Forum Executive Board met on November 21, 2020 via a Zoom meeting.

- a. The Board revisited the trustee training topics discussed at the August 15, 2020 meeting. See *Trustee Training* below.
- b. The Board welcomed a new Trustee Forum Board member, Thomas Stagg. Tom is Vice President of the Alpha Park Public Library Board, and Vice President of the RAILS Board of Directors.

***Trusty Trustee Newsletter*** - The next issue of the *Trusty Trustee* newsletter will be distributed to ILA trustee members in the coming months.

#### ***Trustee Training***

- a. At the November 21, 2020 Trustee Forum board meeting, the trustees continued brainstorming trustee training programs for spring trustee training programs. Rather than hosting a day-long Zoom trustee training event in March (usually held pre-COVID in Springfield and Oak Brook) the Board will be offering a series of trustee training programs over three months:
  - a. March – Integrating the Library into the Community on a Larger Scale - including virtual learning and public library/school libraries collaboration
  - b. April – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the library – boards, staff, patrons
  - c. May – Trustee Training for new (and seasoned) trustees – including trustee basics, trustee relationship building (with trustees and library director), succession planning, available resources (available on the ILA website and Trustee Forum webpage, L2, United for Libraries, etc.)

### **Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months, intended outcomes/goals of project(s), and anticipated timeline(s) and completion date(s) for each project:**

#### ***Upcoming Scheduled Trustee Forum Board meetings – all meetings will be held via Zoom***

- i. January 16, 2021
- ii. ILA Trustee Workshop –tentatively set for March 2021, April 2021, and May 2021 - date(s) to be determined
- iii. June 5, 2021
- iv. August 21, 2021

***Increasing access and opportunities for diversity/inclusion*** - While the current Forum Board membership is diverse in gender and race, most of our board members are from suburban Chicago libraries. With the addition of a Board

member from Peoria, the central part of the state is also represented. We continue our recruitment efforts to seek younger trustees, and those residing in central and southern Illinois, for service on the board. The planned trustee training program on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will hopefully assist in that recruitment effort.

**Increasing leadership opportunities** - The Trustee Forum board continues to recruit new trustees for board service, offering opportunities for trustees across the state to become trustee forum leaders.

**Guarantee of Equal Representation** - The new bylaws limit membership on the Executive Board to one trustee per library. This will ensure that every library represented on the Forum Board will have an equal vote.

**Legislative and Community Advocacy** - Conference programming, Spring trustee training programs, and legislative meet-ups, as well as materials available on the website, all assist in ILA trustee advocacy efforts.

**Delivery of Member Value** – Trustee trainings, legislative meet-ups, annual conference, *Trusty Trustee* newsletter, and ever increasing information available on the ILA website hopefully continue to drive trustees to the ILA website, providing an opportunity to learn about the association and membership benefits for trustees.

**Activities should be designed to advance the ILA Strategic Plan.** Which strategic goal areas are best addressed by the activities above? Check all that apply and describe briefly how the activities will advance the goal(s). View the full plan at <http://www.ila.org/about/strategic-plan>.

**X** **Goal area: Advocacy—Legislative Advocacy** – Legislative Meet-ups trustee training, and Trustee Day programs at the annual conference.

**X** **Goal area: Advocacy—Community Advocacy** – Trustee training dates in March, April, and May, and at ILA annual conference (including Trustee Day programs).

**X** **Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Profession** – Virtual annual conference, Zoom trustee trainings, and Trustee Forum board meetings, make participation available for greater inclusion and diversity.

**X** **Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Association** – Opportunities to increase trustees’ level of involvement in the association, attendance at virtual trainings and conferences, and the trustee forum.

**X** **Goal area: Delivery of Member Value** – *Trusty Trustee* newsletter, ongoing trustee trainings (annual conference and in March, April, and May), and resources available on the ILA website for trustees.

**X** **Goal area: Leadership** – Increased opportunities for trustees to become leaders in the Trustee Forum.