



Illinois Library Association

ILA Forum Report

Committee or Forum: Trustee Forum

Report completed by: Kathy Caudill, ILA Trustee Forum President/Manager **Date:** April 15, 2020

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

Trustee Forum Executive Board meeting – January 18, 2020

The Trustee Forum Executive Board met remotely via Zoom. The board discussed their planned attendance at upcoming legislative meet-ups, and plans for the upcoming trustee training programs scheduled for Springfield and Oak Brook.

Trusty Trustee Newsletter - The third issue of the “Trusty Trustee” newsletter was distributed to ILA trustee members in January.

Scheduled Trustee Training Workshops

- i. March 7, 2020 – Trustee Workshop – Springfield - Amanda Standerfer presented a program on strategic planning, entitled “Plan – Implement – Communicate: Building Strategic Planning and Storytelling Capacity for Community Impact. The program was very well received by the attendees. Trustee Forum Board members Percy Harris and Kathy Caudill attended the program.
- ii. March 14, 2020 – Trustee Workshop - Oak Brook – This workshop was cancelled due to the pandemic.

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

- i. May 30, 2020 – Fountaindale Public Library, Bolingbrook
- ii. August 15, 2020 – Bartlett Public Library, Bartlett

Dates and locations for the quarterly Trustee Forum Board meetings in November 2020 – August 2021 will be determined at the May 30, 2020 Trustee Forum Board meeting.

Newly Scheduled Trustee Training Webinar

A free webinar will be offered for Illinois library trustees on April 30, 2020 from 10 am – noon. The presenter will be Amanda Standerfer, speaking on the topic of strategic planning.

Increasing access and opportunities for diversity/inclusion

The availability of the free Zoom webinar for library trustees across the state will provide an excellent

opportunity for trustees of all libraries, regardless of budget size, population served, or geographic location to attend an excellent strategic planning program that also addresses communications and advocacy. Hosting the Trustee Forum's online quarterly meetings via Zoom will help make it possible for trustees across the state to remotely attend the board's quarterly meetings. While the current Forum Board membership is diverse in gender and race, it is hoped that Zoom will encourage younger trustees, and those residing in central and southern Illinois, to remotely attend meetings and consider becoming members of the Trustee Forum Executive Board.

Increasing leadership opportunities - A number of trustees have inquired at the annual library conference, or trustee training events in Oak Brook and Springfield, about serving on the Trustee Forum Executive Board. The Board plans to invite the interested trustees to virtually attend the May Trustee Forum Executive Board meeting and address their potential consideration for service on the Board at the August Trustee Forum Executive Board meeting. The Board looks forward to offering trustees from across the state increased opportunities 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, legislative meet-ups, legislative information shared with ILA members prior to the meet-ups, as well as the upcoming Trustee training webinar assist in ILA trustee advocacy efforts. Trustee Forum Board President Kathy Caudill served as one of the Local Coordinators for the Buffalo Grove legislative meet-up.

Delivery of Member Value – The Trustee training in Springfield, the upcoming April 30 Trustee training webinar, and trustee programming at ILA's annual conference in October, provide delivery of value to both new and veteran ILA trustee members. The Trustee Forum Executive Board brainstormed and offered possible program submissions for the 2020 ILA Annual Conference. Continued distribution of the Trustee newsletter will provide another important venue for advocacy information and trustee education opportunities.

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 on Strategic Planning, and Trustee Day programs at the annual conference.
- X *Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Profession* – Trustee Day, broadening opportunities for trustees to attend board meetings remotely, and increasing the number and geographical location of potential trustees serving on the board.
- X *Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Association* – Opportunities to increase trustees' level of involvement of trustees in the association and trustee forum.
- X *Goal area: Delivery of Member Value* – Trustee newsletter, ongoing trustee training, and Trustee Day at Annual Conference.
- X *Goal area: Leadership* – Increased opportunities for trustees to become leaders in the Trustee Forum.