



**PrairieCat Delegates Assembly
January 26, 2022
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Online via Zoom**

Please use the link below to register online via Zoom:

https://railslibraries.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iVD7aiFIQpK0-mw69U45fw

Agenda

The Assembly met virtually due to the coronavirus pandemic in accordance with rules and procedures contained in section 7(e) of the OMA as (1) there is a state-issued disaster declaration related to public health concerns in place over all or part of the jurisdiction of the public body; (2) the head of the public body determines that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the disaster

The Delegates Assembly met on Wednesday, January 26, 2022, 10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Delegates Assembly participation is required of all Fully Participating and Basic Online libraries and the four Union List reps. As always, please remember that only officially designated Delegates or their Alternates can vote on behalf of their library. Substitutes will not be permitted to vote, and there are no proxy votes if a delegate is not present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comments may be submitted via email to Carolyn.coulter@railslibraries.info at least two hours before the beginning of the meeting.

I. Call to order and welcome

Present via Zoom: Victoria Blackmer, Melissa Landis, Charm Ruhnke, Deirdre Brennan, Anne Slaughter, Elizabeth Smith, Chelsey DeSplinter, Cristy Stupegia, Janice May, Angela Campbell, Molly DeBernardi, Julie Harte, Ashley Huffines, Brenda Weinberg, Kim Scape, Linda Schreiber, Sandra Wood, Michelle Krooswyk, Valerie Woodley, Debbie Griggs, Jane Lenser, Emily Porter, Kimberly Martin, Amy Lingafelter, Karen Sutera, Denise Tollensdorf, Resa Mai, Emma Rose Conway, Lynette Heiden, Stephanie Nissen, Julie Wayland, Maria Meachum, Teri Schwenneker, Melissa Landis, Joanna Kluever, Heather Black, Cynthia Cole, Kristi Scherer, Alexandra Annen, Patricia Smith, Magda Bonny, Charm Ruhnke, Leslie Zwicker, Lynne Noffke, Kelly McCully, Cathy Palmer, Megan Gove, Emily Kofoid, Stephen Bertrand, Barbara Posinger, Deborah Wunsch, Cynthia Maxwell, Laura Long, Laura Crisp, Emily Faulkner, Julie Timm, Sheree Kozel-La Ha, Paige Frechmann, Denise Hodgett, Sondra Terry, Beth Ryan, Amy Walsh, Jan Ambrose, Janet Clark, Leah Bill, Carol McSweeney, Rici Dale, Jeannie Barry, Carolyn Mesick, Rylie Roubal, Kelly James, Mary Wilkening, Sarah Flanagan, Anna Allison, Jay Kalman, Pennie Miller, Renee Kozeal, Tari Sangston, Jamie Lockwood, Meridith Layne, Jolene Franciskovich, Amy Fry, Lauren Offerman, Deanna Howard, Jodie DePatis, Noreen Bormet, Ellen Finfrock, Ashley Hopper, Leann Bredberg, Shelley Augustine, Kimberly Brozovich, Pecatonica Library, Annette Davis, Bryon Lear, Tori Drews, Beth Tepen, Julie Voss, Laura Watson

Libraries represented: See vote and quorum sheet.

Smith (Chair-RO) started the meeting at 10:01 am. Smith welcomed everyone. The Delegates Assembly met in person and virtually due to the disaster declaration.

- II. Introductions and welcome new delegates or alternates
Emma Conway (CT) introduced herself as the new Director of the Clinton Township Public Library.
- III. Introduction of Guests
Coulter (PrairieCat) introduced Deirdre Brennan and Anne Slaughter from RAILS.
- IV. Review of agenda for additions/changes
There were no revisions.
- V. Public Comments via Zoom Meeting
There were no public comments.
- VI. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approve minutes for October 27, 2021 PrairieCat Delegates Assembly meeting
 - b. Central Site report including financial and statistical reports

Motion #1: Ruhnke (PU) moved and Sangston (MA) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. Motion carries on a roll call.

Ayes: 79

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

- VII. Administrative Council Report
 - a. Finance Committee Report – Report from December 16, 2021
Coulter (PrairieCat) stated the Finance Committee went over the draft budget and made recommendations on some costs for FY23. It was decided that some of the money needed for the IT move from RAILS will come out of Capital Reserves. The other discussion was about the expansion of Find More Illinois and what that could mean for PrairieCat in the future.
 - b. Resource Sharing Committee Report – Report from RS meeting, January 13, 2022
Ruhnke (PU) said the Resource Sharing Committee had a follow up meeting on January 13th to try to narrow down the discussion for today's meeting. The Committee went over how to set priorities on the different categories and topics gathered for new PrairieCat Plus.

Tepen (UT) asked when is the catalog overlay going online, replacing Encore? Will we get some training or guidance on how things change as a result?
Coulter (PrairieCat) responded that we are still in test phase with Vega Discover. Innovative was optimistically hoping to Go Live in January, but it looks unlikely Vega Discover will be ready to Go Live for PrairieCat before Spring 2022. When the Go Live date gets closer, PrairieCat will be creating training materials, support materials for libraries and patrons, along with demonstrations.
- VIII. PrairieCat Membership Update, Training and Outreach report: (Elizabeth Smith)
Smith (PrairieCat) updated the Delegates on the progress of new membership. Lostant Community Library is joining PrairieCat as a Basic Online member and they are currently in the process of adding items. Putnam County Schools, a current Fully Participating member, is adding their Primary School. They are in the process of

adding items, as well. Ida Public Library is adding a Bookmobile which will make it the fourth Bookmobile in PrairieCat. Smith mentioned North Boone School District is ending their PrairieCat membership in FY23. They are a Union List member. Smith added that North Chicago Public Library is considering joining PrairieCat. Currently, they are a standalone library, and they also have a bookmobile.

Smith reminded everyone how to subscribe the newsletter, by going to <https://support.prairiecat.info/newsletter>. You can also follow PrairieCat on Facebook (@PrairieCatLibraries) and Twitter (@PrCatLib) for library related news/updates. PrairieCat also offers virtual site visits. You can request a virtual visit here: <https://support.prairiecat.info/visit-request>.

Smith shared training statistics from Talent LMS:

- *813 Learner Accounts
- *84% Member Participation
- *495 Courses in Progress
- *50 Courses Available
- *5,633 Completed Courses since February 2019
- *Create List Classes available under Reports category
- *Create Lists Intro plus Classes 1-4

Gove (TF) asked if we still have to wait for the Circulation Committee to meet in February to get changes made to fine free library notices? There was talk that maybe it could get changed before then? Ruhnke (PU) answered that the Resource Sharing Committee will be addressing and voting to approve the changes to the fine free library notices. Gove responded that she is referring to the wording on the notices, not the timing. Coulter (PrairieCat) said the wording was sent out to the Circulation Committee and no one had a problem with it so it will be shared at Resource Sharing today. We will then be able to make the changes to the wording.

IX. Discussion, initial RSA conversations regarding possible partnership opportunities
Coulter (PrairieCat) informed the Delegates of initial discussions occurring with RSA. RSA is working to become staffing independent from RAILS. They are exploring the potential opportunities for partnership with PrairieCat. Coulter is working with the Administrative Council to gather questions that would need to be answered by RSA for anything potential partnership to move forward.

X. Find More Illinois expansion project discussion: (RAILS)
Brennan (RAILS) began by saying the goal of Find More Illinois was to be a resource sharing utility for libraries who could not afford to join a consortium or who chose not to be a part of a consortia. The platform used by Find More Illinois is used by many states because it works well with other vendors. RAILS is determined to help grow Find More Illinois. Brennan also stated there are two new libraries joining Find More Illinois, Skokie Public Library and Helen Plum Library.

Slaughter (RAILS) stated that 1/3 of the RAILS libraries who use Find More Illinois are PrairieCat libraries. Because COVID has slowed our expansion of FMI by implementing a Membership Growth Incentive Program. These incentives include:

- *No setup fees for those who join before March 2023
- *No annual fees for any participants until the billing in July 2023
- *No fees for SHAREit for NCIP setup

Slaughter explained that NCIP automates functions on the ILS side. It connects SHAREit

and the ILS by automatically creating the brief record in the ILS, connects the check in and check out functions. FMI is also adding new services/features. One of those is Enhance Borrowing which means any unfilled borrower requests would automatically be forwarded to the RAILS OCLC WorldShare account for fulfillment. This will be available in early February 2022. Other features that are being looked into include improved searching, cataloging tools and MARC record sources and InterState Sharing Initiative (ISSI).

Scherer (CR) stated Creston-Dement uses Find More Illinois and we really like the extra options for our patrons. Miller (PP) asked will there be a cost for the RAILS OCLC search if a library opts in? Slaughter stated there would not be a cost and it would be considered an add-on to opt into.

Brennan stated that Find More Illinois has the potential to change the landscape in Illinois, to make us less dependent on OCLC, to save us money and extinguish duplicitous cataloging work we perform.

- XI. Introduction to the ARSL forum (Association for Rural and Small Libraries): (Victoria Blackmer, Robert R. Jones Public Library)
Blackmer (CV) has recently taken over management of the Illinois Library Association's Small and Rural Libraries Forum. She stated that the forum represents the interests of small and rural libraries in Illinois, provides a forum for staff at all levels and trustees to discuss issues of particular interest to small and rural libraries. It encourages active participation in Illinois library organizations. There is no hard definition of either a small or rural library. Anyone believing their library is categorized as small or rural or both is welcome to join the forum. Blackmer encouraged others to join the forum if they care about the growth and development of useful library services, if they support the continuing education of members, they enjoy being creative and brainstorming with others, would like to collaborate with other libraries and if they would like to give a voice to the often voiceless rural and small libraries at the local, state and national levels. Anyone interested in receiving more information about the forum, please go to:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeAPNyhVVbeFo3iVHWJA-CgrT-LpiwFltWWb-16I43NM2M05A/viewform>

Blackmer said if anyone would like to help build the foundation of the forum in a more hands on roll or knows someone who would like to help, please reach out to me at vblackmer@robertrjoneslibrary.org.
- XII. International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) PowerPoint presentation regarding consortia services
Coulter (PrairieCat) stated that PrairieCat is a member of the International Coalition of Library Consortia. ICOLC produces materials that help explain what a library consortium is, what it does and why it is beneficial. These materials are free for their members, and we encourage you to utilize these free materials.
- XIII. Public Comments via previously submitted email (see above) or online
There were no public comments.
- XIV. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.
- XV. Next regularly scheduled meeting, April 27, 2022, Senica's Oak Ridge Golf Club and/or online via Zoom.