



ILLINOIS LITERACY FOUNDATION

Illinois Literacy Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
June 11, 2024
12:30 p.m.
Offices of the Secretary of State
115 South LaSalle Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room (Crete)
Chicago, Illinois 60603

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT

Roberto Castaneda (virtual)
Hanah Jubeh

Mo Khan
Michael Mroz

Crystal Reynolds (virtual)
John Rosales

NOT PRESENT

ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE STAFF PRESENT

Aileen Kim
Cabell King

Greg McCormick
Maria Ullmann

GUESTS PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mroz called the meeting to order and welcomed members at 12:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

Chair Mroz invited a motion to adopt the meeting minutes from December 12, 2023, and March 12, 2024. Mr. Rosales made a motion to adopt the minutes without amendment. Mr. Khan seconded. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dr. Castaneda provided a Treasurer's Report noting that the balance on April 30, 2024 is \$16,921.47.

Dr. Castaneda observed that Thomas Benigno's name still appears on the bank statements and recommended correction. Dr. Castaneda and Ms. Jubeh were confirmed as signatories on the account.

Mr. Rosales made a motion to approve the report as presented. Mr. Khan seconded. The motion passed.



NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed proposed updates to ILF bylaws. All changes met with unanimous approval. Mr. Mroz and Mr. Khan expressed interest to restore “person” to the allowable solicitation targets in due time (Article IV, Section 1). Mr. Mroz queried the proposal to institute term lengths for Directors (Article II, Section 2). Mr. Rosales inquired whether there ought to be either the formal establishment of the position of Vice-Chair, a position he has occupied for many years, or the explicit articulation of who is responsible for duties in the event that an office is vacant or an officer is unable to fulfill them (Article III, Section 11). The decision was made not to vote on the bylaws until this question is adequately considered. Subsequently, Mr. Khan recommended clarification regarding the section on prohibited donations, specifically, what it might mean if the ILF cannot accept donations from entities “licensed” by the SOS. Determination was made to investigate this language further. The intention is that the Board will consider the bylaws again at the September meeting for a vote.

Chair Mroz invited a motion on the proposed Nondiscrimination Statement. Mr. Khan made a motion to adopt the proposed nondiscrimination statement, replacing any preceding drafts or versions. (Members of the Board are not aware of any previous statements of this kind.) Dr. Castaneda seconded. The motion passed.

Chair Mroz invited a motion on the proposed ILF Values. Ms. Jubeh made a motion to adopt the proposed six values – equity, collaboration, self-determination, confidence, joy, and knowledge – to inform Board deliberation and ILF activity. Mr. Khan seconded. The motion passed.

Following an enthusiastic conversation regarding a proposed project to support literacy partners with a volunteer recruitment initiative, Chair Mroz invited a motion to advance the project. Mr. Rosales made a motion to continue developing the project, specifically to begin soliciting funds. Ms. Reynolds seconded. The motion passed.

The Board agreed unanimously that supporting adult learners in high school equivalency programs is within the bounds of the ILF mission. The Board seeks further information about how a program of this kind might work and assurance that pursuing this project won’t stretch the capacity of the Foundation.

Ms. Jubeh excused herself from the meeting at 2:00pm.

Members of the Board agreed that the ILF should observe National Literacy Month (September) and National Family Literacy Month (November). Ideas proposed included composing a couple paragraphs for SOS communications and designing a flyer to distribute to libraries. It was also suggested that, rather than hosting a single significant event, individual Board members might host an event in their neighborhood. This idea requires further elaboration.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mroz adjourned the meeting at 2:25pm