RESOLUTION ON MIDWINTER MEETING PURPOSE

Whereas the investigation by the Executive Board into the use of the Midwinter Meeting has produced some definitions of non-program activities appropriate to the purpose of the business of the Association, I move that the following language be forwarded to Council at its 1990 Annual Conference subject to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee for review and recommendation as substitution for the current policy:

7.4.7 Purpose of Midwinter Meetings

The ALA Midwinter Meeting is convened for the primary purpose of expediting the business of the Association through sessions of its governing and administrative delegates serving on boards, committees and Council. Programs designed for the continuing education and development of the fields of library service shall be reserved for Annual Conference except by specific authorization of the Executive Board acting under the provisions of the ALA Constitution. Hearings seeking membership contributions; provisions for observers and petitioners at meetings of Council, committees and boards are to be publicized; programs of orientation or leadership development to Association business are encouraged; assemblies of groups of individuals for information sharing vital to the development of Association business shall be accepted as appropriate to the purposes of the Midwinter Meeting. And, be it further resolved, that this policy statement shall appear on appropriate advisory forms used in the planning of Midwinter Meetings and shall be publicized to the membership of the Association in announcing Midwinter Meeting planning and housing reservations.

Amended
Adopted by the ALA Council of the 1990 Annual Conference

Gerald R. Shields
Councilor
New York Library Association

Seconded - Herbert Steiger
Councilor at Large

The Resolutions Committee believes that this is a matter for consideration by the Policy Monitoring Committee rather than Constitution & Bylaws. bhm
Midwinter meetings

VOTED, That ALA Policy Number 204.4 be amended to read:

That the ALA Midwinter Meeting be primarily devoted to carrying on the business of the Association through meetings of the Council, boards, and committees, and that there be no programs, general business, or membership meetings of the divisions, sections, or round tables except as a limited number of program meetings, institutes, conferences, or workshops may be specifically authorized by the Executive Board.
Midwinter meetings

VOTED, That Chicago be the location of the Midwinter Meeting at least in alternate years, but that the Executive Board authorize the occasional movement of the Midwinter Meeting to an appropriate center other than Chicago when some worthy purpose of program, regional recognition, or public relations warrants meeting elsewhere.

For consideration by the appropriate bodies and application as warranted by the circumstances, we recommend:

1. That "limited number" of program meetings, institutes, conferences or workshops be normally interpreted as meaning not more than two days preceding or following the Midwinter Meeting, and not more than one day (or a total of three meeting periods) during the course of Midwinter.

2. That the Executive Board provide a program within the Midwinter Meeting only on matters of vital importance to a large segment of the Association. Meetings of boards and committees in conflict with such programs should be permitted.

3. That moving out of the Chicago area be ordinarily contingent upon the suitability of the suggested "outside" location to provide the background for the program planned for that meeting.

4. That the ALA staff be permitted to experiment with a limited number of commercial exhibits at Midwinter Meetings, whether in Chicago, or elsewhere.

5. That the present practice on registration be continued.

6. That the ALA staff be requested to explore the desirability of holding Chicago Midwinter Meetings either in a single- or multi-hotel location outside the Loop and reasonably near to ALA Headquarters.
Meeting dates

ADOPTED, That the Executive Director suggested the Board might wish to regularize its Fall and Spring dates and decide upon a period of time as ongoing guidance in scheduling the Board's Spring and Fall Meetings. Because of various fiscal factors involved, he suggested the weeks beginning with the last Mondays in April and October.
Docket

VOTED, That the Executive Board requires the Executive Director to place the Docket for the meetings of the Executive Board in the hands of the Executive Board, together with full documentation, no later than two weeks before such meetings; and

That any docket items received from members, membership units, or staff after twenty-four days preceding the meetings be brought to the attention of the Board at the first session of such meetings; and

That the Board decide at that session if it will receive items received after twenty-four days for consideration at such meetings; and

That the procedures listed in the above paragraphs shall apply, the chairman consenting, to meetings of committees and subcommittees of the Board; and

FURTHER, That the Executive Board requires the Executive Director as Secretary to the Council, to place the Agenda for meetings of the ALA Council in the hands of the Council, together with such documentation as has been provided by members and units, no later than two weeks before such meetings.
106.4.3 **Open Meetings**

All meetings of the American Library Association and its units are open to all members and to members of the press. Registration requirements apply. Closed meetings may be held only for the discussion of matters affecting the privacy of individuals or institutions.

106.4.4 **Distribution of Materials at ALA Council and Membership Meetings**

Permission for the distribution of materials within the ALA Council and Membership Meeting areas, if the material is not official documentation, must be granted by the Executive Director or the ALA President.

106.4.5 **Media Access to Information**

National library media, and other media making a request, shall receive all information and documentation that is sent to Council and Executive Board prior to meetings of these bodies except, in the opinion of the Executive Board, anything affecting the privacy of individuals or institutions, and shall receive all information presented to those registering at meetings of the Association.

106.4.6 **Purpose of Midwinter Meetings**

The ALA Midwinter Meeting shall be devoted primarily to carrying on the business of the Association through meetings of the Council, boards and committees. There are to be no programs, general business or membership meetings of the divisions, sections or Round Tables except as a limited number of program meetings, institutes, conferences or workshops may be specifically authorized by the Executive Board.

106.4.7 **Meetings of the Executive Board**

The ALA Executive Board shall meet during the weeks beginning with the last Mondays in April and October, subject to availability of its members. Dates shall be selected and published well in advance.

Amended by the ALA Council 1978