

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023 COUNCIL MINUTES

ALA MEMBERSHIP MEETING & ALA INFORMATION SESSION FOR MEMBERS, COUNCILORS, AND  
EXECUTIVE BOARD  
SATURDAY, JUNE 24: 10:00 AM CT

ALA President Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada called the meeting to order.

**ADOPTED by Consent:** Agenda, CD #8.5

ALA Policy states that memorials, tributes, and testimonials shall be introduced at the beginning of the membership meeting. None were received.

ALA Parliamentarian Adrian Stratton provided an overview of membership meeting orientation and rules for this meeting.

**Resolution on Maintaining Equitable In-Person Participation for All at ALA Membership Meetings, ALA CD #56**

Member Al Kagan moved:

Resolved, that on behalf of its members, the American Library Association (ALA): Urges The Association by the 2024 Annual Conference to implement an in person voting option at the hybrid Membership Meeting through same day registration at the time of the meeting or without a pre-registration requirement.

Member Kagan noted that the pre-registration requirement would result in many people being unable to vote and this resolution will help ensure it is not an issue in future years.

Members discussed the resolution.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #56

Results:

- 100 yes
- 56 no
- 5 abstain

**APPROVED** Resolution on Maintaining Equitable In-Person Participation for All at ALA Membership Meetings, ALA CD #56

**President's Report, CD #21.1**

President Pelayo-Lozada provided the following highlights from the report:

- Spoke on 40+ keynotes and panels and appeared at a dozen other events
- 80+ press and media interviews
- Visited 3 countries and 10+ states, as well as more than a dozen libraries
- Focus at all these events has been the challenges librarians and libraries are facing, as well as the exciting offerings and services that libraries continue to provide
- Passed a historic bylaws revision

- Begun to reimagine work of Allied Professional Association
- Continued work on ALA branding, begun under Past President Jefferson
- Held first LibLearnX in New Orleans

### **President-elect's Report, CD #29.1**

President-elect Emily Drabinski provided highlights from the report:

- Visited and talked with many library workers, as described in report
- Remain committed to issues, including organizing with library workers and addressing impact of climate change on libraries, library workers, and patrons

### **ALA Treasurer's Report, ALA CD #13.2**

ALA Treasurer Peter Hepburn provided the following updates:

#### FY23 YTD Financial Results, as of March 31, 2023

- Net revenue of \$8.2 million
- At this same point in FY 22 net revenue of \$3.5 million, while for the same period in FY 21, a net revenue of negative of \$1.6 million
- Positive variance from budget of \$9.6 million
- Over \$8 million in grants, awards, and donations account for the bulk of the variance
- Expenses at a positive variance against budget of \$1.9 million
- Year-to-date revenues in FY 23 total \$34.9 million. The General Fund accounts for 47% of total revenue, followed by Grants & Awards at 28%, Divisions at 21%, the Endowment Fund at 3%, and the Round Tables at 1%
- ALA's loan and transfers balance continues to shrink. As of April 30, 2023, the balance had dipped to \$5.9 million, a decrease of \$1.2 million since last August

#### FY24 Budget

- Council and Executive Board approved the six budget objectives:
  - Align revenue/expense budget
  - Rebuild membership base
  - Monitor new revenue sources
  - Develop budget surplus
  - Focus on financial stability
  - Develop new budget metrics
- FY 24 will begin on September 1, 2023
- Finance Office is forecasting total revenues and expenditures each up by about \$1 million from FY 23. The predicted surplus will amount to \$65,000

Member Maggie Farrell asked for a brief update on the Operating Agreement Implementation Workgroup. Treasurer Hepburn noted there is a workgroup chaired by himself and ALA CFO Dina Tsourdinis. with representation from ALA Finance, as well staff and leadership from the Divisions and Round Tables:

- This group is continuing work by a previous task force to update the current operating agreement, which will govern such things as overhead, as well as other things such as incentivizing Divisions and net asset balances, among others
- There are four proposed models to consider but more time is needed to review

### **ALA Executive Director's Report, ALA CD #23.1**

ALA Executive Director Tracie Hall provided the following highlights from the report:

- Focused on Programmatic priorities
- Conference attendance continues to be important as the largest convener of library, staff, professionals, and advocates
- Attendance for Annual 2023 has already exceeded the goal of 14,000
- Focus on membership, which is currently above 50,000, but we can do better, which is as important as ever as debates around censorship are having a cooling effect on libraries and their budgets
- There is a legislation out there around defunding libraries that needs to be countered
- 2024 Standards for Library Services for People who are Incarcerated or Detained is an example of how ALA policy impacts broader policy
- ALA will receive Barbara Bush Foundation for Literacy's highest award
- Received \$1 million from Acton Family Fund's Solidarity Giving which help grow staff in Office of Intellectual Freedom, relaunch Lawyers for Librarian and Law for Librarians, replicate best practices for 10 mutual aid help lines, as well as support Library Board Campaign School, ALA Advocacy Academy for Chapters, Division and Round Table Intellectual Freedom efforts, Intellectual Freedom Congress, and President Drabinski's bus tour.

### **Endowment Trustees Report, CD \$16.2**

Senior Endowment Trustee Mario Gonzalez provided the following updates:

- As of 5/31/2023, market value at \$56.8 million and book value at \$10.6 million
- 61% of portfolio in Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) and Environment, Social, & Government (ESG) funds
- Issues affecting markets, among others:
  - Bull market geared towards productivity
  - April job listings as opposed to number of open positions
  - Fed paused interest rate increases
- Trustee Activities:
  - BlackRock and Partners Groups spoke with trustees. BlackRock is heavily invested in ESG, and they now have put \$3 billion into looking at AI, artificial intelligence. BlackRock is also a group that has been banned from using funds in Oklahoma and Idaho, because of their involvement and participation in ESG
  - Went through selection process for financial advisor and chose to continue with Bhatia group of Merrill Lynch
  - Updated Investment Policy Statement
  - Updated selection policy for Endowment Trustees
  - Moment of silence for Pat Wand, immediate past Senior Trustee, who passed away
  - Long discussion on artificial intelligence

### **Unite Against Book Ban Update**

Deborah Caldwell-Stone, Office of Intellectual Freedom (OIF) Director, provided the following updates:

- Public facing grassroots campaign in partnership with Public Policy & Advocacy (PPA) Office to protect the right to read
- 83 national partner organizations, 93 state and local partners, and thousands of individual members
- Launched the first Right to Read Day during National Library Week

- Provides support to local advocates through customized advice, ways to organize collective action, responding to pro-censorship groups and misinformation, and more
- Support is crucial to Unite Against Book Bans. Please join and invite your networks to join

President Pelayo-Lozada opened a Question & Answer session. There were none.

President Pelayo-Lozada adjourned ALA Membership Meeting & ALA Information Session for Members, Councilors, and Executive Board.

**COUNCIL I**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 24 AT 2:30 PM CT**

ALA President Pelayo-Lozada called the meeting to order.

ALA Parliamentarian reviewed the rules and guidelines for Hybrid Council meetings, CD #5.1.

**ADOPTED by Consent:**

- Adoption of Rules & Guidelines for ALA Hybrid Council Meetings, ALA CD#5.1
- Agenda Review, ALA CD#8.6
- Approval of the 2023 (LLX) and Special Council Session Minutes, as amended ALA CD#2.1
- Budget Analysis & Review Committee ALA CD#33.2
- Committee on Education, ALA CD#41.1
- Committee on Library Advocacy, ALA CD#42.1
- Committee on Professional Ethics, ALA CD#24.1
- Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship, ALA CD#43.1
- Council Orientation Committee, ALA CD#31.1
- Divisions President's Report, ALA CD#28-28.8
- Public Awareness Committee, ALA CD#38.1
- Publishing Committee, ALA CD#32.1
- Committee on Sustainability, ALA CD#37.1
- Treasurer's Report, ALA CD#13.2

**Review of Executive Board Actions since the 2023 LLX Meeting, CD #15.1**

Executive Director Tracie Hall provided the following highlights of Executive Board Actions since 2023 LLX:

- Recommended to Council budget objectives as a basis for the fiscal year 2024 budget, as listed in the document
- Approved the 150th Anniversary Steering Committee charge and scope, as outlined in EBD Document #10.6, adding publicity and composition to include two co-chairs and other personnel to be appointed by the President and President-Elect through 2027
- Voted to proceed with the recommendations of feasibility campaign to create a 150th anniversary fundraising campaign
- Board approved the Policy and Procedures for the moderation of ALA Connect, as recommended by the ALA Code of Conduct Committee
- Approved Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the site for the PLA 2026 Conference on March 18-20, 2026, and Salt Lake City, Utah, as the site for PLA in 2028

### 2023 LLX Council Implementation Report, CD #9.1

Executive Director Tracie Hall provided the following highlights of Council actions since 2023 LLX:

- Joint working group of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, the Policy Monitoring Committee, and the Committee on Organizations to revise the ALA Policy Manual to include recommended policy insertions from the adoption of the general revision of the ALA Bylaws members have been appointed
- Approved the revision of ALA Core Competencies of Librarianship
- Approved the Resolution on Human Rights and Freedom of Speech and Expression in Iran
- Approved the Resolution on Revising the Code of Conduct to Include Online Activity to the Executive Board and ask that the Executive Board take action as soon as possible

### Resolutions Committee Report, CD #10.2

Rodney Lippard, Chair, provided the following updates:

- Committee reviewed 28 resolutions to bring before Council, as well as 1 before the Membership Meeting, which was passed
- Presented approved Membership Meeting Resolution: Resolution on Maintaining Equitable In-Person Participation for All at ALA Membership Meetings, CD #56:  
Resolved, that on behalf of its members, the American Library Association (ALA): Urges The Association by the 2024 Annual Conference to implement an in-person voting option at the hybrid Membership Meeting through same-day registration at the time of the meeting or without a pre-registration requirement.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #56.

Results:

- 128 yes
- 14 no
- 2 abstain

**APPROVED** Resolution on Maintaining Equitable In-Person Participation for All at ALA Membership Meetings, ALA CD #56

### Committee on Committees report, CD #12-12.1

ALA President-elect Emily Drabinski, Chair, presented the following:

- Nominations for election to the 2023 Committee on Committees (COC), to be chaired by incoming President Cindy Hohl:
  - Fannie Cox
  - Angela Craig
  - Rachel Fleming
  - Ed Garcia
  - Mandy Nasr
  - Muzhgan Nazarova
  - Elizabeth Nebeker
  - Nadia Mira Orozco-Sahi

- Four councilors receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to serve on the 2023-2024 Council Committee on Committees

President Pelayo-Lozada called for nominations from the floor.

Councilor Rhonda Gould nominated Jules Shore for the Committee on Committees. Councilor Shore indicated his willingness to stand for election. Councilor Shore will be added to the ballot.

- Nominations for the 2023-2025 Planning and Budget Assembly (PBA):
  - Chapter Councilor candidates:
    - Hannah Buckland
    - Keturah Cappadonia
    - LaVerne Mann
    - Rebecca Moorman
    - Emily Northcutt
    - Ziba Perez
  - Councilor-at-large candidates:
    - Tiffeni Fontno
    - Sharaya Olmeda
    - Harriet Wintermute
    - Hong Yao
- The three chapter councilors and two at-large councilors receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to serve two-year terms (2023-2025)

President Pelayo-Lozada called for PBA nominations from the floor. There were none.

Ballots for COC and PBA elections will open immediately following tomorrow's Council II meeting and will remain open until Monday, June 26, at 7 a.m. Central Time. Councilors will receive an email from ALA Governance after the conclusion of Council II, when the voting link for the PBA and COC election is open.

The following councilors have volunteered to serve as tellers for the election: Tarida Anantachai, Head Teller; Margaret Conroy; Eric Gomez; Qiana Johnson. The tellers will certify the results prior to the last Council III meeting on Monday, June 26. At that time, results will be announced by the head teller.

#### **Committee on Diversity, CD #14.1**

Carla Davis-Castro, Chair, provided the following updates:

- Committee presents the 2023 edition of the American Library Association's Standards for Library Services for the Incarcerated and Detained for approval
  - From March to June, refining draft standards and finalizing a stakeholders list to receive a free copy
  - Since March, continued developing an outreach and implementation plan and continuing collaboration with the Correctional Education Association and outreach to the American Correctional Association
  - From April to June, transmitting a complete manuscript to production for copy editing, design and layout
- ALA will record two asynchronous virtual trainings on the standards this summer. Also, this

summer, after Council's vote, the plan would be to send standards to the printer, finalize plans with the selected mailing house, and ship printed copies to previously identified facilities

- In reading the 2023 standards, Council is invited to reference in particular sections of the report titled "What worked well"
- Standards will have a tremendous impact, given that 30 years have passed since last updated

Chair Davis-Castro moved to review and approve the 2023 edition of the American Library Association Standards for Library Services for the Incarcerated or Detained, CD #14.1

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #14.1.

Results:

- 144 yes
- 0 no
- 1 abstain

**APPROVED** the 2023 edition of the American Library Association Standards for Library Services for the Incarcerated or Detained, CD #14.1

#### **Bylaws Committee Report, CD #25.1**

Brian Schottlaender, Chair, provided the following updates:

- Following the adoption of the general revision of the ALA Bylaws in April, the chairs of the Bylaws Committee, the Committee on Organization, and the Policy Monitoring Committee forwarded to ALA staff names of ALA members suggested for possible inclusion on the ALA Policy Manual Revision Working Group. The Executive Board has approved that working group and scheduling is underway
- Committee moves action item to amend Article VIII, Section 1 as outlined in CD #25.1, per Article 17, section 3 of the newly adopted ALA Bylaws provides that, "The Council, upon recommendation of the Bylaws Committee, may make such editorial changes in these Bylaws as do not change their substance and meaning"
- After review and consultation, including consultation with the Committee on Organization, the Bylaws Committee believes that an editorial change to remove the listing of individual standing committees in Article VIII does not change the substance or meaning of the article.

Chair Schottlaender moved that, on behalf of the ALA Bylaws Committee:

*amend Article VIII, Section 1(A) of the ALA Bylaws via editorial update by striking "Standing Committees, the standing Committees of the Association named in these Bylaws are the Bylaws Committee, the Committee on Appointments, the Committee on Committees, the Committee on Organization, the Election Committee, the Intellectual Freedom Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Policy Monitoring Committee. Additional standing committees may be adopted by resolution of the Council. The Committee on Organization shall recommend to Council the name, size, composition, and charge of any such committee."*

*And inserting instead: "A. Standing committees. The standing committees of the Association shall be established by resolution of the Council. The Committee on Organization shall recommend to Council the name, size, composition, and charge of any such committee.", CD*

## #25.1

Council discussed the motion.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #25.1.

Results:

- 139 yes
- 4 no
- 4 abstain

**APPROVED** motion to amend Article VIII, Section 1(A) of the ALA Bylaws via editorial update, CD #25.1.

### **Nominating Committee report, CD #26.1**

Alique Geraci, Chair, provided the following updates:

- Recent changes to the ALA Bylaws have resulted in a smaller number of councilor-at-large seats to recruit for
- ALA Executive Board will follow a three-year transition plan for adjusting the size and composition of both the Executive Board and the ALA Council, as called for in the new Bylaws by a process of attrition
  - This year, instead of the Nominating Committee seeking 50 candidates for Council to place on the ballot, as traditionally done, the committee will search for 18 candidates for 12 spots
  - Please note that Councilors recently elected in 2023 will serve their designated terms.
  - Through the natural process of attrition, or to reach the desired number of 36 Councilors-at-large, will be achieved in 2026, while seating 12 councilors in each year of 2024, 2025, and 2026
- Nominating Committee is present at ALA Annual 2023 with a designated table in the ALA Connect Lounge
- Official call for nominations will be shared after Annual through ALA outlets, including American Libraries, and nominations for this process will be accepted for three months, July 1 through September 30.
- Committee is also hosting an online informational town hall in early August, with the recording available on demand
- Candidate nominations will be finalized in October 2023 and announced November 1
- On October 1, the three-month period for petition candidates begins, with a corresponding announcement for those interested in pursuing candidacy via the second round
- The ALA election opens March 11, 2024 and closes April 3, 2024, the first Wednesday in April. All ALA members who renew their membership by January 31 are eligible to vote

### **Executive Board Appointments FAQs, CD #35**

President Pelayo-Lozada provided an overview of the FAQs:

- Executive Board appointment process is different as it is vacancies that are newly created positions by bylaws revision
- Board discussed potential appointments in closed session throughout spring, due to sensitive nature of discussing candidates by name
- Update titled “ALA Bylaws Implementation Progress and Next Steps” was sent to ALA Council

through ALA Connect on May 26, 2023, which included information on the appointment of the Policy Manual Revision Working Group, ALA Council's resizing, and the plan for Executive Board appointments to be a two-year term to ensure future terms are properly staggered

- Current Bylaws, Article V, section 5 give the Board appointment authority for vacancies, and the Board voted to fill the seats by appointment for an abbreviated two-year term in order to even out distribution of terms going forward. Council will vote to fill these seats as part of the regular election cycle in the future

Council discussed the FAQs and appointments process.

### **Resolution on Actions by the Executive Board, CD #60**

Councilor Nick Tepe moved:

Resolved, that Council directs that the Policy Manual Revision Working Group

1. review the process for vacancy appointments to the Executive Board and draft any amendments or policies necessary to clarify the term for these vacancy appointments, following legal or parliamentary best practices or recommendations.
2. that the Bylaws Committee review the Bylaws and develop recommendations regarding a process whereby actions of the Executive Board may be reviewed, amended, or overturned by Council or by the membership; and draft any proposed amendments or policies necessary for this process, following legal or parliamentary best practices or recommendations.
3. that progress and findings are reported to Council at LibLearnX 2024.

Councilor Tepe noted that two core points are addressed here: first, language around vacancy appointments to the Executive Board was not particularly specific about what was referred to by the next election and second, that while there was language in the Bylaws for actions of Council to be reviewed or overturned by the membership, there was nothing in the Bylaws that gave any process whereby either Council or the membership could review, amend, or overturn the actions of the Executive Board.

Council discussed the resolution.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on Resolution on Actions by the Executive Board, CD #60.

Results:

- 115 yes
- 28 no
- 6 abstain

**APPROVED** Resolution on Actions by the Executive Board, CD #60.

### **Resolution to Reaffirm ALA's Position on the Freedom to Read, CD #55.**

Executive Board Member Sara Dallas moved:

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA, on behalf of its members:

1. Endorses the statement that individuals should be trusted to make their own decisions about what they read and believe.
2. Asserts parents or other individuals should not be making decisions for other parents' or

guardians' children about what they read.

3. Reaffirms that it stands united against book bans.

4. Continues to act to protect the rights of all to access a variety of books in schools, in libraries, in bookstores, online, and elsewhere.

EB Member Dallas asked Council take action, add your name to support and join the Unite Against Book Ban campaign in the face of increasing threats to the freedom to read.

Council discussed the resolution.

President-Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on Resolution to Reaffirm ALA's Position on the Freedom to Read, CD #55.

Results:

- 148 yes
- 1 no
- 0 abstain

**APPROVED** Resolution to Reaffirm ALA's Position on the Freedom to Read, CD #55.

**Announcements:**

- ED Hall reported as of yesterday, registration numbers overall were at 15,486, with standard paid registrants at 9,289. In both instances, expected registrants and exhibitors, as well as projected budget
- Executive Board Member Christina Rodriques introduced Martha A. Anderson, the 2023 Lois Ann Gregory-Wood Fellow
- EB member Dallas reminded Councilors to donate to the Leroy Merritt Humanitarian Fund
- Erin Berman, Rainbow Round Table Councilor and co-editor for the next edition of the Intellectual Freedom Manual, noted that there is survey to collect personal stories of people who have faced challenges. Please share if you or colleagues are willing. There is huddle tomorrow at noon in the ALA Connect space
- Peter Coyl, Intellectual Freedom Round Table (IFRT) Councilor, noted there is an IFRT 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Pizano's at 6:00 pm tonight

President Pelayo-Lozada adjourned Council I meeting.

**ALA COUNCIL II**  
**SUNDAY, JUNE 25: 9:00 A.M. CT**

ALA President Pelayo-Lozada called Council II meeting to order.

**APPROVED by Consent:** Agenda, CD #8.7

**Committee on Organization (COO) Report, CD # 27.1**

Andrew Pace, Chair, provided the following updates:

- Called Council's attention to Appendix 3 that addresses the point of order objection that was raised by former Executive Board member Libré Booker at the LibLearnX meeting last January

regarding the dissolution of four ALA divisions, and Appendix 4 that addresses another matter referred to COO with the responsibility to report Executive Board deviations from established policies

Chair Pace moved Action Item 1: Modify the charge of the ALA Conference Committee, as outlined in CD #37.1

Council discussed the action item.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #37.1, Action Item 1

Results:

- 137 yes
- 1 no
- 5 abstain

**APPROVED** CD #37.1, Action Item 1.

Chair Pace moved Action Item 2: Modify the name, charge, and composition of the ALA Council Orientation Committee

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on Cd #37.1, Action Item 2.

Results:

- 144 yes
- 0 no
- 0 abstain

**APPROVED** CD #37.1, Action Item 2.

#### **Policy Monitoring Committee, CD #17.1**

Toni Negro, Chair, provided the following updates:

Chair Negro moved Action item 1: to amend the ALA Policy Manual B.1.3 Core Competencies of Librarianship

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #17.1, Action item 1

Results:

- 144 yes
- zero no
- zero abstain

**APPROVED** CD #17.1, Action Item 1.

Chair Negro moved Action Item 2: to insert into the ALA Policy Manual A.7.4.10.2 (NEW)

The American Library Association on behalf of its members shall provide virtual access to all

Membership Meetings for ALA members, mirroring access provided for in-person attendees

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #17.1, Action Item 2.

Results:

- 141 yes
- 1 no
- 2 abstain

**APPROVED** CD #17.1, Action Item 2.

#### **Core Values Taskforce, ALA CD #34**

Erin Berman and Sara Dallas, Co-Chairs, presented the following updates:

- Taskforce has outlined the following definitions of values, ethics, and rights as foundations of work:
  - Values are guiding principles or ideals that serve aspirations for the profession
  - Ethics are the practical application of guiding principles in professional conduct
  - Rights: entitlements granted to individuals within a system or social convention sent a targeted survey with over 200 responses
- After survey review, the taskforce came up with five core values of access, equity, intellectual freedom, public good, and sustainability, and the taskforce is currently drafting language on those
- Taskforce requests an extension to 2024 with the proposed timeline in the report

Co-Chair Berman moved that to facilitate the completion of this important task, the task force requests an extension until January 2024, CD #34.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #34.

Results:

- 147 yes
- 0 no
- 0 abstain

**APPROVED** Extension of timeline, CD #34

#### **Resolution on Guaranteeing Virtual Participation in ALA Governance, CD #57**

Councilor Jessamy West moved the following resolution:

Be it resolved that ALA Bylaws, Article VII, section 2, be amended by striking "May be held virtually" and inserted "shall be held virtually," and be it also resolved that if the amendment is adopted, a policy be created defining virtual meetings to include complete virtual participation and also partial or mixed virtual participation, meaning in person and virtual participants.

Councilor West noted that the ALA Bylaws state that these meetings may be held virtually, and this resolution ensures that they will be held virtually in the future for equity.

Councilor West moved that this resolution be referred to the Bylaws Committee for review and for their

recommendation, motion to refer CD #57.

Council discussed the motion to refer.

Councilor Jim Neal moved to amend motion to allow Brian Schottlaender, the Chair of the Bylaws Committee, to offer comments.

**APPROVED by Consent** motion to amend.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #57, as amended, Motion to Refer

Results:

- 139 yes
- 8 no
- 1 abstain

**APPROVED** Resolution on Guaranteeing Virtual Participation in ALA Governance, CD #57, as amended, Motion to Refer

**Resolution Condemning Discrimination Against Library Workers and Supporting the LGBTQIA+ Community, CD #58**

Councilor Erin Berman moved the following resolution:

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. Release a public statement condemning the wrongful terminations of library workers and all efforts to discriminate against library workers on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, including the intersectionality with other state and federally protected classes.
2. Create a taskforce to determine a strategy for addressing and tracking retaliatory employment cases against LGBTQIA+ library workers and develop a communications plan that highlights ALA's available resources specific to the LGBTQIA+ library worker community. The taskforce will have representation from but not limited to the Rainbow Round Table, Committee on Diversity, Committee on Library Advocacy, and Committee on Legislation. The taskforce shall report their findings and recommendations to the ALA Council at the Annual Conference in 2024.

Councilor Berman noted that this resolution is asking for a public statement to be released that condemns the wrongful termination of library workers based on their gender or sexual orientation, but this resolution also goes further than another statement of condemnation, asking for action to be taken.

Council discussed the resolution.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on Resolution Condemning Discrimination Against Library Workers and Supporting the LGBTQIA+ Community, CD #58.

Results:

- 145 yes
- 2 no
- 2 abstain

**APPROVED** Resolution Condemning Discrimination Against Library Workers and Supporting the LGBTQIA+ Community, CD #58.

**Announcements:**

- ED Hall noted that as of yesterday, there are 15,706 registrants, with 9,394 of them paid, reflecting an increase of almost 300 over last night
- Councilor Jules Shore noted that Council Orientation was not able to finish yesterday, so immediately following this meeting, the presentation will continue and the online meeting will remain open
- REFORMA Council members should meet at microphone 2 for a group picture after the meeting
- Reminder that Planning and Budget Assembly and Committee on Committees election voting and will open after this meeting and close Monday before Council III at 7:00 a.m. CT

President Pelayo-Lozada adjourned Council II meeting.

**COUNCIL III**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 26: 9:00 AM CT**

President Pelayo-Lozada called the meeting to order.

**APPROVED by Consent:** Agenda, CD #8.8

Policy A.4.2.3 provides that memorials, tributes, and testimonials will be presented at the beginning of the last meeting of the ALA Council.

**Memorials:**

- Josephine Maria (Riss) Fang, M-#8
- David Goodman, M-#9
- Chris Cottrill, M-#10
- Jen Angel, M-#11
- Bill Ott, M-#12
- Kristen A. Cooper, M-#13
- Esperanza Bravo de Varona, M-#14
- Helene Lafrance, M-#15
- James Henry Jacobs Jr., M-#16
- Paul Cappuzzello, M-#17
- Patricia A. Wand, M-#18
- David S. Baugh, M-#19
- Rebecca Taylor Bingham, M-#20
- Terrilyn Chun, M-#21
- Eleanor M. McKnight, M-#22
- Joyce Meskis, M-#23
- Dr. Tracey J. Hunter Hayes, M-#24
- Daniel Ellsberg, M-#25

- Aletta Seales, M-#26
- Charles L. Blockson, M-#27
- Susana Hinojosa, M-#28

**Tribute Resolutions:**

- Tribute Resolution Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Intellectual Freedom Round Table, T-#2

**Treasurer's Report, CD #13.3-5**

Peter Hepburn, ALA Treasurer, provided the following updates:

FY23 YTD Financial Results, as of March 31, 2023

- Net revenue of \$8.2 million
- At this same point in FY 22 net revenue of \$3.5 million, while for the same period in FY 21, a net revenue of negative of \$1.6 million
- Positive variance from budget of \$9.6 million
- Over \$8 million in grants, awards, and donations account for the bulk of the variance.
- Expenses at a positive variance against budget of \$1.9 million
- Year-to-date revenues in FY 23 total \$34.9 million. The General Fund accounts for 47% of total revenue, followed by Grants & Awards at 28%, Divisions at 21%, the Endowment Fund at 3%, and the Round Tables at 1%
- ALA's loan and transfers balance continues to shrink. As of April 30, 2023, the balance had dipped to \$5.9 million, a decrease of \$1.2 million since last August

FY24 Budget

- Council and Executive Board, approved the six budget objectives:
  - Align revenue/expense budget
  - Rebuild membership base
  - Monitor new revenue sources
  - Develop budget surplus
  - Focus on financial stability
  - Develop new budget metrics
- FY 24 will begin on September 1, 2023
- Finance Office is forecasting total revenues and expenditures each up by about \$1 million from FY 23. The predicted surplus will amount to \$65,000

Operating Agreement Implementation Working Group update

- Working to draft new document that will govern such things as overhead, as well as other things such as incentivizing Divisions and net asset balances, among others
- At this afternoon's Executive Board meeting, will request extended timeline to provide more time for Divisions to consider the workgroup's four proposed models

**Tellers Report on COC & PBA elections, CD #12.2**

Head Teller Tarida Anantachai presented the Planning and Budget Assembly and Committee on Committee election results:

- Tellers Committee met on Monday, July 26:

- For the 2023-2024 Committee on Committees election, 112 ballots were returned, and the following four candidates were elected to serve as one-year term: Ed Garcia, Nadia Mira Orozco-Sahi, Fannie Cox, and Jules Shore
- For the 2023-2025 PBA chapter councilor election, 112 ballots were returned, and the following three candidates were elected to serve a two-year term: Ziba Perez, Emily Northcutt, and Keturah Cappadonia
- For the 2023-2025 PBA at-large Councilor elections, 107 ballots were returned, and the following two candidates were elected to serve a two-year term: Sharaya Olmeda and Hong Yao

### **Committee on Accreditation Report, CD #30**

Athena Salaba, Chair, provided an overview and update on the Revised Standards for Accreditation of Masters of Library Information Studies programs, and the current proposed draft is provided in the document.

- As a reminder, ALA has an understanding with the Committee on Accreditation that it has responsibility to accredit programs on behalf of ALA; as well as develop standards and procedures. The committee also has a responsibility to the body that accredits accrediting bodies
- Started standards revision process in 2021 with goals, which include:
  - Priority goal is to infuse standards with equity, diversity, and inclusion language and standards that programs need to meet
  - Look at redundancy and lengthy self-studies
  - Clarifying standard statements
- Final draft of the revised standards will be brought to Council for approval in the coming months

### **International Relations Committee report, CD #18.1 to 18.2**

Julius C. Jefferson Jr., Chair, provided the following updates:

- Final international Annual Conference registration numbers at 3,630 librarians from 54 countries outside the U.S.
- Over 600 attended international programs and a Global Solutions poster session
- International Reception tonight at the Harold Washington Library
- ALA is applying for consultative status at the United Nations
- ALA continues its efforts to raise funds for colleagues in the Ukraine, already sending \$25,000
- In May, completed a six-series webinar series on media literacy with librarians in Kazakhstan, and each session had over 250 participants

Chair Jefferson presented on behalf of the committee, the Resolution on the Selection of Dubai as the location for the IFLA 2024 World Library and Information Congress (WLIC), CD #18.2:

- 1) Resolved, ALA reaffirms its commitment to uphold its professional ethics, especially freedom of expression and individual rights, and
- 2) Resolved, that it is essential for IFLA to ensure that that WLIC is a safe and inclusive space for all members of our profession, and
- 3) Resolved, ALA strongly objects to the selection of Dubai

Chair Jefferson noted that IFLA President had the opportunity to join the committee as a guest and noted that only three bids were received; two dropped out, which left only Dubai.

Council discussed the Resolution.

Council Peter Coyl moved to amend CD #18.2:

- 1) Resolved, ALA reaffirms its commitment to uphold its professional ethics, especially freedom of expression and individual rights, and
- 2) Resolved, that it is essential for IFLA to ensure that that WLIC is a safe and inclusive space for all members of our profession, and
- 3.) Resolved, ALA strongly objects to the selection of Dubai **[without the inclusion of the full and unfettered participation of the LGBTI-SIG and the allowance of programming and other activities related to the LGBTQIA+ community with guarantees of the safety and immunity from prosecution of crimes related to consensual homosexual activity and gender expression.]**

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD#18.2 amendment 1.

Results:

- 139 yes
- 5 no
- 5 abstain

**APPROVED** CD #18.2 amendment 1.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for discussion on Cd #18.2, as amended.

Councilor Erin Berman moved to amend CD #18.2, as amended:

- 1) Resolved, ALA reaffirms its commitment to uphold its professional ethics, especially freedom of expression and individual rights, and
- 2) Resolved, that it is essential for IFLA to ensure that that WLIC is a safe and inclusive space for all members of our profession, and
- 3) Resolved, ALA strongly objects to the selection of Dubai without the inclusion of the full and unfettered participation of the LGBTI-SIG and the allowance of programming and other activities related to the LGBTQIA+ community with guarantees of the safety and immunity from prosecution of crimes related to consensual homosexual activity and gender expression.
- 4) Resolved that ALA supports IFLA to find a location in the MENA region for WLIC where all members are able to fully participate.**

Council discussed CD #18.2, as amended, Amendment 2

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #18.2, as amended, Amendment 2

Results:

- 140 yes
- 3 no
- 4 abstain

**APPROVED** CD #18.2, as amended, Amendment 2.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for discussion of CD #18.2, as amended, amended.

Council Berman moved to amend CD #18.2, as amended, amended, which was **APPROVED by Consent:**

- 1) Resolved, ALA reaffirms its commitment to uphold its professional ethics, especially freedom of expression and individual rights, and
- 2) Resolved, that it is essential for IFLA to ensure that that WLIC is a safe and inclusive space for all members of our profession, and
- 3) Resolved, ALA strongly objects to the selection of Dubai without the inclusion of the full and unfettered participation of the LGBTI-SIG and the allowance of programming and other activities related to the LGBTQIA+ community with guarantees of the safety and immunity from prosecution of crimes related to consensual homosexual activity and gender expression.
- 4) Resolved that ALA supports IFLA to find a location in the MENA region for WLIC where all members are able to fully participate.
- 5) Resolved that the discussion of ALA's participation at IFLA WLIC in Dubai be placed on the agenda for discussion at Council I at LibLearnX 2024.**

President Pelayo-Lozada called for discussion of CD #18.2, as amended, amended, amended.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #18.2, as amended, amended, amended.

Results:

- 141 yes
- 3 no
- 5 abstain

**APPROVED** CD #18.2, as amended, amended, amended.

#### **Committee on Legislation (COL) Report, CD ##20.1**

Ed Garcia, Chair, provided the following updates:

- Public Policy and Advocacy (PPA) Office kicked off annual federal appropriations campaign in March with ALA's fifth annual Fund Libraries Congressional Fly-in
- Fly-in was timed with the release of Dear Appropriator letter campaign for library funding
- ALA also made a request to Congress this year to allocate at least \$20 million for new national funding for assessment and planning for library facilities
- As FY24 budget process moves, funding libraries campaign continues
- For National Library Week, ALA saw a record week of support for libraries, with three library bills and resolutions introduced in Congress
- Passed the newly revised Standards for Prison Libraries
- Reintroduced the Right to Read Act
- PPA and the University of Maryland iSchool also held a webinar featuring ALA President Pelayo-Lozada discussing career trajectory and path to leadership with ALA and affiliates
- Well-attended in-person briefing for policymakers on Capitol Hill to spotlight public library support for entrepreneurs and small businesses
- Continue policy work in digital equity and broadband

- COL and PPA continue to work closely with other committees and offices on the Unite Against Book Bans campaign
- PPA working with Office of Intellectual Freedom to use advocacy networks to help support librarians, state chapters and local libraries facing challenges and book bans
- 60% of state chapters have not officially signed on to the Unite Against Book Bans campaign and ask all councilors, especially chapter councilors, to reach out to their chapters to sign on

### **Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) Report, CD #19.1**

Lesliediana Jones, Chair, provided the following updates on committee activities:

- Privacy Subcommittee:
  - Privacy field guides were promoted in a series of blog posts called “Search Guides in Seven Days,” which started on Data Privacy Day in January
  - Vendor and Library Privacy Community of Practice, formed in September 2022. This community of practice gives library workers and vendors the opportunity to address privacy concerns, both shared and specific
- Working group finalized Challenges to CRT and Diversity Training Toolkit. This toolkit has been approved and will be published on the ALA website
- “State of America's Libraries” report released during National Library Week.
- Inauguration of the Right to Read Day, which happened during National Library Week
- Office of Intellectual Freedom (OIF) has documented 1,269 challenges to books in 2022, which is a 68% increase from 2021. More books geared toward children and young adults were challenged than those for adults, and a little more than half were in school and classroom libraries, as well as curricula
- Between March 1 and May 31, OIF was contacted by 104 library workers, educators, and supporters seeking assistance and direct support from the staff. This was in addition to the 30 requests for support about policy changes or to prepare proactively or reactively to challenges
- 70th Anniversary of the Freedom to Read Statement. There are communities who want to remove all references to the ALA Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement from its mission statement
- OIF partnered with PPA to launch Public Policy Corps cadre. The cadre members will allow an expansion of the reach of ALA to advocate and provide community resources

### **Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) Report, CD #22.1**

Peter Coyl, President, provided the following updates on Foundation activities, described in more detail in the report:

- FTRF is recipient of the LA Times Festival of Books Innovator Award last month
- Partnered with the Fayetteville Public Library, Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library, Central Arkansas Library System, the Arkansas Library Association, and advocates for all Arkansas libraries to file suit to overturn Arkansas's Act 372, a law passed in 2023 that would restrict access to books in bookstores and libraries located within the state, and in the process, violate their First Amendment and 14th Amendment rights of all library users and all of the state's readers
- Joined in amicus curiae brief offered by the Motion Picture Association in the case of Netflix v. Babin, regarding a movie, “Cuties,” which when it was released, social media posts falsely claimed that the media constituted child pornography. Federal District Court issued an order enjoining Babin from continuing its criminal case against Netflix, which was appealed to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals

- Celebrated news on March 30th that the Federal District Court presiding over Leila Green Little v. Llano County, Texas, has issued a number of rulings in favor of the residents and the readers of Llano County, Texas
- C.K.-W v. Wentzville School District: during the students' appeal, the School Board subsequently returned all but one of the books to the library's collection, and the students decided to dismiss both their appeal and their lawsuit
- Gonzalez v. Google: case before the Supreme Court about overturning or rewriting Section 230, the Federal Statute that enables and protects libraries' provision of Internet access and online information resources. FTRF joined a brief by the Electronic Frontier Foundation and asked the court to preserve the legal immunities provided by Section 230. The case has reached a favorable conclusion. Supreme Court issued a decision in a nearly identical case, Twitter v. Taamneh
- Continue to work with national partners and local organizations to address censorship in libraries through the ALA's nonpartisan grass-roots advocacy initiative, Unite Against Book Bans
- Judith K. Krug Memorial Fund was able to support some projects this year
  - Banned Books Week grants were provided to Madison County Library System, Keller ISD Families for Public Education, Georgia Southern University, George Washington High School, and North Bergen Free Public Library
  - The Fund continues to partner with the University of Illinois's iSchool and the San Jose State University School of Information to assure that dedicated graduate coursework addressing the practice of intellectual freedom in libraries remains available to those preparing for careers in information science and librarianship
- Honored Pat Scales with FTRF Roll of Honor
- Established the Conable Conference Scholarship in memory of Gordon Conable, Past President of the Foundation
- Held elections in April and trustees elected were Stephanie Coal Adams, Sucart, Christine Kugawa, Jim Neal, Kent Oliver, and Barbara Stripling
- Encouraged individuals and organizations to join FTRF and support the work

**Resolution to Investigate Changing Dates for Future Annual Conferences of the American Library Association, CD #59**

Councilor Erin Berman moved the following:

Resolved, that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:

1. direct the Conference Committee to investigate dates for future Annual Conferences that have not already been planned, so as to prevent scheduling conflicts with the second and fourth week of June, which coincide with the majority of Pride festivals;
2. consult with the ALA membership, particularly the LGBTQIA members, in order to gather input and perspectives regarding potential alternative dates and considerations for future Annual Conferences;
3. communicate the progress and outcomes of this investigation to its membership by ALA Annual 2024, ensuring transparency and accountability in its decision-making process.

Councilor Berman noted that it is crucial for ALA members to be present in their local communities, aiding their growth and success. This resolution does not propose changing the date of our Annual Conference right now, but rather, urges us to consider the impact it has on our members, especially those who are currently facing genuine threats to their lives.

Council discussed the resolution.

President Pelayo-Lozada called for a vote on CD #59.

Results:

- 136 yes
- 11 no
- 2 abstain

**APPROVED** Resolution to Investigate Changing Dates for Future Annual Conferences of the American Library Association, CD #59.

**Recognition of Retiring Councilors and Executive Board Members, CD #49**

President Pelayo-Lozada thanked retiring Councilors and Executive Board members for their years of service. A complete list is provided in CD #49.

**Announcements**

ED Tracie Hall reported that at the conclusion of ALA Conference 2023, there are 9,459 regular paid registrants and 15,842 total registrants, which reflects an increase from last year.

President Pelayo-Lozada adjourned Council III Meeting.