Resolution Defining the Purpose of ALA Council

Whereas ALA Constitution Article VI, Section 1 states “a. The Council of the American Library Association shall be the governing body of the Association. The Council shall delegate to the several divisions of the Association authority to plan and carry out programs and activities within assigned fields of responsibility and in accord with general Council policy. b. The Council shall determine all policies of the Association, and its decisions shall be binding upon the Association, except as provided in Section 4.c. of this Article.”;

Whereas ALA Constitution Article VII, Section 3 states “The Executive Board shall report on its activities not later than the next meeting of the Council. The Executive Board shall act for the Council in the administration of established policies and programs. The Executive Board shall be the body which manages within this context the affairs of the Association, but shall delegate management of the day-to-day operation to the Association’s Executive Director. The Executive Board shall make recommendations to Council with respect to matters of policy”;

Whereas ALA Constitution Article XI, Section 1 states “All proposals for amending the Bylaws shall originate in the Council…”;

Whereas ALA Council provides the venue for broad-based discussion, consideration, and actions related to member-driven and -focused policy development where policymaking requires broad acceptance or support for policy development; and

Whereas the governing Council is the central place within ALA governance representing all parts of the Association and is the most democratic and inclusive governance model; now, therefore be it

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

1. Reaffirms that Council retains policy-making authority

Mover: Jennifer C. Boettcher, Councilor-at-Large

Seconder: Dr. Brenda Pruitt-Annisette, Councilor-at-Large

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