



Resolution Proposing a Task Force on Online Deliberation and Voting for ALA Council

Whereas in November 2017 and August 2018, the ALA Council participated in asynchronous electronic voting on issues that the Executive Board deemed to be important to act upon without waiting until an in-person Council meeting, including the vote on the qualifications of Executive Director candidates and the rescission of the IFC Meeting Rooms Interpretation;

Whereas Article II, Section 5 of the ALA Bylaws authorizes the ALA Executive Board to "initiate" an electronic vote of Council, but does not specify the circumstances under which such a vote should or must take place, and what conditions, actions, or guidelines determine whether an electronic vote should be conducted as a stand-alone vote, or part of a synchronous versus an asynchronous electronic meeting;

Whereas electronic voting has the potential for more complexity than face-to-face voting; and

Whereas it is critical that the ALA Council, as the Association's policy-making body, be involved in determining the parameters for electronic voting, and the circumstances under which electronic votes may and should occur; now, therefore, be it

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

1. directs the ALA President to appoint a task force that includes, among others, the ALA Parliamentarian in an advisory capacity, and representation from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee with the following charge:
 - a. Explore options and develop a procedure to facilitate online deliberation and voting for Council outside of the ALA Annual Conferences or Midwinter Meetings; and
 - b. Review the ALA Constitution and Bylaws to determine if the current guidelines meet the complexities of online deliberation and voting; and
 - c. Report findings and recommendations to Council at the 2019 ALA Annual conference in Washington, DC.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Sunday, January 27, 2019, in Seattle, WA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary W. Ghikas".

Mary W. Ghikas, Executive Director
and Secretary of the ALA Council