

ALA Council Committee Report Form

TO: ALA Council

DATE: June 23, 2023

RE:

ACTION REQUESTED ALA CD 33.1

INFORMATION

REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:

This is a periodic report and does not have an action item.

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STAFF LIAISON CONTACT:

Holly Robison

Summary of BARC Activities, February 2023 – June 2023

1. On January 20, 2023, ALA Executive Board sent BARC an action item about carbon offsets that is a referral from the ALA Executive Committee to BARC. The item originated with the Council Sustainability Committee, and Executive Board determined that BARC should review and send to the Executive Board with BARC's comments in time for the spring Executive Board meeting.
2. BARC met by Zoom on March 29, 2023 to discuss the carbon offset proposal that came to BARC from the ALA Council Committee on Sustainability. BARC members concluded that they did not have enough information to make a recommendation, and requested more data specific to the history of carbon offset purchases for ALA conferences.
3. BARC and Finance & Audit met jointly online on April 11, 2023 (separate minutes available).
4. The BARC chair reported out via Zoom to Executive Board on April 15, 2023.
5. In late April, Conference Services and ALA Finance provided more data to BARC on carbon offsets. BARC met by Zoom May 9, 2023 to discuss the carbon offset proposal. Based on the information provided, BARC reported back to the Council Committee on Sustainability:

As BARC, we confirm there is a cost to the association. Data from past conferences illustrate those costs. We suggest the ALA Council Committee on

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Sustainability work directly with the ALA Conference Committee rather than BARC for impact assessment. We support coming up with consciously chosen and intentional offsets and encourage actionable steps taken by ALA members in support of the Core Value of Sustainability.

6. The Chair of BARC participated in virtual meetings of the Operating Agreement Working Group.
7. The BARC Chair, ALA Treasurer Peter Hepburn, and CFO Dina Tsourdinis met monthly by Zoom to review ALA's finances and plan for meetings.