

American Library Association Constitution and Bylaws Committee
Report to Council
Annual Conference 2017—Chicago, Illinois

Because the ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee had no new business to conduct during the 2017 Annual Conference, the committee did not meet. It has no action items for Council’s consideration; therefore, this report serves as the Committee’s current communication to Council. There will be no face-to-face report from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to Council in Chicago.

Updates on earlier Constitution and Bylaws actions during 2016-17:

- A.** On recommendation from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee and a Presidential Task Force charged with reviewing election processes and policies, Council placed on the spring 2017 ballot the following amendment to the ALA Bylaws, Article III, Section 3 (b) as follows (new language is underlined):

The ALA Nominating Committee shall also include on the official ballot other nominations filed with the executive director by petition of any two hundred (200) members of the Association for the positions of President-elect or Treasurer and twenty-five members of the Association for the position of Councilor-at-Large at least four months before the annual conference, provided written consent of these nominees shall have been filed with the executive director of the Association.

Council approved the recommendation. In Spring 2017 Membership voted:

YES..... 4,981..... 57.5%

NO 3,677..... 42.5%

- B.** On recommendation from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, Council placed on the spring 2017 ballot the following amendment to the second clause of Article III, Section 1.e of the ALA Bylaws (new language is underlined):

No candidate may run for more than one Council position at the same election.

Council approved the recommendation. In Spring 2017 Membership voted:

YES..... 8,755..... 97.7%

NO 202..... 2.3%

This does not affect the requirements for petitions for Councilor-at-large.

- C.** At both the 2016 Annual Conference and the 2017 Midwinter Meeting On recommendation from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, Council placed on the spring 2017 ballot the following

amendment to Article X of the ALA Constitution. The purpose of this was to clarify and update archaic language (new language is underlined):

Section 1 The Council may by vote affiliate with the American Library Association or with any subdivision thereof upon its request, any national or international organization having purposes similar to those of the Association or its subdivision. The dues of affiliated organizations shall be as provided in the Bylaws.

Section 2. The Council may by vote affiliate the Association, or any subdivision thereof upon its request, with any national or international organization having purposes similar to those of the Association or its subdivision; provided, however, that no subdivision of the Association may separately affiliate itself with an organization with which the Association as a whole is affiliated.]

Section 1. National or international organizations having purposes similar to those of the Association or to one or more of the Association’s subdivisions may request to become an affiliate of the Association. Requests for affiliation are subject to Council’s approval.

Section 2. The Association or any subdivision thereof may request to become an affiliate with national or international organizations having purposes similar to those of the Association or to one or more of the Association’s subdivisions. However no subdivision of the Association may separately affiliate itself with an organization with which the Association is affiliated. Requests for affiliation are subject to Council’s approval.

In Spring 2017 Membership voted:

YES..... 8,434..... 97.7%

NO 200..... 2.3%

Respectfully submitted

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