

**American Library Association Resolutions Committee
Report to Council
Annual Conference 2017—Chicago, Illinois**

The ALA Resolutions Committee met on 24 June 2017 during the 2017 Annual Conference.

Shared Goals

A year from now the ALA Resolutions Committee will proudly point to the following achievements:

- An online guidance program for writing and submitting resolutions to Council.
- An effective online program for training Resolutions committee members.

Discussion:

- Eventual goal might be a comprehensive web-based system carrying resolution from idea to submission, surrounded by Resolutions Committee's guidance.
- In the meantime, the process will work with existing tools and webpages.
- We can consider distilling items into a brief video or similar tool to orient Councilors and membership to the resolutions process.
- Sustainability of our actions is paramount: we need to ensure that the process can continue.

Completed Action Items

- Committee now posting meeting reports to ALA membership.
- Committee worked with Lois Ann to redesign Committee table procedures, move process online, and develop documentation.
- Whiteboard and folders for print resolution process decommissioned.
- Committee reviewed and edited/replaced Resolutions landing page and Guidelines target documents as needed with focus on a single landing page with full information on procedures.
- Committee revised Resolutions e-Form to allow submission of resolution document with e-Form information. Technical difficulties are in review.
- Committee has a tabbed version of the Policy Manual and Constitution & Bylaws at the Resolutions Table to provide ready access to binding governance.
- In addition to in person meetings Committee has met online twice during year to discuss improvements to resolutions process.
- Committee drafted document entitled: *Crafting Quality Resolutions: Form and Content* generating poorly constructed resolutions for use in training provided to councilors as an exercise to find all the mistakes and disfluencies.

- Committee made resolution writing assistance announcement at end of each Council session.

New Action Items

- Committee is developing training materials for MW2018 Councilor Orientation meeting, including flow diagrams from resolution writer perspective.
- Committee is working on a news item for American Libraries Blog about the resolutions process.
- Committee is adapting Crafting Quality Resolutions document as a script for the first in a series of online video tutorials on resolution writing.

Discussion

- The goal of all this work is to make the resolutions that are brought to the body the best resolutions they can be.
 - Correction of minor errors, poor flow
 - Catching violations of existing policy so that the mover can improve their resolution.
- Possible actions
 - Create a checklist for movers: what to think about and consult as they are writing.
 - Considering the resolutions committee as a pool of advisors to make resolutions better.
 - Generate poorly constructed resolutions to use in training. Provide to councilors as an exercise to find all the mistakes/disfluencies; show our key at the end.

Respectfully submitted,

Elissia Buell
Tyler Dzuba
Kathy Hicks-Brooks
Ben Allen Hunter
David A. Hurley
Kimberly Anne Patton
Brenda Pruitt-Annisette
Marie Pyko
Rachel G. Rubin
Mary Rzepczynski
Edward L. Sanchez (chair)
Jules Shore
Patricia M. Wong (Board Liaison)
Lois Ann Gregory-Wood (Staff Liaison)