

Constitution & Bylaws Committee Report to Council  
Annual Conference and Hybrid Governance Meetings, June 2022  
June 27, 2022

2022 ALA Annual Hybrid Council Meeting  
Monday, June 27, 2022

TO: ALA Council

From: Mike Marlin, Chair, ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee (CBC)

RE: ALA Bylaws Amendment

INFORMATION REPORT Action

Introduction

Throughout the second half of the 2021-22 ALA year, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee met virtually through Zoom and in the committee's Connect space to share information and monitor work from other units such as TAG COO, and the Operating Agreement (OA) Work Group. We have had conversations that included the retiring ALA Parliamentarian Eli Mina, successor ALA Parliamentarian Adrian Stratton, ALA Counsel Paula Goedert, and OAWG chairs Maggie Ferrell and Andrea Race as well as members of the Policy Monitoring Committee regarding forthcoming proposals for updating of ALA's Operating Agreement. Depending on the outcome of the Operating Agreement Work Group's presentation to Council, both PMC and CBC will likely be called upon to integrate future OA decisions into our respective work.

Since the 2022 LLX virtual meetings in January 2022, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee has closely followed the recommendations put forward by and votes taken by Council regarding the Transforming ALA Governance (TAG) Task Force considerations of governance functions, Body of Knowledge/culture, and Organizational Structure were passed in concept with a final proposal and details for various framework components to be presented by TAG and debated and voted upon.

Annual conference. Below we present action items to initiate the revision process, as well as a proposed timeline for how such work could proceed. Please see timeline below followed by motions.

Actions requested from ALA Council

Approve a series of motions to consolidate ALA governance documents from the current Constitution and Bylaws documents into a revised (new) Bylaws document.

Background:

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee has performed a thorough, structural analysis of

4. Membership votes on Spring ballot (with clear explanation of process)
  1. Vote to Rescind Constitution
  2. Vote to Enact revised (new) Bylaws

Once the Bylaws and the Constitution are merged, future changes to the Bylaws can be implemented in a more streamlined fashion.

Motion 1 (To Rescind the ALA Constitution):

Move that the ALA Constitution be rescinded.

Motion 1 (To Rescind the ALA Constitution) Rationale:

This recommendation is supported by both the ALA Parliamentarian and ALA Legal Counsel. It is also in alignment with trends and best practices from North American Associations. This is the first in a series of three (3) votes (two votes by Council and a vote by the ALA membership) necessary to bring such rescission to fruition.

Motion 2 (To Amend the ALA Bylaws)

Move to amend the ALA Bylaws via a general revision to be completed by the Council and Bylaws Committee, ALA Governance Office staff, and the ALA Parliamentarian by Fall 2022 with the following provisos that:

- x (Proviso 1) -The revised ALA Bylaws draft will be shared with ALA Council in the ALA Council Connect space
- x (Proviso 2) -If Council approves a final January 2023 LLX Bylaws revision document, it shall, along with a successful vote to rescind the ALA Constitution, be placed on the Spring 2023 ALA ballot for vote by the membership.

Motion 2 (To Amend the ALA Bylaws) Rationale

Sheryl Reyes(Director, Office of ALA Governance, Staff Liaison)

Mary Rzepczynski

Cara B. Stone

Vivaldi (Guide Dog Extraordinaire, Canine Librarian, Retired)

Teddy, Entry Level Guide and Canine Librarian