Valley View Library

(ii) King County Library System

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Mary Somerville

June 24, 1988

ALSC

Dear Mary,

New Orleans will soon be upon us! You've done a beautiful job of being President of ALSC. I'm really proud of you. And now I guess I'll get to serve on the ALSC Board at least for one year.

I've been intending to write about a couple of items. I am concerned about the Boy Scout Advisory Committee issue raised at Midwinter. As you know I served on the Committee for five years--two of those years as Chair. The relationship of the BSA Advisory Committee and BSA has always been different from the liaison with other like youth organizations. The BSA Advisory Committee has and is continuing to work directly with the Educational Representative of BSA in developing up to date bibliographies for their Meril Badge Series. I've always been proud of the way that this group has kept this important series current with useful and current materials and I believe that it is a task worth continuing. In addition Boy Scouts have put more money in supporting the committee and its work. Every year they send their Educational Representative to both the Midwinter and Summer Conference meetings in order to have face to face meetings with the committee and personally to bring the needed bibliographies needed for the coming year. The Representative always pays for a booth in the main Exhibit Area and staffs the booth augmented by members of the Committee. These services have been offered to other like organizations serving youth, but none of them have been interested. For these reasons I urge the ALSC Directors Board to continue the BSA Advisory Committee as a separate committee.

Several years ago I know you chaired a committee to prepare a policy for evaluating membership on Award and Media Evaluation Committees. I even note that my name appears as someone you consulted. Now three years later I have a different perspective. First of all the problems originally arose when a member of one of the Award Committees asked to be excused from one of these meetings. I agree that this should not happen. A person who serves on the Award Committees must attend every session. However, I do believe that it is possible to miss one Council meeting without jeopardizing your effectiveness to serve on the Council. So, I'm promoting the idea that one can serve on one of the Award Committees and Council for one year. Certainly this would hinclude the Chair of one of the Award Committees. Thanks for listening.

Good luck! See you soon!

Sincerely, Beth

CC: Susan Roman, Marilyn Iarruso, Barbara Imroff, AnnySymons