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AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Item:	CHAPTERS	*Item Number:*	202.4
Approved by:	ALA Council	*Page:*	1 *of* 1
Issue Date:	January 1964	*Supersedes:*	

ALA responsibilities to chapters

VOTED, That the Council approves the following recommendations of the ALA Executive Board (and Committee on Constitution and Bylaws):

(1) *That a chapter be required to file with ALA a copy of its constitution and bylaws and amendments to them, and that the ALA constitutional provision requiring ALA certification of a chapter's constitution and bylaws be rescinded;

(2) That a statement of summary of conditions governing chapter affiliations as they are stated in various ALA policies and Constitution and Bylaws, be sent to each chapter for its acceptance as a certified statement of agreement between the chapter and ALA;

(3) *That in addition to the present provisions which allow for ALA to dissolve a chapter, provisions be made for a means whereby a chapter may withdraw from chapter status.

*Requirements 1 and 3 have since been written into the Bylaws and only 2 stands as policy not covered elsewhere in the documents of the Association.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Item:	CHAPTERS	*Item Number:*	202.3
Approved by:	ALA Council	*Page:*	1 of 1
Issue Date:	January, 1960	*Supersedes:*	

Scheduling of state and regional meetings

Upon recommendation of the Exhibits Round Table -

VOTED, That the ALA Council asks the ALA chapters to give careful attention to the problem of conflicting meeting dates in the scheduling of state and regional association meetings and to consider suggested cooperative measures to insure better exhibits at these meetings.

ship shall constitute a quorum and a majority of those voting shall be required to carry.

The Executive Board shall have authority to set the time limit during which votes will be recorded but if no such time limit is set no vote shall be counted unless received within thirty days from the day the text of the ballot or question voted upon was mailed properly addressed to those entitled to vote on the matter involved. In the case of a vote by mail by the Association, the Executive Board may designate publication of the ballot or question submitted in the official journal of the Association as the appropriate method of submitting the matter to the members for their determination.

Sec. 6. Quorum. Two hundred members shall constitute a quorum at membership meetings.

Article III. Nominations and Elections

Sec. 1. (a) Prior to each annual conference of the Association, the Executive Board, upon recommendation of the Committee on Appointments, shall appoint an ALA Nominating Committee, no one of whom shall be a member of the Board, to nominate candidates for elective positions.

(b) Such committee shall nominate candidates from among the general membership for the position of president-elect annually; for the position of treasurer, whenever this is required by Article VIII, Sec. 1 of the Constitution; members of Council as provided in sections (c) and (d) below; and to fill vacancies.

(c) Such committee shall nominate annually not less than fifty candidates for twenty-five members-at-large of the Council for four-year terms. The position of the candidates on the ballot shall be determined by lot conducted by the Nominating Committee.

(d) Such committee shall also nominate and place on the ballot candidates for a vacancy in the membership of Council, representing the Association at large as provided in Sec. 1 (c) of this Article, to complete an unexpired term.

(e) No person may be nominated for or serve on the Council unless that person is a personal member of the American Library Association; no candidate may accept nomination from more than one group.

Sec. 2. (a) The ALA Nominating Committee shall report its nominations in the *American Libraries* not less than three weeks before the midwinter meeting of the Council. At that meeting, the names of the candidates shall be announced.

(b) No person shall be nominated by the committee whose written consent has not been filed with the executive director of the Association.

Sec. 3. (a) Nominations determined as herein provided shall be placed before the members of the Association on a printed ballot which shall be prepared under the direction of the Nominating Committee and which shall be known as the "Official Ballot."

(b) The ALA Nominating Committee shall also include on the official ballot other nominations filed with the executive director by petition of any twenty-five members of the Association 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.

(c) The professional address of each nominee shall be given on the Official Ballot.

Sec. 4. (a) The Executive Board shall appoint a Committee on Election which shall have charge of the conduct of the regular elections of the Association and the divisions, and the counting and tabulation of all votes cast.

(b) At least six weeks prior to the annual conference the executive director shall mail a copy of the ballot to each member of the Association in good standing. Ballots shall be marked and returned to the executive director in sealed envelopes bearing on the outside the words, "Official Ballot."

Sec. 5. For each office the candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected and shall be so reported to the Association by the Committee on Election. In the case of a tie vote the successful candidate shall be determined by lot conducted by the Committee on Election. In the event that a candidate for election to Council withdraws from candidacy in the period between the mailing of ballots and the beginning of the new term of office, and the candidate is successful in the election, the Council seat affected will remain vacant until filled in the following annual election.

Sec. 6. (a) There shall be a Council Committee on Committees made up of four Councilors elected for one-year terms by Council as provided for in Article III, Sec. 6(b) of the Bylaws. The president-elect shall be the fifth member of this committee and its chairperson.

(b) The four elected members of the Council Committee on Committees shall be elected by ballot of the Councilors present and voting at the annual conference from a list of eight candidates submitted by the president-elect and included in the agenda mailed to Councilors before the annual conference. Additional nominations for the Committee on Committees may be made by Councilors from the floor.

(c) Such committee shall nominate annually candidates for two members of the Executive Board for four-year terms for election by the Council from among the members of the Council who are serving by virtue of election to it, as provided in Article IV, Sec. 2(b), (c), and (d) of the Bylaws, and who will have served at least one year preceding their prospective terms as Executive Board Members. Additional nominations for the Executive Board may be made by Councilors from the floor. Upon election to the Executive Board the member shall continue to serve as a member of the Council for the duration of the term for which elected to the Council and thereafter as a voting member ex officio for the duration of the term for which elected to the Executive Board.

Article IV. Council

Sec. 1. (a) Council membership requirement. No person, including a representative of a state, provincial, or territorial chapter, may serve on the Council unless a personal member of the American Library Association.

(b) Meetings. The Council shall hold at least two meetings each year. Such meetings shall be held, one at the time and place of the annual conference of the Association and one not less than three months before the next annual conference, at a time designated by the Executive Board. The latter shall be called the midwinter meeting. Other meetings may be called by the president and shall be called upon request of twenty members.

(c) Officers. The president, president-elect, and the executive director of the Association shall serve as officers of the Council, the executive director serving as its secretary. The presiding officer may vote only in case of a tie and the executive director shall not have the right to vote.

Sec. 2. (a) All personal members of the ALA shall be eligible for nomination to Council from their respective constituencies, as indicated in Article IV, Sec. 2(b), (c), and (d), without regard to any other prerequisites.

(b) Each state, provincial, and territorial chapter shall be entitled to one councilor to be elected for a term of ~~four~~ 3 years by the members of the chapter.

(c) Each division of the Association shall be entitled to one councilor to be elected for a term of ~~four~~ 3 years by the members of the divisions.

(d) One hundred councilors shall be elected by the Association at large, twenty-five being elected each year as provided in Article III, Sec. 1(c) of the Bylaws.

(e) All members of the Executive Board shall automatically be members of the Council.

(f) No person shall serve simultaneously as a member of the Council elected by a chapter or a division and as a member elected by the Association at large. A person who is a member by virtue of being a member of the Executive Board may simultaneously be a regularly elected member according to paragraphs (b), (c), and (d), but such person shall have but one vote.

Sec. 3. All elected councilors shall serve for terms of ~~four~~ 3 years or until their successors are selected and qualified.

Sec. 4. Each chapter shall accredit its councilor to the secretary of the Council in advance of the first meeting after the election.

Sec. 5. A vacancy in the membership of Council representing the Association at large shall be filled at the following election to complete the unexpired term.

Sec. 6. A vacancy in the membership of Council representing a state, provincial or territorial chapter, or a division of the Association may be filled by the chapter or division on an interim basis. Each chapter or division shall accredit its interim councilor to the secretary of the Council in advance of the first meeting after selection. The interim councilor shall serve as a voting member until the next regularly scheduled election or for a maximum of one year, by which time an election shall have been held to elect a successor.

Article V. Chapters

Sec. 1(a) The purpose of a chapter is to promote general library service and librarianship within its geographic area, to provide geographic representation to the Council of the American Library Association, and to cooperate in the promotion of general and joint enterprises with the American Library Association and other library groups.

(b) The Council may establish a chapter of the American Library Association in any state, province, territory, or region in which a majority of the ALA members residing within the area involved and voting on the issue favors such action; provided, however, that the total number of persons voting on the issue shall not be less than ten percent of the total number of ALA members residing within the area. A regional chapter may consist of any area composed of three or more contiguous states or provinces.

(c) Any legally constituted state, provincial, territorial, or regional library association may, as its request, be designated a chapter of the American Library Association provided the membership of the association applying for chapter status has expressed approval of the application; and providing a majority of the ALA members residing in the area involved voting on the issue is in favor of such action: provided, however, that the total number of persons voting on the issue shall not be less that ten percent of the total number of ALA members residing within the area involved, and provided that there is no conflict in principle between the constition and bylaws of the association involved and the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association, and that copies of the chapter constitution and bylaws, and subsequent amendments to them are filed with the American Library Association and dues are paid in accordance with Article I of the Bylaws.

(d) No more than one chapter of the American Library Association shall exist in any state, province, or territory.

(e) In establishing regional chapters, no state, provincial, or territorial association may be included in more than one such region.

Sec. 2. A chapter may admit members who are not members of the American Library Association.

Sec. 3. Each state, provincial, territorial, or regional chapter shall be the final authority within the American Library Association in respect to all programs and policies which concern only the area for which the chapter is reponsible provided they are not inconsistent with any programs and policies established by the ALA Council. Any chapter may establish committees and boards which parallel national committees and boards in order to carry out over-all programs within its own area and to maintain liaison between its members and the national committees and boards. State, provincial, and territorial chapters may establish local chapters within the respective areas involved.

Sec. 4(a) Any chapter may withdraw from chapter status provided the issue has been submitted to a vote of the chapter membership and is favored by a majority of the members voting; and provided further that notice of withdrawal is sent to the executive director of the American Library Association.

(b) A chapter may be dissolved by the Council and

shall be dissolved if it becomes inactive or fails to comply with the provisions of this Article.

Article VI. Divisions

Sec. 1. The Council may establish divisions under the following conditions:

(a) The Council may authorize the organization as a division of any group of not less than 500 members of the Asssociation who are interested in the same field of librarianship, upon petition of such group. Under exceptional circumstances, the Council may admit as divisions, groups having fewer than 500 members.

(b) The Council by a vote of two consecutive meetings may discontinue a division when, in the opinion of the Council, the usefulness of that division has ceased.

Sec. 2. (a) The purpose of a division is to promote library service and librarianship within and for a particular type of library or as it relates to a particular type of library activity, and to cooperate in the promotion of general and joint enterprises within the Association and with other library groups. Each division shall represent a field of activity and responsibility clearly distinct from that of other divisions.

(b) A division shall have authority to act for the ALA as a whole on any matter determined by Council to be the responsibility of the division.

Sec. 3.(a) Divisions are of two distinct kinds: "Type-of-library" divisions and "Type-of-activity" divisions.

(b) Type-of-library divisions focus attention upon planning in and evaluation of all functions as they contribute to the services of the library. Type-of-library divisions are interested in the general improvement and extension of service to the clientele and agencies served. Each such division has specific responsibility for: (1) Planning of programs of study and service for the type of library as a total institution; (2) Evaluation and establishment of standards in its field; (3) Synthesis of the activities of all units within the Association that have a bearing on the type of library represented; (4) Representation and interpretation of its type of library in contacts outside the profession; (5) Stimulation of the development of librarians engaged in its type of library, and stimulation of participation of members in appropriate type-of-activity divisions; and (6) Conduct of activities and projects for improvement and extension of service in its type of library when such projects are beyond the scope of type-of-activity divisions, after specific approval by the Council.

(c) Type-of-activity divisions focus attention upon study and development of such functions as reference, cataloging, personnel administration, etc., as they apply to all types of libraries. Type-of-activity divisions are interested in the improvement and extension of their functions. Each such division has specific responsibility for: (1) Continuous study and review of the activities assigned to the particular division; (2) Conduct of activities and projects within its area of responsibility; (3) Synthesis of the activities of all units within the Association that have a bearing on the type of activity represented; (4) Representation and interpretation of its type of activity in contacts outside the profession; (5) Stimulation of the development of librarians engaged in its type of activity, and stimulation of participation by members in appropriate type-of-library divisions; and (6) Planning and development of programs of study and research for the type of activity for the total profession.

(d) Type-of-activity divisions may develop and adopt technical standards as official ALA standards. Type-of-activity divisions may participate in the development of nontechnical standards by type-of-library divisions but nontechnical standards may be adopted, or approved as official ALA standards, only by type-of-library divisions.

Sec. 4. (a) Each division shall be organized under a board of directors with overlapping terms and with authority to make decisions between conferences of meetings of the division.

(b) Each division may establish such committees, sections, and other subordinate units as may be required to discharge properly the responsibilities assigned to it, but no committee, section, or other unit devoted to an activity assigned to a type-of-activity division shall be established in a type-of-library division.

(c) A division may affiliate with itself regional state, or local groups interested in the same field of library service or librarianship. Such groups may admit members who are not members of the division or of the Association.

Sec. 5. (a) A division shall accept as members all members of the Association who elect membership in that division according to the provisions of Article I of the Bylaws. Only members of this Association may be members of a division.

(b) Only personal members of a division shall have the right to vote and to hold office.

Sec. 6. (a) Each division shall establish annual dues. Funds so collected shall be subject to the provisions of paragraphs (b), (c), and (d).

(b) All dues paid for membership in divisions may be put to the credit of the division. Additional allotments may be made on the basis of need as determined by the Executive Board upon recommendation of the Committee on Program Evaluation and Support.

(c) All divisional funds are to be in the custody of the Executive Board, to be accounted for and disbursed by its designated officer on authorization of the division officers.

(d) A division shall have the right by vote of its members to impose additional fees. Funds so collected shall be subject to the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b).

Sec. 7. No division shall incur expense on behalf of the Association except as authorized, nor shall any division commit the Association by any declaration of policy, except as provided in Sec. 2(b) of this Article.

Sec. 8. (a) A division may: Issue publications; hold meetings; organize sections; retain or adopt a distinctive name; appoint committees to function within the field of its activities; in general, carry on activities along the lines of its interests. Divisions shall exercise editorial and managerial control over their periodicals. The ALA Publishing Committee will be informed of

...a Dues on Chapter Status
which has not paid its dues as of
ch year, and which continues such
or one month after notice has been
nger a member and no longer enti-
a Councilor, until such time as the
umes payment of dues.

6.1.2

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Item: CHAPTERS *Item Number:* 202.5

Approved by: ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee *Page:* 1 *of* 1

Issue Date: January, 1971 *Supersedes:*

Status of chapters whose dues are unpaid

An interpretation by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee presented to the ALA Executive Board

"Article V, Section 1(c) of the Bylaws provides that any state, provincial, territorial or regional library association may, at its request, be designated a chapter of ALA provided, along with other requirements, that dues are paid in accordance with Article I of the Bylaws.

Under Article I, Section 5, of the Bylaws, any member whose dues are unpaid on March 1 of each year and who shall continue such delinquency for one month after notice of the same has been sent, shall be dropped from membership. Since no distinction is made in the Bylaws as to type of membership affected, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee interprets it to include chapter and organizational members, as well as individual members.

It is the Constitution and Bylaws Committee opinion, under the provisions of Article I, Section 5, and Article V, Section 1(c) of the Bylaws as outlined above, that a chapter which has not paid its dues is no longer a member and no longer entitled to have a Councilor as provided under Article IV, Section 2(a) until such time as it resumes payment of dues."