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1997-98 CD#52
(1998 Annual Conference)

ALA American Library Association

EBD # 12.24
1997-1998

TO: Members of Council

FROM: Executive Board

DATE: June 23, 1998

RE: ALA relations with external organizations

In response to member concern regarding ALA relations with external organizations and particularly with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), the Executive Board reviewed Policy 9 to determine to what extent section 9.5 should be applied.

The current Policy 9 covers both formal and informal relationships but uses different terms in referring to them. We recommend that the policy be revised to clearly define "formal relationships" and "informal relationships," and that these two terms be used consistently within Policy 9.

The attachment provides suggested language to define these relationships (see 9.1 and 9.4.2). For your information, we have also attached a memo from ALSC that reports on the nature of that division's current relationship with SBA.

We believe that section 9.5 applies both by intent and by actual wording to "formal relationships."

9.5 Relationships with Organizations Violating Human Rights

The American Library Association shall have no AFFILIATION WITH, MEMBERSHIPS IN, OR FORMAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH organizations which violate ALA principles and commitments to human rights and social justice as set forth in ALA's policies, procedures, and position statements and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The American Library Association and its units engage in activities with and provide services to many different outside organizations and agencies each year on an *informal* basis. Very often these activities are limited in duration, are project or program based, and/or are in keeping with ALA's or a unit's mission to provide services. We recommend that these informal relationships exist only when they promote ALA's mission and goals and that the nature of these relationships be defined as recommended in 9.4.2.

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EBD #12.19
1997-98
Association for Library Service to Children

ALA American Library Association

June 5, 1998

RECEIVED

JUN 08 1998

MEMBER PROGRAMS & SERVICES

TO: Mary Ghikas, Senior AED. Member Programs and Services

FROM: Susan Roman, Executive Director ALSC and ALTA *SR*

RE: ALSC and the Boy Scouts of America

Per your request, I am forwarding current information about ALSC and the Boy Scouts of America.

As you can see in the 1997-98 *ALA Handbook of Organization*, ALSC no longer has a Boy Scouts of America Advisory Committee. The Committee was dissolved by ALSC Board action at the Midwinter Meeting -- 1996.

Currently, ALSC prepares reading lists on specific topics for the BSA Merit Badge Booklets.

ALSC has had a reading exhibit at the Boy Scout Jamboree, which I believe takes place every three or four years. The exhibit has been staffed by volunteers in the local area. In the past, books donated by publishers have been given to the boy scouts.

Please let me know if you need further information or clarification.

cc: ALSC Board of Directors

ALA Policy Manual
POLICY 9

Legend: { } = recommended DELETIONS

___ = recommended ADDITIONS

1. 9. Relationships to Other Organizations

2.

* 3. The Use of ALA's Name and {Joint} Formal Relationships

4.

5. The American Library Association is a nonprofit organization operated in
6. the interest of libraries and to promote library service and membership.

7. All ALA units are responsible to Council which determines policies.

8. Council's actions, however, may be overset by the membership.

9. Therefore, primarily and ultimately the responsibility for the use of the

10. American Library Association name rests with the aggregate

11. membership.

12. The Association is governed by Council and administered by the

13. Executive Board, which in its role as central management board,

14. appoints the executive director, who is in charge of headquarters and its

15. personnel.

16. The Executive Director delegates authority within ALA headquarters to

17. ALA's department heads, who, in carrying out their assigned duties, are

18. called upon to use ALA's name and, in that name, to commit the

19. Association to programs, activities, and binding agreements.

20. Divisions are empowered by ALA's bylaws "to act for the ALA as a

21. whole on any matter determined by Council to be the responsibility of the

22. division." Authority for acting on behalf of the division rests with the

23. division's executive board.

24. Round tables, membership initiative groups, and committees, do not have

25. this constitutional authority.

26. The American Library Association's Executive Board, divisions,

27. executive director, and department heads (consisting of the associate

28. executive directors for the Washington Office, Communications, Finance,

29. Member Programs and Services, Publishing, and Staff Support Services)

30. who must use ALA's name in executing their responsibilities or in

* 31. entering into {joint} formal relationships with other organizations abide by stated

32. ALA policies and [the following] principles.

* 33. A formal relationship is an arrangement with another non-profit
34. organization if (a) the other organization is an affiliate of ALA
35. (as defined in 9.3 below); (b) ALA has appointed an official
36. representative to the other organization (as defined in 9.4);
37. and/or (c) the other organization permitted to use the name of
38. ALA or an ALA unit other than as identification of the provider
39. of information services.

40.

* 41. 1. ALA's primary objective for entering into {joint} formal relationships with other
42. organizations and business enterprises should be:

43. 1) To help the Association achieve its mission to promote and
44. improve library and information services and librarianship, or to assist
45. libraries in achieving their mission.

46. 2) To fulfill a specific need related to current ALA goals and
47. objectives or to contribute in a significant way to the cooperating
48. organization while using ALA's name and its resources effectively.

49. 3) To benefit as much as possible from a reciprocal relationship in
50. the form of finances, expertise, public relations, or other
51. advantages.

* 52. {Effective joint} Formal relationships {are} should be entered into with other
organizations and
53. business enterprises whose strength and reputation have been
54. evaluated.

* 55. [Effective joint] formal relationships [are] should be based on the following criteria:

56. 1) The relationship is, as much as possible, reciprocal in that
57. there are mutual needs and a sharing of purposes.

58. 2) The structure and level of the relationship represents the best
59. method of accomplishing the purpose or meeting the need.

60. 3) The appropriate personnel are available and the time and talent
61. are being or will be used effectively.

62. 4) Costs in time and money are justified by the results.

63. 5) Useful reporting devices are designed and used.

64. 6) The need for the relationship is evaluated periodically.

65. 4. {Formal joint relationships require a written agreement which, among
66. other things, specifies that ALA retains control of the use of its name
67. and that reports and evaluations be made periodically.}

* 68. Formal relationships which permit the other organization to use
69. the name ALA or ALA Unit, other than to identify the
70. provider of information or services, must be based on a written
71. agreement pursuant to which ALA retains control of the use of
72. its name or the unit's name.1.

* 73. 5. {Joint} Formal relationships with other organizations or business enterprises do
74. not necessarily imply ALA endorsement of their policies, products or
75. services.

76. 6. None of the American Library Association's published reports,
77. findings, etc., shall be circulated under the imprint of the cooperating
78. agency without the permission of the Association. The ALA Publishing
79. Committee shall control the use of the ALA imprint.

80. While endorsements, or boycotts, by the American Library Association
81. are not explicitly authorized in the Constitution and Bylaws, implicit
82. authorization can be derived from the Constitution, Article VI (a) and (b).

83. Commendations honoring outstanding efforts of an individual, institution,
84. or organization may be used in the name of the Association by Council or
85. units designated by Council through a formal resolution. (See Policy
86. Manual 5.3 (15); Memorial resolutions, tributes, and testimonials.

87. 9.2 Affiliation with other Organizations

88. Criteria have been set up to guide the Council in considering applications
89. for affiliation with ALA of national and international organizations which
90. must not be for profit, have interests consistent with those of ALA, have
91. sufficient large membership and length of existence to ensure continued
92. support under constitutions, and bylaws not in conflict with ALA's, and

* 93. its policies do not discriminate in membership on the basis of race, creed,
94. color, sex, age, physical handicaps, or national origin.

95. 9.3 Definition of Affiliate

96. An affiliate is a group having purpose or interests similar to those of the
97. Association or its Divisions/Round Tables which has made successful
98. formal application for affiliate status to Council (national or international

99. group) or Division/Round Table (local, state or regional groups). No
100. subdivision of the Association may separately affiliate itself with an
101. organization with which ALA as a whole is affiliated. (See also policy 9.2).

102. 9.4 Representatives {and Liaisons}

*

103. 9.4.1 Formal Relationships

104. Official representatives to outside organizations serve either at the
105. request of Council or at the direct request of an ALA unit whose
106. approved budget includes membership dues and/or whose representative
107. plays an active role in the governance or affairs of the outside
108. organization. Should an outside organization request an official
109. representative from the Association, the request goes to the Executive
110. Board and Council. If approved, the Committee on Organization (COO)
111. identifies the appropriate ALA unit and makes this recommendation to the
112. Executive Board. In the case of potential or actual involvement of more
113. than one ALA unit, COO refers the appointment to the Executive Board
114. Administrative Subcommittee.

115. An official representative to an outside organization is a member of the
116. Association who is appointed to an outside organization at the

*

117. request of Council or ALA Unit

118. for the purpose
119. of fully participating in their meetings or in the establishment of Councils,
120. joint committees and other groups which work together in activities of
121. mutual interest.

122. A representative to another ALA unit is an appointed member of an ALA
123. unit whose duties include attending meetings of other ALA for such
124. purpose as communication or information dissemination.

*

125. {A liaison is a member of an ALA unit appointed by the unit to perform
126. networking or coordinating functions with units inside or with
127. organizations outside the Association. The liaison has no formal role in
128. the governing structure of the other unit or organization.}

129. 9.4.2 Informal Relationships

*

130. Members of ALA or one of its units may be appointed to provide
131. service, information, or to network with organizations outside
132. the association for the purpose of accomplishing mutual goals.
133. Such representatives have no formal role in the governing
134. structure of the other unit or organization and the appointment
135. of such representatives does not, in and of itself, constitute a
136. “formal relationship” or an “affiliation” as defined in 9.1-9.3.

137. 9.5 Relationships with Organizations Violating Human Rights
138. The American Library Association shall have no affiliation with
139. memberships in or formal relationships with organizations which violate
140. ALA principles and commitments to human rights and social justice as set
141. forth in ALA's policies, procedures, and position statements and the
142. Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

143. 9.6 Racist institutions: Opposition to Support of
144. Public, academic, or school libraries which provide services or materials
145. to racist institutions conceived for the purpose of circumventing
146. desegregation of public schools may be censured by the American
147. Library Association under procedures to be developed and approved by
148. Council.