COUNCIL II

Council Minutes
1999 ALA Annual
Conference
June 24-July 1, 1999
New Orleans, Louisiana

Tuesday, June 29, 1999, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

The second meeting of Council during the 1999 Annual Conference was convened at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 29.

QUORUM. A quorum was established at the beginning of each meeting.

ESTABLISHING THE AGENDA, CD#8.5 Revised, Exhibit 3. By CONSENT, Council adopted CD#70, Exhibit 45, which extended the life of the Task Force on Foreign Credentialing until the 2000 ALA Midwinter Meeting, when the task force will submit its final report.

By CONSENT, Council approved the establishment of the SIRSI Leader in Library Technology Grant, as ouflined in CD#10.1, Exhibit 10.

By CONSENT, Council adopted the remainder of the agenda as presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION ON SUBJECT HEADING REVISIONS RELATED TO THE "POOR PEOPLE'S" POLICY,
CD#37, Exhibit 7. Councilor Sanford Berman moved and Council

DEFEATED, The adoption of CD#37, Resolution on Subject Heading Revisions Related to the "Poor People's" Policy as amended to delete: "homeless families" and to add: "Living wage laws and street newspapers."

Although Council took no formal action, the ALCTS Subject Analysis Committee's Task Force on LCSH Subject Heading Revisions relating to the Poor People's Policy will continue its work and submit its report on the proposed subject changes and on the broader issues of subject headings relating to the poor to ALCTS and Council at the 2000 Midwinter Meeting.

RESOLUTION ON ALA AND PROFESSIONAL DISPUTES IN LIBRARIES INVOLVING THE INFRINGEMENT OF LIBRARIANS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, CD#72, Exhibit 11.

Councilor Mark Rosenzweig moved that Council adopt CD#72, Resolution on ALA and Professional Disputes In Libraries Involving the Infringement of Librarians' Rights and Responsibilities, which read: "That the association creates a standing committee to deal with egregious violations of

librarians' rights as spelled out in our policy manual."

Mal'is Wendt, BARC chair, reported that her committee had reviewed the resolution and noted that there would be significant staff and legal expenses associated with adopting this resolution. Funds have not been allocated for associated expenses.

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Councilor Beverly Lynch cited the 1993 disbanding of the similar Standing Committee on Review, Inquiry, and Mediation (SCRIM) and pointed out that because ALA is made up of personal and institutional members, it was never clear whom ALA ought to represent when it was asked to investigate disputes

C0~NCIL DOCUMENT # 2d,
Ass,gne_d by Council Reso~s
Committee n--_ Member Initial

A Resolution on ALA and Professional Disputes in Libraries Involving the Infringement of Librarians Rights and Responsibilities

Whereas the ALA Policy Manual makes clear that the American Library Assciation is committed to defence of librarians' rights including, but not confined to intellectual freedom rights and

Whereas a mechanism for dealing with these crucial professional matters
no longer exists since the dissolution of SCRIM

Be it Resolved that the association creates a standing committee to deal with egregious violations of professional rights and responsibilities of
librarians within libraries themselves and also

Be it resolved that such a committee should be empowered to investigate and come to judgement about appropriate instances brought to its attention and

Be it Resolved that the committee can propose censure, remedies or the mediation of such disputes as involve infringement of librarians' rights as spelled
out in our policy manual.

Moved by Councilor Mark Rosenzweig
Seconded by Elaine Harger, Councilor-at-Large

Resolution Committee Notes: Appears to need review by BARC for budgetary implications and Committee on Organization.

Statutory support for this resolution:

The citations I make supporting the above resolution are from the
1998-1999 ALA Handbook of Organization.

Two general ones are from page 29-30 ,1.2,on column two and 1.3 (priority
section E) on column 3. The first states the general mission of working to improve the profession itself. The second, entitled "Personnel resources" refers to "Librarians [upholding] the ALA Code of Ethics which includes an affirmation of

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The opportunity for the library employee to work without fear of undue interference or dismissal and freedom from discharge for racial, POLITICAL religion OR ANY OTHER UNJUST REASON.

54.16 "On Professional Ethics" whose provision
#5 states "We treat co-workers and other colleagues with respect, fairness and good faith, and ADVOCATE conditions of employment that safeguard the rights and welfare of all employees of our institutions to work without
fear of undue interference or dismissal. .. ".

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