

Bylaws

Article I. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership of the Association shall consist of:

(a) Personal Members

(1) Regular Members: American Indian librarians, other librarians, and others employed in library service or related activities.

(2) Student Members: Persons who are enrolled at least half-time in a program of library and information science in a four-year undergraduate school, a graduate school, or in a training program at an American Indian library.

(b) Institutional Members: Tribal governments, libraries serving Native American communities, educational institutions with library programs serving Native Americans and others.

Section 2. Dues, Rights, and Privileges

(a) Dues shall be set by the Executive Board.

(b) Unpaid dues: Members whose dues are unpaid thirty (30) days after the beginning of the fiscal year will have their memberships lapse. Lapsed memberships may be reinstated upon payment of dues for the current year.

Section 3. Fiscal Year

(a) The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on 1 January and end 31 December of the following year.

(b) The membership year for the Association shall be 1 July to 30 June of the following year.

Section 4. Only personal members of the Association shall have the right to vote and hold office.

Article II. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations

A Nominating Committee of three (3) past presidents of AILA shall nominate annually candidates for the office of Vice-President/President Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as three members-at-large of the Executive Board. The immediate past president shall serve as chair of the committee. If any of the past presidents cannot serve, the president shall appoint the members of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is charged with presenting a slate of candidates to the entire AILA membership for a vote.

Section 2. Elections

The Officers of the Executive Board shall be elected by the membership. Procedures for conducting elections shall be prescribed and implemented by the Nominating Committee with the approval of the Board.

Article III. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. Meeting: The Executive Board shall hold a meeting just prior to the annual membership meeting, and at any other time as needed. Meetings may be held electronically.

Section 2. Officers: The president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and the three members-at large shall serve on the Executive Board for a term of two (2) years. Any officer may serve consecutive terms.

Section 3. The Newsletter Editor shall be appointed by the president with the advice and consent of the Executive Board and shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Board.

Section 4. The first duly elected Executive Board shall assume office at the close of the annual meeting.

Section 5. The Executive Director is an ex-officio member of the Executive Board, appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Board, serving a three-year term, which may be renewed. Duties include acting as the chief administrative officer of AILA; assisting executive board members in carrying out their responsibilities; serving as membership coordinator; and performing other duties as prescribed by the President or Executive Board.

Article IV. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees shall be created or disbanded as needed by the Executive Board. Committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the president with the advice and consent of the Executive Board for terms of specified duration.

Section 2. No committee may incur expense on behalf of the Association except as authorized by the Executive Board.

Article V. MEETING

Section 1. Annual Meeting: There shall be an annual meeting of the Association in conjunction with the annual ALA meeting. The time and place shall be determined by the Executive Board. Association members will be notified of any meetings at least thirty (30) days in advance.

Section 2. Quorum: A majority of members present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article VI. FINANCES

Section 1. An audit of all accounts of the Association shall be made annually by an auditing committee designated by the president and Executive Board. The auditing committee shall not be composed of members of the Executive Board.

Section 2. A report shall be made annually by the treasurer to the membership detailing receipts, expenditures, fiscal status, and the results of the audit.

Article VII. ELECTRONIC OR MAIL VOTES

Section 1. Whenever any action requires a vote of the general membership or the Board:

(a) Votes by mail (print or electronic) may be authorized by the Executive Board.

(b) The Executive Board shall prepare the ballots, including instructions for use, and determine the time limit for votes by mail (print or electronic) when the vote is called.

(c) A majority of returned ballots (print or electronic) shall be enough to carry the motion.

Article VIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rule of Order (Revised), in the latest edition, shall govern the Association.

Article IX. CHAPTERS

Section 1. Forming a Chapter

The Board may approve the establishment of a chapter of the Association in any region or well-defined geographic area based on the petition of at least five members of the Association employed or residing within the area.

Section 2. Duties of Chapters

Each chapter shall promote the interests of the Association and the Association's program in its assigned territory. Chapter presidents and other officers must be personal members in good standing of the Association. The term of office of a chapter president may be specified by chapter bylaws. Chapter president shall submit a report of chapter activities to the Board twice a year, one for the midwinter meeting and one for the annual meeting.

Section 3. Membership in Chapters

All personal and institutional members of the Association, who are either employed or reside within a chapter's geographical boundaries as established by the Board, shall automatically be members of that chapter. No individual or organization can become a chapter member unless the individual or the organization is already a member of the Association in good standing.

Section 4. Chapter Bylaws

A chapter may adopt its own bylaws provided there is no conflict with the Constitution and the Bylaws of the Association. For chapters with their own bylaws, a current copy of the bylaws must be filed with the Board.

Section 5. Chapter Officers

A chapter may elect its own officers. Each chapter shall have a minimum of two officers, including a chapter president and a chapter vice president/chapter president elect. The chapter president is responsible for filing a copy of the elected chapter officers with the Board.

Section 6. Dissolution of a Chapter

Dissolution of a chapter may be proposed by the Board or through a petition signed by at least five members of the concerned chapter and submitted in writing to the Board. If a chapter has no elected officers or has no chapter activities for at least one year, the Board may dissolve the chapter. A chapter may be dissolved by an affirmative vote of at least a simple majority of the current chapter voting members, or on approval of the Board. In the event of a chapter being dissolved, all chapter records shall be fully discharged and forwarded to the Board.