

**August Virtual Council Meeting Minutes**

**August 27, 2025**

ALA President Sam Helmick called the Virtual Special Council meeting to order.

**APPROVED by Consent:**

- Adoption of Council Rules, CD #5.3
- Adoption of Agenda, CD #8.7 (as amended to separate Motions 4 and 5 for individual discussion)

**Societal Statements Work Group Report, CD #51.1**

Chair Stephanie Chase presented the Position Statement Framework developed by the Work Group. The framework serves as guidance for future ALA societal statements and will be revisited in the future.

Vote Results: 102 yes, 1 no, 3 abstain – **APPROVED** adoption of the Position Statement Framework.

**ALA Policy Update Recommendations, CD #55**

Executive Board Member Nick Buron introduced proposed changes to the ALA Policy Manual. The five motions addressed divisional groups, roundtables, and publishing centralization. Discussion emphasized the need for structural reform to simplify ALA governance and improve financial sustainability.

**Motions 1–3 (Division Member Groups)**

Motion 1: Discontinue forums as subgroups of divisions.

Motion 2: Discontinue discussion groups as subgroups of divisions.

Motion 3: Align all division interest groups as member based.

Vote Results: 99 yes, 0 no, 3 abstain – **APPROVED** (block vote).

#### **Motion 4: Roundtable Elected Leadership Positions**

Proposed alignment of roundtable officer positions with ALA elected officer structures. Amendment proposed by Councilor Ellen Pozzi to specify president, chair, treasurer, secretary, roundtable councilor, and members-at-large.

Vote on Amended Language: 33 yes, 65 no, 8 abstain – **DEFEATED**.

Vote on Amendment to Amendment: 55 yes, 35 no, 11 abstain – **APPROVED**.

#### **Motion 5: Centralize Publishing Publications**

Proposed to centralize publishing functions under ALA.

Discussion included concerns regarding cost savings, barriers for nonmembers, and equitable access.

Debate extended beyond time limits; motion carried over to a future session.

#### **Procedural Notes**

- Council extended discussion time by 10 minutes for Motion 4.
- Motion to extend by 15 minutes failed to achieve 2/3 majority (63 yes, 36 no).
- Council leadership noted discretion to call a continued meeting within 45 days to complete Motion 5.

Meeting adjourned due to time constraints. Motion 5 will be addressed in a continued meeting.