



MEMO TO: IHLS Board of Directors
FROM: Ellen Popit
DATE: February 23, 2017
RE: Proposed Bylaws Change

The Policy and Membership Committee brought proposed updated language to the board at its January, 2017 meeting regarding Bylaws Article VIII. The current article is entitled Advisory Councils and reflected a means of member engagement implemented during the first few years of our organization. Beginning July, 2016, we have moved to the Members Matter Meeting format. The proposed bylaw was posted on the IHLS website for member feedback. You will find member feedback received as of today at the bottom of this memorandum.

Here is the current and January 2017 proposed versions of Bylaws Article VIII. The committee recommends acceptance of the January 2017 version.

Thank you for your consideration.

Current Version

Article VIII Advisory Councils

The Executive Director shall form Advisory Councils to serve as an effective liaison between the librarians of the System and the Executive Director.

The purpose of the committee is to:

- 1. Promote System development.***
- 2. Provide input and review of changes to System policy and membership criteria.***
- 3. Initiate suggestions to the Executive Director and the Board.***

Members of the Advisory Councils shall serve three-year terms.

January 2017 Modified Proposed Version

Article VIII: Membership Input

The Executive Director shall hold regularly scheduled meetings for system members at rotating sites throughout the system.

The purpose of these meetings is to:

- 1. Gather input and feedback from members regarding current System services and initiatives.***
- 2. Offer an additional opportunity for communication and networking with and among membership.***
- 3. Provide a forum in which suggestions can be made for the consideration of the Board of Directors and the Executive Director.***

These meetings will be held on a bi-monthly schedule at geographically diverse locations throughout the system. Videoconference sites will be open to enable members from throughout the system to attend in several locations. As they become available and effective, other electronic methods of connectivity will be implemented to offer other meeting options for members.

Member Feedback

Richard Sumrall, Lincoln Public Library District:

Having served on advisory councils at the Rolling Prairie LS, I personally believe that Members Matters is a good idea and a step in the right direction.

Teresa Pennington, Paris Carnegie Public Library:

This is a welcome change. The meetings rotating around the system is much more workable. I especially appreciate the videoconference aspect since round trip travel plus meeting time usually requires a whole day away from the library.

Linda Richter, Trenton Public Library:

I approve of the change to making it Members' Matter.

Laura Naugle, Southwestern MS/HS Library:

I like the revision

Stephanie Dennis from Carmi Public Library:

I think the Members Matter meetings are very important for the system especially for the smaller libraries. I feel the smaller libraries are being lost in the overall picture. From the small library perspective, we feel things are more geared toward the larger libraries.

Alice Cisna, Arthur Public Library District:

I approve.