



DATE: June 1, 2010

TO: Members, Central Texas Library System, Inc.

FROM: Larry Ringer, Chair of the Bylaws Task Force

SUBJECT: Revised Bylaws to be considered at Fall Membership Meeting

In April, a draft of revised Bylaws was sent to the membership of CTLS, Inc. A number of Regional Forums were held, at which the Bylaw changes were presented and discussed. Those forums resulted in several comments regarding the changes and suggestions of modifications to the changes. The Bylaws Task Force met and discussed the concerns and suggested changes. The results of those discussions are reflected in the attached copy of the Bylaws (indicated by "Proposed Changes to the Bylaws of CTLS, Inc. – June 1, 2010"). Changes from the April draft are shown in teal in this document. Deletions are shown as strikethroughs. A brief discussion of the changes is given below.

1. Article IV, Section 2.d. (ii). A sentence was added to emphasize that alternates for the official representatives must meet the same qualifications as the representatives for whom they are substituting, e.g., an alternate for a lay representative must also be a lay person.
2. Article V, Section 2. The board members were designated by Position number which makes it clearer as to the allocation to public library size, etc. Paragraph (e) was reworded to better define the "community" as "population service area" when prohibiting two or more directors from the same area. Further, it provides that this restriction applies only to the board members representing public libraries, i.e., Positions 1 through 6.

There was much discussion in the regional meetings about keeping board positions for specific sizes of libraries versus opening all positions to representatives from any library. The Task Force discussed this thoroughly and decided that a combination of size designation and open positions had the most support from the membership. Therefore, positions 1-3 will be for specific population categories and positions 4-6 will be open to representatives from any size public library.

3. Article V, Section 4. Paragraph (b) was modified to make it clear that nominations are needed only for those board positions whose terms expire at the end of the calendar year.

4. Article V, Section 4, Paragraph (d). One topic that was discussed at almost all of the regional forums was whether or not to allow nominations from the floor for board positions. The options presented ranged from 1) not allowing nominations other than those from the nominating committee 2) allowing nominations to be submitted prior the membership meeting 3) allowing nominations at the membership meeting. After much discussion the Task Force made the following decision: the nominating committee's list of candidates will be distributed to the membership five weeks prior to the membership meeting, allowing nomination/application of additional candidates. A final list of candidates will be distributed two weeks prior to the membership meeting. Nominations at the membership meeting will not be allowed. The Task Force members believed this will allow candidates other than those submitted by the nominating committee to be on the ballot. This will also insure that information about the qualifications of the candidates would be available for anyone running for a position on the board.
5. Article V, Section 5. This section was modified to agree with the procedure for nominations (i.e., no nominations from the floor) in the previous section. It also eliminates the reference to a preferred method of voting so that voice or hand count voting may take place, particularly for uncontested positions.
6. Article XII, Section 2 (a) (i). The change eliminates the requirement for representatives from specific ranges of library sizes on the Long Range Planning Committee. The new wording simply requires that the LRPC members represent the diversity of the Corporation membership.