



Bylaws: Surprisingly, no surprises

*New definitions and
roles accepted*

For the first time in many years the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee lived up to both parts of its name and ongoing charge: presenting bylaws amendments and a resolution about ASWB's Mobility strategy to the delegates at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee chair Brian Carnahan of Ohio presented the report on Friday, reading the resolution into the record and explaining the rationales for the bylaws amendments. Although opposition to some of the bylaws amendments was anticipated regarding eligibility for serving on the Board of Directors and Nominating Committee, no discussion was forthcoming when it came time for delegates to vote.

On Saturday, 51 delegates voted on the three bylaws amendment proposals. In order to pass, an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the quorum (34) was required. The results:

Proposal #1

Wordsmithing changes (Articles III and IX) to clarify that the word "member" means an individual and not the jurisdictional board.

Vote: passed unanimously

Proposal #2

Changes to eligibility for the Nominating Committee (Article IX) to align with eligibility for the Board of Directors by deleting association committee chairs, who do not have to be Member Board members or staff.

Vote: passed unanimously

Proposal #3

Changes to definition of Member Board Staff (Articles III, VII, and IX) to create a new definition of Member Board Administrator so that eligibility to serve on the Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors is reserved for the person at the Member Board serving in a leadership position while preserving flexibility to allow jurisdictional boards to select Member Board staff members or the Member Board Administrator as the delegate or alternate delegate.

Vote: passed 46 to 5

Resolution 2017-1, Member Boards Contribution to ASWB Mobility Strategy also was presented for a vote on Saturday. It required a simple



Chair Brian Carnahan (OH) presents the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee report at the annual meeting.

majority, or 51 percent of the quorum, to pass. Many members spoke in support of the resolution during the discussion period prior to the vote. The result: 92.2 percent (47 out of 51 delegates) voted in favor of adoption. (See [related story](#).)

As per ASWB bylaws, membership was notified of the proposed bylaws amendments and the Mobility resolution 60 days in advance of the annual meeting. In the months preceding the meeting, the Mobility Task Force hosted two listening sessions about the resolution and the Bylaws Committee hosted one listening session about the proposed bylaws changes. Sessions were recorded and posted on the meeting webpage. With so much information available ahead of the annual meeting, perhaps it is not surprising that the bylaws amendments and resolution sailed through with no surprises.