

# SUGGESTIONS FOR WRITING A TRIBUTE RESOLUTION

## A TRIBUTE RESOLUTION HONORING BETTY TUROCK

*There is no single right way to write a resolution. However, the suggestions below may help you get started. A memorial resolution does not need to be a biography with, for example, dates of birth or graduation. The bolded words or phrases in the whereas clauses are simply samples of what you might use.*

***Begin with a general whereas statement of value to the library community:***

Whereas throughout her career Loriene Roy has worked tirelessly to promote the value of libraries:

***Add one or more whereas clauses about his/her particular library interests:***

Whereas Francis Buckley has been a strong advocate of no-fee access to government information as a foundation of a democracy;

***Add one or more whereas clauses about his/her long-term or significant employment:***

Whereas Jim Rettig has served with distinction as a librarian at Stetson University for thirty years;

***End with a whereas clause about his/her positive personal characteristics (using his/her full name):***

Whereas his sense of humor, kindness, energy and graciousness has enriched those fortunate enough to know and work with him;

***Add one or more whereas clauses about his/her national library activities:***

Whereas Robert Newlen in has served on American Library Association (ALA) Council for more than twenty years and was elected to the ALA Executive Board;

Whereas Janet Swan Hill has served as chair of the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee  
Whereas one of the ALA literary awards is named for Kevin Reynolds and his spouse of more than forty years;

Whereas Mary Mallory was elected chair of Government Documents Round Table (GODORT) and chaired its Education, Information Technology, and Program Committees;

Whereas Cathy Hartman has been active in the Vermont Library Association, serving on its Board of Directors as Chapter Councilor, Committee Chair, and Round Table Chair;

Whereas Pat Smith has served on the Public Printer's Depository Library Council, 2012-2015;

***Add one or more whereas clauses about his/her local or non-library activities:***

Whereas Michele McKnelly has served as president of her Southern Baptist congregation;

***End with a whereas clause about his/her positive personal characteristics (using his/her full name):***

Whereas Bernadine Abbott Hoduski has mentored many students and librarian; **and**

Whereas Bernie Margolis has served as a good friend and colleague to many Association members; **now, therefore, be it**

***Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:***

***End with two resolved clauses:***

***The first resolved clause should recognize her/his contributions and refer to her/him by full name:***

***The first letter of resolved clauses should NOT be capitalized.***

***Only the next to the last resolved clause should have an “and” after the semicolon.***

***The resolved clauses should have indentions.***

***Resolved***, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. recognizes Michael Gorman’s achievements and his contributions to the world of librarianship and specifically to ALA and its members; and

***The last resolved clause should express appreciation for her/his contributions and express good wishes for her/his future:***

2. expresses its appreciation and gratitude for those contributions and wishes him well in all the years to come, with many members looking forward to his continued interest in and support of libraries.

***OTHER INFORMATION:***

***The CELL-phone number should follow the name of the mover and of the seconder. If we can’t get in touch with you if we need to, your resolution may be delayed.***

***Under your names should be listed “Version:” and the day and time of the revision that you just finish. The Resolutions Committee often receives more than one version of a resolution, and sometimes it’s difficult to tell which is the latest.]***

***All resolutions must be sent to the ALA Resolutions Committee for review and must be accompanied by a completed ALA Resolution Form.***

Mover: Larry Romans, Councilor-at-Large, 615-555-0000

Secunder: Kevin Reynolds, 931-555-5555

Final Version: 1.9.16—3:00pm 5/16/13

**BELOW ARE SAMPLES OF ACTUAL TRIBUTE RESOLUTIONS**

A Tribute Resolution of Heart-Felt Appreciation Honoring Charles Wilt

Whereas Charles Wilt has served the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) with the highest distinction since September 20, 1999; first as Deputy Executive Director of ALCTS & the then-named Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) and as of April 30, 2001 as Executive Director of ALCTS;

Whereas Charles Wilt is also a member of the American Society of Association Executives, and was a member of the Texas Library Association, North Dallas Chamber of Commerce, Association of Library and Information Science Educators, Special Libraries Association, and other professional groups, serving on the Library Advisory Committee for the Plano Independent School District and working with other community and civic groups;

Whereas Charles Wilt is a proud graduate of Emory University and the Library and Information Science program at the University of Pittsburgh, and is a member of Beta Phi Mu;

Whereas Charles Wilt previously worked at the University of Texas Arlington, various bookstores in the Dallas area, Kenyon College and as director of the Franklin Institute Science Museum in Philadelphia,

Whereas Charles Wilt has shown great vision and much patience, embodied the highest standards of leadership, skillfully navigated the maze of ALA bureaucracy and herding of disorganized ALCTS leaders, all with great vision and irrepressible good humor;

Whereas Charles Wilt fostered collaboration and goodwill among the ALA divisions, and within ALCTS encouraged the development of creative new opportunities and activities to attract and engage members and non-members alike, fulfilling the predictions of then ALCTS President Carlen Ruschoff that he would be a “font of innovative ideas” when he became executive director;

Resolution of Heart-Felt Appreciation Honoring Charles Wilt/2

Whereas he delighted the ALCTS membership with his annual April 1<sup>st</sup> missive and has been a generous colleague, supervisor, teacher, friend, and mentor to many; and

Whereas, Charles Wilt is retiring from the association effective February 15, 2015 now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. honors and is grateful to Charles Wilt for his tireless commitment to managing the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services and his outstanding service and unfailing good humor in doing so, and
2. expresses its sincere appreciation to Charles Wilt for his many contributions to the success of ALCTS and ALA and all the members' lives he impacted in a positive way.

Mover: Andrew Hart, ALCTS Councilor, 919-555-0000

Seconder: Erin Stalberg, Councilor-at-Large, 434-555-0000

Final Version: 12.7.15—2:00pm

A Tribute Resolution Commending the Ferguson Municipal Public Library  
for Serving the Community in a Time of Crisis

Whereas libraries are key to building vibrant communities and sustaining a strong democracy by serving as a principal destination for individual learning, personal enrichment, and community engagement;

Whereas civil unrest and public demonstrations have periodically disrupted access to public libraries and public schools, among other vital public institutions;

Whereas the American Library Association has recognized and encouraged library service to local communities during times of crisis in the past;

Whereas the library staff at Ferguson Municipal Public Library of Ferguson, Missouri exemplified the library profession's core values of service and the public good (ALA policy, B.1.1) during a time of civil unrest that began immediately following the shooting death of Michael Brown in August 2014;

Whereas the library staff at Ferguson Municipal Public Library anticipated the needs of its community by providing peaceful, quiet space and time amidst the political turmoil that had been taking place within the city;

Whereas in both August and November 2014, the Ferguson Municipal Public Library remained open and provided space for teachers to hold classes while the Ferguson-Florissant School District closed;

Whereas the library staff of the Ferguson Municipal Public Library performed a pivotal role between community organizations and its citizenry by facilitating the creation of special programming and educational experiences for the students of Ferguson-Florissant School District;

Whereas the library staff of the Ferguson Municipal Public Library supported its community by hosting the US Small Business Administration to provide emergency loans, the office of the US Secretary of State to provide document recovery and preservation services, and the Missouri Department of Insurance to help local businesses file for insurance and claims;

Whereas the library staff of the Ferguson Municipal Public Library supported the children of Ferguson, Missouri by circulating healing kits, which included books and activities to help them cope with the unrest in their community, including a stuffed animal that they could keep; and

Whereas the Ferguson Public Library accepted and distributed gifts and donations from individuals and groups outside of Ferguson intended to help Ferguson community residents through the community engagement work being conducted by the Ferguson Municipal Public Library, now, therefore, be it

Resolution Commending the Ferguson Municipal Public Library for Serving the Community in a Time of Crisis/2

*Resolved*, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. acknowledges that many libraries, in the United States and abroad, have provided library services during times of crisis, civil unrest, or other disasters, and applauds those actions;
2. celebrates the creativity, leadership, and commitment to service demonstrated by the entire staff of the Ferguson Municipal Public Library during an extended period of unrest in the local community, beginning in August 2014;
3. recognizes the powerful example of community engagement set by the staff of the Ferguson Municipal Public Library through their work with children, parents, teachers, library volunteers, first-responders and emergency service workers, and members of the local and national media; and
4. sends a letter acknowledging the work and contributions of the Ferguson Municipal Public Library staff, including Scott Bonner, Director, to the Missouri Chapter to be passed on to the appropriate parties.

Mover: Jennifer Alvino, ALA Maine Chapter Council, 207-555-0000

Secunder: Ruth Urell, ALA Massachusetts Chapter Councilor, 413-555-0000

Final version: 12.7.15—3:00pm