

ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY SERVICE TO CHILDREN
A DIVISION OF THE

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

50 EAST HURON STREET · CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611 · (312) 944-6780



May 29, 1979

Zena Zutherland
Bulletin of the Center for Children Books
The University of Chicago
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, IL 60637

Dear Zena,

My first category of views relates to the information gathering process. I would have no objection to a questionnaire sent to a healthy sample of the membership. I think the Board needs a variety of points of view, and quite a bit of data to support their decision. I am concerned that the membership at this point has no data on which to base a decision if all the information they have is the newsletter article. For instance, shouldn't those who respond know the % of time the Executive Secretary reported spending on the banquet? It was a shocking percentage and membership should realize what that costs.

The Board should also have that information and we should have a description of what MJA and her secretary do to manage this event. For all I know it might not all be necessary.

My feelings about the banquet. There is a time and a season for everything and maybe the banquet's time has come. I abhor the expense, and I am not really certain the event celebrates children's books at all. I do think it provides a beautiful opportunity for a lovely dress-up occasion for many people who otherwise would have no such occasion. That is not reason enough for keeping the Award program as it is. Why not have an awards occasion such as the ALA presentation and do all of the awards at once?

My decision finally, as a Board member, if allowed to vote, will be based on data received from your committee, projection of goals for ALSC, and the relationship of income and budget to that projection. And, of course, I will hope that whatever options are presented all ~~hopefully~~ will promise an aura of a special occasion.

Yours right - we will meet daily in Dallas. Will we be the Dallas Daily Dozen?

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Marilyn'.

Marilyn L. Miller
President-Elect

MLM:sd