

**LIBRARY STAFF INTERESTS ROUNDTABLE (LSSIRT)
BUSINESS/MEMBERSHIP MEETING
ANNUAL MEETING, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2009
MCCORMICK PLACE WEST ROOM W-176a
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Present: Dorothy Morgan, President; Kareen Turner, Secretary; Kerrie Stramler, Treasurer; Anita Kosinski, Member at Large; Sarah McQueeney Kartsonis, Member at Large; J.P. Pendleton, Member at Large; Trish Palluck, Member at Large; AnnaMarie Kehnast, Member at Large; and Jennifer S. Kutzik, LSSIRT Councilor. ALA members present were John Chrastka, ALA Manager for Membership Development; Karen Strege, LSSCP Task Force; and Darlena Davis, ALA Liaison. Absent were Julie McCormick, Vice President; and, Leslie Monsalve-Jones, Member at Large;

Guests were: Carol Thomas and Nina Manning, both from New York Public Library, New York, NY; Valeria Fike, from College of DuPage, IL; Kevin Dudeney, from Sydney, Australia; James Hill, Sara Stichert and Paulette Feld, all former LSSIRT Steering Committee members; Jim Hill has retired; Paulette and Sara are from the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh.

Dorothy called the meeting to order at 8 AM, with introductions from the board members and guests.

Correspondence was discussed and there was a thank you card to be sent out to Jim Hill. Kareen will take care of it. New Name tags for business meeting will be made up for the Mid Winter meeting in Boston for Carol, Nina, AnnaMarie and Dorothy. The availability of a Councilor's suite for Friday night at Annual in DC was announced and we're looking into having one in Boston. Trish gave Dorothy a large Thank You for stepping up the podium a year early in the absence of Sandy Olsen. One for One recruitment will be discussed more thoroughly when John comes in.

Agenda changes:

Karen Strege will be coming in at 10 AM to get LSSIRT approval for the LSSCP. We will need to have an official vote for endorsing the program and will be discussing the marketing plan.

Kerrie Stramler made the motion to approve the Minutes from the Midwinter meeting with Anita making the second. Minutes were approved as submitted.

Old Business

Karen Strege gave a background historical report of the (LSSCP), with Dorothy Morgan and AnnaMarie Kehnast as members of that Task Force. Approval will be voted on this afternoon from the ALA Executive Council. Candidates will start being accepted in January 2010, a full year earlier than planned. Next month, 10 applicants will be accepted for field tests from 5 different sites: a Community College in Washington State, a division of ALA, the Louisiana State Library, Texas State Association, and Lincoln Trails, in Illinois, a regional Library system. The program has already been approved by 6 divisions of ALA which was necessary before it could be taken in front of the board. Questions and answers followed her report. The cost will be \$350 dollars for non members of ALA, \$325 for members, giving you 4 years to complete the program once enrolled and certification will be for 5 years. Recertification/renewal still needs to be addressed and they are hopeful it won't be the full price. Future thinking may consider reciprocity agreements and state programs already in existence. Evaluation of the entire program will be taken under consideration in future plans along with another grant that will explore marketing plans etc.

We gave an official endorsement of the Library Support Staff Certification Program (LSSCP) to Karen Strege after she finished the final report from the Task Force. (Motion was made by Carol Thomas, seconded by Kareen.) It was announced that the ALA Council will vote on the program this afternoon. Nina made the motion that since we approved the LSSCP program, we should give \$500 towards the marketing plan. Trish seconded the motion. With the discussion that followed, we amended the motion to include bringing back for discussion, any additional funds for future marketing plans, if needed not to exceed \$500.00." Motion was made and passed.

Under the discussion of the "Each One Recruit One" Challenge, we discussed marketing plans. After questions concerning finances, Carol Thomas made a motion to appropriate from the LSSIRT budget funds, not to exceed \$1000 for membership in the roundtable to those support staff in attendance at the 2009 Empowerment Conference that were not members of LSSIRT. This initiative will advance LSSIRT membership awareness." Kareen made the second. Motion was passed.

The Strategic Planning Committee, (members are Trish, JP, Kareen, all from the Steering Committee and Elaine Contant, from the Univ. of Arkansas) presented a draft for July 2009-June 2012. After some discussion, the Steering Committee voted on the draft and it was approved. There was more discussion about ALA-LSSIRT committee appointments and further studies will be done on the standing committees inside LSSIRT through the Strategic Plan implementation. (Some of the existing committees are the Constitution & By-Laws, chaired by Kent Slade, and the Continuing Education/Empowerment, being enlarged with some of the existing members of the Empowerment Conference Committee: Nina Manning, Jennifer Kutzik, Dorothy Morgan, Sarah Kartsonis, and AnnaMarie Kehnast.) Poster sessions were discussed as part of the strategic plan and the decision was made to continue them.

Dorothy presented Darlena Davis a plaque in gratitude for all she's done for LSSIRT

After some a review of past events and of the upcoming Mid Winter in Boston and Annual in Washington, DC, the Night Out was discussed, and plans for upcoming events have been started.

After a break of 10-15 minutes, the meeting was reconvened at 10:25 AM.

New Business

1. The Treasurer's report

Kerrie Stramler reported that as of the end of May, ALA reported that we had \$23,740.

2. Membership report

Anita reported that to keep our councilor's position, we need to keep our members over 619. 48 members dropped from May 2009, giving us 572 members of LSSIRT and ALA members are 65, 437; personal memberships are 61,865 which is where our goal of 619 comes from. 15 reinstated members were not sent letters. 126 dropped letters, with a total of 179 letters sent out to dropped and new members, spending approximately \$240 in supplies, printing, and postage. A decision was made to continue the letters. Dorothy acknowledged the work that Anita has done in taking over the job from Mary Nation.

3. ALA Manager for Membership Development

John Chrastka reported that all round tables are down in membership again and told us that membership applications need to be postmarked August 31st which is where our councilor seat is based upon, which is 1 % of total ALA membership. Oct 31st is end of fiscal year where we should have 610 members and we now have 588 members. Marketing plans for LSSIRT were discussed with the International Round table as an example of giving out free memberships as an option. CERT gives free membership as student initiative. The Empowerment Conference attendees were 247, which is also another potential list of eligible members for LSSIRT (77 members were support staff). Discussion followed about marketing LSSIRT. Our budget was discussed as a means to help push membership and

programs. The field test sites for LSSCP was discussed as potential members. Carol Thomas made a motion to use as much funds as needed for expenditures, not to exceed \$1000 to help push free membership for first timers. Kareen seconded. Further discussion followed with Motion was passed. He discussed the progress on the new initiative: Each One Recruit One Challenge with which Valeria and Anita have been helping to coordinate. Welcome letters need to be reinstated with the offering of LSSIRT membership. John also mentioned ALA Connect and that it has 524 members. Check it out @ <http://connect.ala.org/>

The Empowerment Conference was discussed with further news about pre-conferences, etc. ALA informed LSSIRT in 2004 that as a result of COPE III, Conference within a Conference was produced, but if in five years they weren't making money, there would be no more empowerment conferences. After the results of this year's conference, our members of the Conference committee were stunned to be informed that there would be an Empowerment Conference 2010 and were to submit ideas by tomorrow. It was decided to create a Task Force and take leadership/ownership for 2011. This Task Force (LSSIRTive) will be made up of AnnaMarie, Nina, Jennifer, Sarah, Kareen to research and evaluate the last four years of Empowerment 2005-2009 conferences with consultations with John. This Task Force will make a report in Boston with a possible two year charge to continue this conference and will give any programming ideas and the structure plans to Kim Sanders. We plan on having our business meeting revert back to Saturday morning to help travel expenditures and to have the Empowerment Conference on Saturday afternoon and Sunday. Jennifer and Nina and possibly JP, will continue to be on the Conference committee for 2010.

Program ideas were suggested with a Poster session, another session of "Don't have a Heart Attack, this book can still circulate" (Book repair); sessions with social networking possibly in particular with LAMA, effective safety and security issues in conjunction with PLA; introducing and give history on round tables; disengaging the public patrons and use all sessions as continuing education as LSSIRT tracks. AnnaMarie will give these to the ALA conference committee.

4. Vice-President's report-no report

5. President's report-nothing more to report

6. ALA Liaison's report-Darlena covered most of that in Old Business

7. Nominating Committee Report: Dorothy Morgan announced that

Trish and Leslie are off the board, Incoming are Nina Manning and Carol Thomas as the new Members at large; Anita will remain as a Member at large, and membership committee chairperson; Kerrie Stramler and Kareen Turner are running again for Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. AnnaMarie has become in-coming Vice President, which leaves a member at large vacancy that Valeria will fill for one year with her acceptance of running for a full term in 2011. Trish and Nina are running in 2010 for President and President/Elect-Vice President respectively.

8. ALA Roundtable Councilor Representative's report

Jennifer is sponsoring resolution Intergeneration day, Sunday 4, 2009 Intergeneration Day means libraries which is a one day of intergenerational activities. (LSSIRT is one of the seconded of this resolution. Jennifer has been asked to run as a member of the ALA Council for Committee on Committees, is charged to nominate annually candidates for of the Executive Board for election by the Council from among the members of the Council and is composed of the ALA president-elect (chair) (1) and four (4) councilors that are elected to serve a one-year term.. As President-Elect, Camilla Alire also appointed Jennifer to the Presidential Initiative Reactor Advisory Group (React Group), which will serve in an advisory capacity. Program and ideas will be run by this group to see that the language will be inclusive for support staff. Jennifer will represent LSSIRT on the React Group. Camilla's initiative for next year is "Libraries-the heart of all communities" which brought up the suggested theme for 2010

Empowerment conference is “Why now? All librarians, library staff and library supporters should be equipped with the skills and the enthusiasm to promote their expertise, services and resources.” Talking about advocacy and empowerment, this suggested the theme of “Strengthen the heart of your libraries.” Support staffs are definitely part of the muscle of the heart. Previous speakers in the Empowerment Conferences, Pam and Gail have a program entitled, “Take this job and love it.” This was one suggested session. Jennifer is also supporting the ALA Resolution on civil marriage equality, regardless of sexual orientation and asked for support for her decision:

That the American Library Association (ALA):

1. Affirms that civil marriage and other civil rights protections are essential to making all families safer and more secure; and
2. That ALA opposes civil marriage discrimination in the federal or in state constitutions; and
3. That ALA supports the right of every person to marry, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender couples, wherever they reside.

(Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association Tuesday, July 14, 2009)

9. Newsletter/Web

Kerrie reported all favorable to the electronic newsletter and are having no problems. August will be next post annual news. We will be presenting information for Night Out to Darlena immediately so it will be in the program guide. Chinatown was suggested as within walking distance from conference site. One change is the method of receiving list of members because roster is now coming through Darlena, not John, as in the past. There are no costs with newsletter. No more hardcopy being mailed. Send info to Kerrie and Jennifer. Pictures are always in demand.

Website has a couple of issues that were discussed. ALA Connect will be used as the more interactive method of communication and become the more public view of ALA. Facebook was also mentioned as means.

Motion was made by Kareen to accept all oral and written reports. JP seconded. Motion carried.

Open Forum:

There is a strategic planning committee for the next five years for the Round tables with members of ALA and members from the Round table this fall. Valeria and Sarah will contact Mary Ghikas, as Round Table Coordinator to get more information as they are the closest to Chicago.

Nina made the motion that the meeting be adjourned with JP seconding. Meeting was adjourned at 12:10.

An Executive session was held afterwards. Due to the absence of Julie McCormick, AnnaMarie will be President for Mid Winter in Boston and Washington in 2010 before taking over as elected President in 2011. Nina made a motion to adjourn, Sarah seconded and executive session was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.