

1982 ALA MIDWINTER MEETING
OFFICE FOR LIBRARY OUTREACH SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARY SERVICE FOR AMERICAN INDIAN PEOPLE

MINUTES

The Subcommittee meeting was held on Sunday, January 24, 1982, 8:00-10:00 p.m., Baltimore Room, Hilton Hotel, Denver, Colorado.

Introductions:

Jim Duchac; Calvin Isaac; Sharon Walsh; Sherry Hokanson; Lawrence D'Urso; Margaret Nation; Benjamin Wakashige; Lotsee Smith; Jean E. Coleman; Lois Ann Gregory.

Presiding:

In the absence of Virginia H. Mathews (chair), the meeting was chaired by Lotsee Smith, President, American Indian Library Association.

Opening Remarks:

Jean E. Coleman formally thanked Sherry Hokanson and Dennis Reed (not in attendance) for representing the American Library Association (ALA) at the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) meeting in Portland, Oregon.

In summarizing her attendance at the meeting, Hokanson commented that she did attend some of the conference programs which were very interesting, but spent most of her time staffing the exhibit booth. There were many inquiries about sources for funding Indian libraries. There were comments and questions about various classification systems for Indian collections. Most of the attendees were very enthusiastic about providing Indian library services although most were operating their facilities on "shoe string" budgets. Sherry observed that Indian libraries and education systems are separate, but felt that there is a need to stay in contact with the education people.

At a program on library services to American Indian people, Hokanson presented a slide/tape showing of the Yakima Nation Center and Dennis Reed spoke on library service to American Indians at the Huntington Park Library.

The 1982 NIEA meeting will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana.

1982 Conference Program:

Lotsee Smith suggested that the 1982 ALA conference program focus on tribal archives. Ben Wakashige suggested that the Smithsonian Institution be asked to participate in this program because they are actively involved in this area. Hokanson wants to see something tangible come out of the program that can be taken back home. Lotsee Smith will work out the details on the program.

OLOS Post Conference:

Coleman informed of the committee of the OLOS proposed post conference in Los Angeles on ethnic material selection. After a brief discussion, the committee agreed to cosponsor this effort. Gary Hopson was suggested as a post-conference speaker. Mr. Hopson has edited a publication on Indian literature which was printed by the University of New Mexico and was also a speaker on book selection at a program conducted by the Native American Round Table of the New Mexico Library Association.

Exhibit Booth:

Larry D'Urso volunteered to write to Indian organizations requesting materials written by or about American Indians. Coleman will help D'Urso coordinate this effort. Hokanson will set up a schedule for staffing the exhibit booth.

Funding Raising:

The committee discussed the idea of developing posters and bibliographies to raise funds for the American Indian Library Association (AILA). Smith will put together a basic list that can be circulated for comments, additions, etc. Perhaps an article can be placed in the AILN to help gather the material.

AILA Membership Brochure:

The committee focused its attention on a membership brochure for the American Indian Library Association (AILA). Coleman stated that the brochure should inform the people about the benefits of membership in the association; its accomplishments; the relationship between the American Indian Library Association and the American Library Association, etc.

AILA Membership Directory:

The Committee discussed the possibility of producing a membership directory of Association members. No formal decision was reached.

American Indian Libraries Newsletter:

It was suggested that the Association could serve as an information point to provide information about Indian materials available at the local level from small publishing houses and small publications. Smith also commented that she had come across some very interesting Indian materials that were not known to be in existence. Coleman stated that starting a book review column had been discussed by the editor, but it would be a very time consuming venture.

Other Topics:

Coleman commented that she have received some requests for information on material selection; classification of Indian materials; and information on Indians materials available from ERIC. She further commented that some of the American Indian program people in Chicago universities are investigating ways to computerize local community related information for easy access. They were also interested in a training program for American Indians who wanted to work in this area.

Larry D'Urso commented on his data base at the Native American Information/Referral Center at the Chicago Public Library. The one-year Indian project will be ending in the spring of 1982 because the Chicago Public Library will no longer have funds to keep it a separate entity. The data base will continue and the outreach section will continue through one of the Chicago branch libraries.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned on schedule.