

Minutes of SRRT - Action Council Meetings, ALA Midwinter Conference at Chicago, Jan. 20-25, 1974

At the first Action Council meeting, Monday night, January 21, resolutions were proposed, discussed, in some cases amended, and finally passed on the following subjects:

1. Endorsement of Equal Opportunity policy in its original form without a perenthetic definition of life style.
2. Delay of implimentation of IBSD cataloging format until until assurance is given that libraries who do not want it will not have it foisted on them.
3. Completion of long delayed investigation of Library Congress.
4. Direction of ALA publishing board to undertake publication of "valuable, necessary materials which would not otherwise be published."
5. Impeachment of Richard Nixon.
6. Full and complete investigation by SCMAI of personnel policies and procedures at University of Chicago as it was directed to do at Las Vegas, but which in fact, it has not done.
7. Referral of request by J. Michael McConnell back to SCMAI for immediate formal inquiry into all issues that affect fundamental fairness in accordance with the principles of Intellectual Freedom.

The business meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M. It was followed by a SRRT - sponsored question and answer period with the two candidates for ALA president, Clara Lou Jones and Allie Beth Martin.

At the second Action Council meeting, Tuesday afternoon, January 22, Melvin Voight appeared to discuss the Committee on Plannings review of ALA Goals and priorities established by Aconda. COP has issued a new statement which is being presented to all divisions and round tables. They are asked to respond in writing to this by March 31, 1944. One suggestion made was that the points should be ~~to~~ priority order.

Chairman Peter Doiron suggested that Action Council members living in New York should get together and draft a statement which would be sent to AC members for further refinement before the deadline. Approved.

Helen Wheeler presented the treasurer's report showing a

balance on Nov. 30, 1973 of \$1,055.56. Statements of expenses incurred leave a balance of \$754.11 to date.

It is estimated that memberships brought in approximately \$5,300 in 1972-73. It was strongly recommended that we request a closer accounting from ALA on this.

A representative from the Black Caucus asked if they could book meeting rooms at New York under the name of SRRT since as a non - ALA organization, they might not get what they requested. Jim Sanders of the Cable Video Task Force said they could work with their Task Force if rooms were at a premium.

rep of SRRT on Board
 Josh Williams of the Black Caucus reported on the status of the Freedom to Read Foundation and the LeRoy Merritt Fund. A legal aid fund has been set up through the Merritt Fund for unjustly dismissed librarians. This has now been broadened to provide help for others than just those of an intellectual freedom orientation.

The meeting adjourned but reconvened the next morning (Wednesday, Jan. 23) to prepare the budget. Present were: Peter Doiron, Sam Morrison, Zoia Horn, Dorothy Bendix, Suzanne LeBarron, Jim Sanders, Jackie Eubanks and Betty Kohler. Helen Wheeler sent her budget recommendations.

The Task Forces and Clearinghouse were asking \$3800 and \$1850 respectively for a total of \$5050. This did not include child care in N.Y. or any conference expenses. Jim Sanders mentioned the possibility of Ben Bagadikian as talent for the conference and estimated that the expense in bringing him to N.Y. would be at least \$150.

The entire philosophy of budget-making was discussed with regard to the political implications vis-à-vis SRRT's total objective. Each budget item was discussed separately. Clearinghouse's request was approved and it was voted to commend them for their general efficiency and economy.

The following budget was approved for 1974-75:

Alternatives in print	\$200
Cable/Video Task Force	450
Chicano Task Force	50
Drug Abuse Task Force	50
Ethnic Materials Task Force	200
Gay Liberation Task Force	350
Inter-Cultural Relations Task Force	0
Intimidation of the Press Task Force	50
Jobs Task Force	200
Library Service to Migrants	200
Mo Co Pro	50
People's Librarian Task Force	300
Prisoners Task Force	150
Recruitment of Minorities	0
Sex Related Media	0

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Status of Women Task Force	\$500
Women's Roster	0
Media in Free Schools	0
N. Y. SRRT Suite	150
N. Y. Day Care	125
Action Council Conference Expenses	200
Clearinghouse	1250
Total	<u>\$4525</u>

It is hoped that we will receive approximately \$5000 in membership dues in the coming year.

At the final meeting Thursday afternoon, January 24, Gay Liberation Task Force chairperson Barbara Gittings was present to inform AC of a Library of Congress discrimination case under a Federal Civil Service act. The person was being refused a job unless he agreed to become "rehabilitated." Since the person had no desire to be "rehabilitated" he wasn't hired. ACLU has taken the case.

Jackie Eubanks reported that the publication of Alternatives in Print is now approaching the point of being self-supporting.

Rodney Swarz, director of NCLIS, spoke on the report of the commission, requesting input from SRRT. The deadline for a late spring revision of the next draft is March 1, 1974, and should be sent to: Suite 601 177 K Street N. W., Washington, D.C. 20036. The present draft will appear in the February 15th LJ. Member discussion referred to the fact that the report seemed extremely "machine-and-system-oriented" with users' need being given the last consideration. Even if some feel the whole question is irrelevant, as Miriam Crawford pointed out, the danger is that even the smallest library may be swept into a network without sufficient information.

Miriam Crawford reported on the turning over of archival material for sending on to the University of Illinois which has agreed to house them. Action Council requested that for the time being she hold on to all materials sent her. Liz Futas reported that she had a complete file of all back issues of the newsletter from her term of office in Clearinghouse. Dorothy Bendix and Jim Sanders (representing affiliates and Task Forces), were asked to publicize all this generally. Materials regarding Task Forces which are no longer in existence should be sent to Miriam (4240 Parkside Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. 19104); Jackie Eubanks says these are very important materials.

Sam Morrison reported on the matter of a SRRT suite and facilities for the NY conference. It will cost \$85 a day for a suite at the Americana and \$90 at the Hilton. We are more interested this year in getting "meeting space than" sleeping space".

Mary Ciulfo (ALA) told Sam that meeting space will be very scarce, in fact there may not be space at any cost. AC feels that ALA should provide some space at cost, or at least at a very small

cost. (According to Jackie Eubanks, GODART got a free suite in the Palmer House from ALA for use at this midwinter).

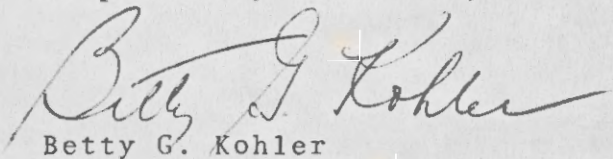
It was felt that at least \$150 will be needed to finance a suite for Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday in N.Y. to supplement Wednesday, Thursday and Friday when we can get a room from ALA. Mary Ciulfo will contact Sam March 1 with final room arrangements.

A lengthy discussion followed of the ALA dues revision proposal and what it might do to Round Tables. Zoia Horn (a member of ALA Council as well as AC) will request in council that Round Tables be kept on the membership checkoff form. No decision was reached about presenting a resolution to this effect.

The Black Caucus has said that they will support all our members running for council. Newsletter will publish the names of all AC members who are candidates and hopefully they will receive good support from our membership.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Betty G. Kohler
AC Recording Secretary