

Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Task Force, SRRT, ALA  
Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting #1  
June 23, 1995  
Palmer House

SC Members in attendance: Bey, Defendorf, Eagan, Fattig, Martin, Miller, Nitz, Thomas.  
DeSantis stood in for Greenblatt. There were 5 visitors.

Thomas called the meeting to order at 8:21pm.

Thomas reviewed the day's activities including the GLBTF Pre-Conference and the author reception at Gerber-Hart. Also Leon's collecting of Quentin Crisp from the airport.

Meeting participants introduced themselves.

#### Overview

Wendy presented the '95 Midwinter Conference GLBTF minutes for approval. Martin moved and Defendorf seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

#### Clearinghouse

Defendorf announced that the Clearinghouse took in \$249.50 in receipts during 1994-1995. Thomas requested that sales figures should be acquired from OLOS and reviewed for matching.

Defendorf also announced the GLBTF Web Page is up and addressable at: <http://www.gomedia.com>. She asked if she should post Clearinghouse documents on the Web. General approval was received. SantaVica suggested notifying the postings and web page at Netscape.Inc for broader dissemination and awareness.

#### Secretary

Nitz requested that someone volunteer to manage the balloting during the Membership Meeting. Eagan volunteered his services.

#### Book Awards

Eagan informed the SC of the winners of the Book Awards. The Book Award Committee has their own listserv which is functioning well. The committee members have coordinated amongst themselves to contact specific publishers, reducing the burden on the Book Award Chair to maintain all contact with publishers. John DeSantis will take over as Book Award Chair at the conclusion of this Chicago ALA conference. He intends to promote consumer and publisher awareness of the GLBTF Book Awards.

Joe announced that copies of Uncommon Heroes would be available for sale and signing during the Gala Dinner. Dorothy Allison will not be present at the Awards Ceremony.

Martin remarked that the new Book Awards Sticker will not be available at this conference. Supposedly they are still at the printers. He wanted to know the protocol to allow publishers to

print the stickers directly onto book jackets/covers and to contact publishers of previous Book Award winners.

Martin suggested having an author signing at '96 in conjunction with a local bookstore and to get the Book Awards and authors listed in the Annual ALA Conference Handbook.

#### Fundraising

Eagan reiterated that the Book Awards visibility and fundraising for the Award needed to progress hand in hand. ALA wants the Award to become more visible; preferably to have the Award announcement along with publicity from other major ALA book awards. ALA would also like to see some significant continuing event associated with the Book Awards like this year's dinner. The 1996 Annual Conference will see a major Book Awards dinner program. More people are needed to assist in the fundraising process. He suggested that fundraising be made into a permanent sub-committee within the GLBTF. This will be added to Monday's Membership Meeting agenda.

#### Newsletter

Fattig announced that he brought with him (though not to this Steering Committee meeting) copies of the latest GLBTF newsletter and subscription forms for such. They will be made available at the Gala Dinner.

#### Preconference Planning

Miller related highlights of the GLBTF Preconference. There were 45 attendees and over 10 speakers, etc. Donna Minkowitz (as the main speaker) was very well received. Her speech may be made available. Will Manley participated at the luncheon. Two of the panelists did not arrive, but the positions were filled by Rita Sherry (topic: Human Resources) and Mark Martin (Summit Meeting). Kudos to all who participated in the development of this program! Miller estimates that the pre-conference will lose about \$1000.

Miller intends to develop a handbook of procedures for the Planning Committee chair during the next year or so.

Bey asked if evaluation sheets were handed out to participants at the Preconference. Miller informed that they were not available but could be sent out to participants. He will send out as many as possible via electronic mail.

#### 25th Anniversary Gala Planning

Bey (?) Thomas (?) informed that there are over 250 registrants for the 25th Annual Gala Dinner! Illuminaries besides us include Betty Turock, Peggy Sullivan, Ann Symons, and several other prominent ALA representatives. Volunteers are still needed to assist setting up the banquet room at the Hotel Intercontinental around 2:30pm.

Gough asked if the dinner was paid for. Thomas was uncertain that it would be fully funded. This will be addressed at the second Steering Committee meeting.

## Publicity

Martin informed that the official GLBTF Letterhead had been designed and distributed to steering committee members. The Book Awards plaques had been designed and printed. The 20th Anniversary logo had been designed and printed. The Task Force has begun a relationship with The Advocate. They facilitated the acquisition of the wine for the Gala Dinner.

The position of publicity chair ends with this conference.

## Read-Aloud

Uta Flecchner is facilitating the Read Aloud. She was unavailable to attend the Steering Committee meeting and thus was unavailable to address the issues involved with this program.

## Co-Chair Reports

### Leon's Report

Bey announced a series of promotional fliers developed to inform the public of the function of the GLBTF and its products. The intent is to have these promotionals displayed at all GLBTF functions and meetings.

Bey relived for us his experiences getting Mr. Crisp to Chicago including the purchase of three airline tickets!

An anticipated \$500 is expected from T-shirt sales.

Requested that DeSantis review and evaluate fundraising efforts for the Book Awards as incoming Book Awards Chair.

Announced that the mugs haven't arrived. When they do, they will be mailed to purchasers.

The honorarium for Mr. Crisp has been received!!! (Editorial comment: Unheard of occurrence!!) Unfortunately, Ms. Minkowitz has not received her honorarium.

The Gala Dinner may come close to breaking even.

Miller requested that T-shirt proceeds begin a new paper trail of transactions with OLOS. He will request a report of fund-accounting in association with the Preconference. Thomas informed that major efforts have been undertaken to provide a paper trail of transactions with OLOS.

### Wendy's Report

Thomas relived her experience (and many of the current steering committee members!) with OLOS. They have to date failed to reimburse Ms. Feinberg (of expenses incurred during the 94 ALA Conference). OLOS failed to give mention of the GLBTF Preconference in American Libraries along with all the other preconferences. The Preconference mailing was to go out to SRRT members only, and OLOS decided

to send mailings out to the members of other supporting groups. Miller initiated the stop of the mailings, and OLOS staff harrassed Miller for stopping the unrequested mailings. OLOS has failed to notify Fattig of paid newsletter subscriptions.

Peggy Sullivan is working with Greenblatt re: payment to Ms. Feinberg. In fact, this was just cleared up.

Thomas announced that Stephen Stillwell, SRRT Coordinator, has been appointed to an OLOS Advisory Committee. He was invited to this position by Betty Turock.

Miller requested that a letter of apology from OLOS be submitted to Ms. Feinberg.

Defendorf informed us that the debacle concerning our non-publication of Michael Jackson's biobibliography of famous glb's was caused by his having an old listing in a database available on the Internet (Louie Crew's glb scholar's directory).

Miller requested that transactions taking place on the GLBTF listserv be retained by the secretary. Select messages have been retained already. The listserv automatically archives all messages posted to the listserv. A copy of the archives will be collected at the end of each month and stored with the GLBTF files.

Bey informed Steering Committee members and other key personnel that any Task Force expenses need to be tracked through the Co-Chairs in an effort to produce a paper trail with OLOS.

Fattig informed that this conference is also the 25th anniversary of the Leroy C. Merit Fund.

Thomas called the meeting to a close at 9:30pm.