

Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Task Force, SRRT, ALA
Minutes of the Second Steering Committee Meeting
June 27, 1995
Palmer House, Chicago, IL

Steering Committee Members in attendance: Bey, Defendorf, DeSantis, Fattig, Hansen, Martin, Miller, Nitz, Thomas. There were 4 visitors.

Thomas called the meeting to order at 8:05am.

Thomas requested everyone introduce themselves.

I. Committee Reports

Clearinghouse

Defendorf mentioned that the folders of Clearinghouse publications have been very well received. Unfortunately many of the publications are out-of-date. One of the duties of the in-coming Clearinghouse co-coordinator will be to find volunteers to update the publications. Defendorf announced that John Sandstrom has volunteered to take over Dan Hodge's position.

Hansen announced that he would be receiving older Clearing House materials from Barbara Gittings and would pass them along to Defendorf (in addition to other stuff he has).

Secretary

Nitz related an update on the External Relations committee. No one showed up at their public forums. At the second committee meeting, they reviewed responses to their questionnaire. Every group is using the same words to define different actions. The Committee has decided to create definitions for the terms they want subgroups to use and then will re-question the various committees and organizations within ALA to redefine their various relationships both within ALA and without ALA.

It was also pointed out that as far as the ALA by-laws and policy manual are concerned, official external relations are only possible from the ALA Board to the Division levels. Roundtables and below may not have officially sanctioned external relations.

Newsletter

Fattig will begin sending out postcards to new subscribers informing them that their checks have been received and that they can expect their subscription to begin with the next issue. He may try to send out copies of the prior issue. Fattig is looking forward to working with Barb Stevens as the new book review editor. He expects to participate in publicizing the 25th Book Awards Gala in 1996. Stevens will be sending out calls for new reviewers and calling on reviewers with outstanding reviews. He discussed the potential for publishing the newsletter on the WWW. There is potential for accomplishing this within the next year. Fattig said that the subscription list numbers about 350.

Book Awards

DeSantis announced that a subcommittee of the Book Awards Committee has been created to handle the 25th Gala Breakfast. This committee consists of 8 members including past, present, and potential committee members. (Is there a listing of the personnel?) The committee intends to publish a booklet and a brochure for the fest. There is a desire to tie the breakfast in with the GLBTF main program. The breakfast will be on Monday of the '96 Annual Conference in New York.

Planning

Miller expressed the desire to have the Book Awards kick off a three hour program which would include the main GLBTF program. He expressed a concern over having another tie in the future. Miller feels the main programs should follow the Conference theme. Once it's been determined what the '96 theme is, he will solicit potential program ideas via Gay Libn and the GLBTF newsletter. Program topics will be announced in the fall issue of the newsletter. By Thanksgiving speakers will be selected and an announcement will be made at Midwinter. The Planning committee is already beginning to work on the '97 Conference programs in an effort to move program planning into a two-year cycle.

Current ideas for programs include:

outreach to divided communities: gay men and lesbians

library service for the underserved

gay education - parents/children

radicalism/spirituality - The Radical Right, radical fairies

bashing

domestic violence

homosexuality as a treatable disorder

(Note: for more detail see the program planning committee minutes appended below.)

There is a desire to see a GLBTF presence in the Internet Room. Thomas suggested that the GLBTF provide volunteers to help staff the Internet Room.

Hansen volunteered to act as a consultant and be a liason with ALA offices.

25th Gala Dinner

Thomas requests that all GLBTF-related receipts incurred during this conference be turned in by August 15, 1995. They need to be to Hansen by September 1, 1995.

Hansen announced that we have two banners and will need a new banner reflecting the Task Force's name change. The new banner will most likely not be needed until at least 1997 as we will miss the gay pride parades in New York and San Francisco. There was discussion re: bringing the old banners to the '96 Conference and letting people autograph them before putting them in the archives.

Publicity

Martin needs contracts before September in order to sell the Book Award seals. He intends to finish this project before turning over the process to the Book Awards Committee.

Co-Chair's Reports

Leon

Bey feels strongly that although the Task Force took a loss by reducing the price of the Gala Dinner tickets, the impact of goodwill generated was worth it. He stressed that the Task Force needs to learn how to fundraise.

Bey will deliver mugs to those who have pre-paid for them, and offered to continue selling the mugs at upcoming GLBTF events.

>From the t-shirt sales, Bey donated \$40 to the Gerber-Hart Library and paid \$40 to Mr. Crisp for their services.

Wendy

Thomas thanked Bey for all his hard work and support as Male Co-Chair.

Thomas brought forward John Cunningham's offer to purchase and distribute copies of Uncommon Heroes to all of the Supreme Court justices. The project was approved by the Steering Committee. Cunningham has offered to pay for the purchase and shipping of the books. Thomas read a draft of a letter to be included along with the books. Suggestions were made to improve it's effect. The letter was approved. (Can I have a copy of the letter for inclusion here?)

Thomas brought forth an article from the Black Caucus of the ALA Newsletter (June 1995) titled "A Test For Social Relevance" regarding the change of conference location from Cincinnati to Philadelphia due to Cincinnati's rejection of a gay rights law. Martin offered to write a response and post this to the GLBTF listserv for approval. Upon receiving general approval, the letter will be sent to the editor of the publication and to OLOS.

Thomas asked Cal Gough to introduce his ideas to resynchronize Steering Committee positions to match the By-Laws. It's also necessary to change the By-Laws to reflect the "Rules of Order" that ALA Council decides to use. He also stressed the need to make Fundraising a standing committee.

Hansen moved and Martin seconded the resynchronization of positions to reflect Cal's proposed changes. Positions take effect at the end of the Annual Conference and are held for two years. The following positions shall be filled during even numbered years: Female Co-Chair, Secretary, ClearingHouse Chairs, Program Chair. The following positions shall be filled during odd numbered years: Male Co-Chair, Book Awards Chair, Newsletter Editor, Publicity Chair. The motion was approved by the Steering Committee.

The commitment to synchronize the Rules of Order with ALA Council was approved by the Steering Committee.

Cal moved and Miller seconded the establishment of fundraising as a function of the Publicity Chair. The motion was approved by the Steering Committee.

It was proposed that the GLBTF present a flier/brochure about itself to the NMRT for inclusion in its introductory packets for new ALA members.

Nitz volunteered to begin drafting the By-Law changes.

Other Business

Miller gave a brief presentation about the strategic planning process undertaken by the ACRL Instruction committee.

Santa Vicca recommended polling the listservs during the development of goals and the mission statement.

Thomas established the following deadlines for the strategic planning process:

October 1	New mission statement
Midwinter	focused discussion on priorities
96 Annual	Revised By-Laws

Thomas closed the meeting at 9:45am.