

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ROUND TABLE
ACTION COUNCIL

MINUTES Jan. 25, 1978 2-4 pm.
Chicago winter meeting

Barbara Ford offered help to the summer annual meeting and was asked if she might find inexpensive housing for librarians having difficulty in financing the convention. A school dormitory was suggested. She will look into possibilities. The possibility for cheap housing will be advertized in the next Clearing House newsletter so that some idea of demand can be assessed.

The annual budget was revised and approved.

A request was made by Donnarae McCann to form a Task Force on Tools for Consciousness Raising, to work on programs for teaching the recognition of prejudice in various forms through films, particularly the film "Minor Altercation" which was planned for use by the IFRT, but then decided against, plus other films, CIBC materials, take home checklists on recognition of characteristics of racism, etc.

Mary Biblo reported on the IFRT meeting at which efforts were made to plan a program on racism. It was decided to have two speakers, especially Archibald Cox and Thurgood Marshall, A number of Blacks were suggested for moderator. There were some members who preferred Russell Shanks as moderator and he will be invited first. Other suggestions included Andrew Young.

Clearing House announced that it will do its own elections, and appeal for volunteers to run for Action Council in this issue. The deadline for news is February 1.

Gay Liberation reported that the joint bibliography of its work team and the group from YASD had not worked out and that another effort would be made. They plan to survey discrimination at annual meeting on a model of a survey done at the NCTE annual meeting. They have spaces for the showing of a large group of films, but have run into the high cost of union projectionists. Help was requested if some solution cannot be worked out, and it was agreed that at the end of the summer meeting, the budget would be examined for money to contribute. At this time no definite commitment could be made.

The Task Force for Women has restructured to form a steering committee. In the work shops there were 48 participant trainees. The evaluation was favorable. They did some monitoring of exhibits and found one exhibitor handing out suggestive buttons and asked the exhibits committee to council him. The buttons disappeared. The Sexism-Racism-Awareness statement will be added to the convention exhibitors' guidelines. The task force is considering a name change to include the term "feminist".

ANNUAL PROGRAM

It was suggested that an effort be made to contact former counselors, with a breakfast at the SRRT suite. Cheese, fruit, teas, coffee, good rolls were proposed by Mary Biblo.

RESOLUTIONS

Nancy Kellems-Rose asked endorsement of a resolution censuring the closing down of newspapers in South Africa. This was voted favorably.

RESOLUTIONS

Herb Biblo will sponsor the resolution on affirmative action and the Bakke case. It may not reach the Council floor before close of the conference.

PROGRAM

It was suggested that a parallel statement of 21 white librarians be worked up to parallel the Black librarians statement, and that it be placed as an advertisement in American Libraries with a request to endorse addressed to other white librarians. Barbara Ford will investigate the cost, and then consideration will be given to placing it as an advertisement or as an article.

It was also proposed that an effort be made again to defeat The Speaker 's sponsorship by ALA, via the white librarians' statement, by a bibliography of materials on racism, by the passing out of materials at meetings, and an action program to be worked out after the finishing of the white librarians' statement.

Respectfully submitted

Elizabeth Morrissett, Secretary pro-tem