

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
DIVISION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES (Old)

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Chicago, February 1, 1951

A meeting of the Executive Board of the A.L.A. Division of Public Libraries was held at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, on February 1, 1951.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Helen M. Harris after breakfast at 8:00 a.m.

Present: Helen M. Harris, President; Richard B. Sealock, Vice-President; Marie W. Barkman, Treasurer; Eleanor Plain, Executive Secretary; Directors at Large: None; Directors Representing Sections: Mrs. Thekla R. Hodgson (Branch Librarians); Councilors: Ruth Gregory, Perrie Jones, Emily Danton, Joyce Nienstedt, Carl Vitz, Helen Hutchinson, Howard M. Rowe, Elsa S. Thompson; Section Chairmen: Mrs. Charlemae Rollins (Branch Librarians), Miriam Putnam (Adult Education), Dorothy F. Deininger (Armed Forces); Chief Public Library Specialist: Helen A. Ridgway; Guest: Louis M. Nourse.

Minutes: It was moved by Ruth Gregory, seconded by Joyce Nienstedt and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Book List Project: Miss Ridgway reported the request from Mr. A. H. Carhart, Chairman, Editorial Committee, Better Fishing, Inc., for a list of books on outdoor sports for men. This request was referred to the Division's Book List Committee under the chairmanship of Howard Rowe for action.

Council of National Library Associations: Miss Harris reported on a meeting of the CNLA held to further the formation of a federation of National Library Associations. After discussion it was moved by Howard Rowe, seconded by Carl Vitz and carried that the A.L.A. Executive Board be asked to investigate the form of the federation proposed by the CNLA and clarify its implications for the Division.

Ford Foundation: A communications was read from Lowell Martin asking for suggestions for projects beneficial to libraries which might be submitted to the Ford Foundation. Suggestions made by the group included film circuits for libraries on a national scale, production of educational films, a study of television and its possibilities for libraries, production of television material by A.L.A. and a nationwide service to shut-ins.

Merger: In a discussion of the reorganization resulting from the merger of the three former divisions Mr. Sealock stated that under the proposed constitution of the new division the door is open for section formation if a section can present a strong case for important work to be done. It was further stated that all present sections of the Division would automatically go out of existence after the A.L.A. Conference in July 1951 and it would be necessary for each section to decide by that time whether or not it wished to continue. It was the feeling of the Executive Board that it would be inadvisable to have a large number of sections formed. It was moved by Ruth Gregory, seconded by Joyce Nienstedt and carried that the Old Division of Public Libraries should not consider petitioning for section status under the New Division.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Plain,
Executive Secretary,