

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

Meeting of the Board of Directors, ALA Annual Conference  
Washington, D. C., 1959

**Second Session**

Friday, June 26, 4:30 P.M.

Sheraton Park Hotel, Franklin Room

Presiding, James E. Bryan, President

PRESENT

Board Members: James E. Bryan, Lura G. Currier, Paxton P. Price, Hannis S. Smith, Rose Vainstein, Eunice Von Ende, Elinor Walker, Mrs. Raymond A. Young

Other: Mrs. Merlin M. Moore

Executive Secretary: Eleanor A. Ferguson

Staff: Ruth M. White

Absent: Sigrid A. Edge, Donna D. Finger, Mrs. Helen E. Hendrick, John Lorenz, Miriam Putnam, Mrs. Benjamin Saks, Mrs. Elsa S. Thompson, Bernard Van Horne, Mrs. George R. Wallace.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bryan, President, at 4:40 P.M. There was no quorum but Mr. Bryan ruled that any action taken would be considered to have the force of action by the whole board.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE  
ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Miss Ferguson reported that no librarians had been appointed to the national steering committee for the White House Conference for Children and Youth, and few librarians are on the state committees. At the last White House Conference there was much interest at the time but little when the reports were published a year or so later. Representatives of ALA staff met with the staff of the White House Conference and offered the help of ALA and libraries in informing WHC participants and in following up the recommendations of the Conference. The suggestions of the ALA staff were eagerly approved by the WHC staff, and a budget of \$1500 was approved by PEBCO to carry out the necessary publications.

Miss Ferguson's report was accepted and the Board agreed to do anything necessary to implement it.

AALT PROJECT

The proposal to hold a series of trustee workshops was submitted to the Rockefeller Foundation and rejected as not fitting into their program. At present ALA is having informal conversations with the Fund for Adult Education regarding the project.

AALT INSTITUTE,  
MONTREAL

Mrs. Young reported that the trustees had discussed with Maurice Tauber of Columbia University School of Library Service, a three-day course on Workshop to precede the Montreal Conference. The Workshop, to be

held under the auspices of Columbia University, would be of real depth and for a limited number. The Workshop participants would then report to the trustee institute at Montreal. Details will be arranged by mail with Dr. Leigh and Mr. Dalton, incoming Dean of the School. The method of selection of workshop participants and institute leaders had not been decided. The AALT Board had not decided how much time would be needed for an institute at Montreal.

HANDBOOK FOR  
LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Mrs. Moore reported that she had worked closely with R. R. Bowker on promotion of Mrs. Winser's revision of Handbook for Library Trustees.

Letters are being mailed by Bowker over the signatures of Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Young. The revised edition will be double in size and more practical.

LIBRARY LEGISLATION

Mrs. Young reported that trustees who are lawyers will prepare more detailed information on legislation effecting libraries than now included in the Washington Newsletter. A lawyer member of AALT will prepare a brief on why libraries should be considered as educational institutions.

TRUSTEES INSTITUTE

Mrs. Moore reported on the trustees pre-conference institute. It was well attended and helpful to all who attended. More trustees are, increasingly, attending other ALA meetings.

OPERATION LIBRARY

Mrs. Currier read the Operation Library Committee report from Edith Foster, Chairman, in which she recommended that even though the project no longer has a Jaycee national number one priority, each state library association should urge the Jaycees to appoint a state chairman and encourage the Jaycees to continue working with their local libraries.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE

Mr. Bryan reported in Miss LeFevre's absence that the Library Development Committee believes:

1. There should be qualitative standards for bookmobile service
2. There should be a study of student use of the public library; a committee should identify the problem and prepare a statement for presentation at Midwinter.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR  
THE LIBRARY SERVICES ACT

Mrs. Currier read the report for Sallie Farrell, acting chairman of the Coordinating Committee for the Library Services Act, in which the committee:

1. Expressed a need for more publicity and recommended that a letter be sent to ALA concerning the lack of publicity.
2. A general session at the Montreal Conference should be on the work of each division and its contribution to LSA. Would it be appropriate for PLA to write Mr. Powell making this suggestion?

ARMED FORCES  
LIBRARIANS' SECTION

Eunice Von Ende, newly elected President of the Armed Forces Librarians' Section, reported that the Military Community-Library Study program has been extended for two years. A manual is being prepared which will include questionnaires and instructions for making a study. The procedures and forms will

be tested in pilot libraries. A workshop will be held at the annual conference in 1961. After that, the manual will be published and distributed to all members of the Armed Forces Librarians' Section. The program has been planned in cooperation with ASD and LCP.

#### MONTREAL CONFERENCE

Mr. Bryan said the AIA programs for the Montreal conference will be planned in cooperation with the Canadian Library Association. The programs will emphasize mutual and international problems. Mr. Bryan recommended that the PLA join with other divisions, such as LAD, for a general meeting related to Ralph Shaw's study of the Toronto Library Complex. In addition, Mr. Bryan will ask for a PLA business meeting.

#### SCHOOL LIBRARY STANDARDS

Mrs. Currier read a letter from Margaret Scoggin, who has represented PLA on the committee working on new School Library Standards saying that the final draft appeared to be acceptable to public libraries and recommending that PLA allow its name to appear on the title page of the standards as a cooperating group. This recommendation was accepted by the Board.

#### PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM FOR 1959-60

Mr. Bryan presented a six-point program for PLA for 1959-60:

1. Continued support by PLA for AALT in its program for increased membership and greater effectiveness for public libraries.
2. Further extension and implementation of the public library standards as they apply to smaller libraries (branches or independent) and bookmobile service. Greater efforts to have the standards adopted by more communities.

Mrs. Currier moved and Mr. Smith seconded the motion.

IT WAS VOTED that the President be given authority to appoint necessary committees to implement the standards.

3. Study the improvements in library collections and service needed to meet the increased demands of the enriched curriculum in the schools.

Mr. Smith moved and Mr. Price seconded the motion.

IT WAS VOTED that the President may appoint committees as appropriate.

4. Study the role of the metropolitan public library and its special functions and responsibilities.
5. Continued support of National Library Week.
6. Study sources of financial support for public libraries.

The suggested method of procedure is to have a committee define the areas of interest and prepare a proposal for a foundation grant. Mr. Bryan asked that suggestions for committee members be sent to him by September 1.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

It was pointed out that the division's committees vary widely in the number of members and in the definiteness of the written charges. The Board instructed the Executive Secretary to refer the committee structure to the Division Organization Committee for consideration and possible revision. The Committee is also to consider a change in the Bylaws to deal with the recurring problem of quorums for Board meetings, now that Councilors are voting members of the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eleanor A. Ferguson*

Eleanor A. Ferguson  
Executive Secretary  
Public Library Association

JN 23305

Continued support by PIA for AAL in the program for increased membership and greater effectiveness for public libraries.

Further extension and implementation of the public library standards as they apply to smaller libraries (provision on independent and portable service. Greater efforts to have the standards adopted by more communities.

Mr. Smith moved and Mr. Ryan seconded the motion.

IT WAS VOTED that the President be given authority to appoint necessary committees to implement the standards.

Study the improvements in library collections and services needed to meet the increased demands of the enriched curriculum in the schools.

Mr. Smith moved and Mr. Ryan seconded the motion.

IT WAS VOTED that the President may appoint committees as appropriate.

Study the role of the metropolitan public library and its special functions and responsibilities.

Continued support of National Library Week.

Study sources of financial support for public libraries.

The suggested method of procedure is to have a committee define the scope of interest and prepare a proposal for a foundation grant. Mr. Ryan asked that action for committee members be sent to him by September 1.