

PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

MIAMI BEACH CONFERENCE 1962

First Session

Sunday, June 17, 1962, 2:00 p.m.

Barcelona Hotel, Penthouse Club

PRESENT Board Members: John F. Anderson, Clara E. Breed, Mary Carter, Helen Fry, Alta Parks, Paxton P. Price, Harold L. Hamill, Harold Roth, Nettie B. Taylor

Incoming Officers: Ransom Richardson, Persis Pooley

Executive Secretary: Eleanor A. Ferguson

Staff: Mrs. Barbara Seshadri

Absent: June Bayless, Paul J. Burnette, Jerome Cushman, Mrs. Benjamin Saks, Elinor Walker, Raymond E. Williams, Mrs. Raymond A. Young, ex officio.

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by Harold L. Hamill, President.

At the beginning of the meeting a quorum was not present and it was decided to discuss matters that did not require action.

PLA NEWSLETTER

Miss Ferguson reported that the Newsletter "Just Between Ourselves" had brought in a number of letters, almost all of them complimentary. The only two objections were that the green ink against white paper was difficult to read, and that the material contained in the newsletter could have been carried in the AIA Bulletin. Miss Ferguson pointed out that the material in "Just Between Ourselves" was information the AIA Bulletin would not publish because it conflicted with editorial policy. Miss Ferguson thought that future issues of the newsletter could carry a column of news notes of public libraries, omitted in the first issue because of bylaws, program information, etc. The approximate cost of the publication, including mailing, was \$400. Miss Fry thought that this type of publication makes one's membership a much more personal thing and she had heard many favorable comments about it among armed forces librarians. The added attraction of a division publication might, it was thought, increase membership in PLA. Miss Ferguson asked the Board to consider the possibility of finding an editor outside the office. It was agreed, a quorum being present, that this job could best be done by the executive secretary. It was the consensus that the newsletter was a good thing and should be continued.

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Miss Ferguson introduced Ransom Richardson, the newly-elected PLA vice president and president-elect.

DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER AWARD COMMITTEE

Miss Ferguson told the Board of the Book-of-the-Month Club's proposal to increase the award by giving \$5,000 to one library,

\$1,500 to nine in different states, and \$1,000 to a library in each of the remaining 40 states. It was pointed out that there might be some difficulties with this program: the small library might be encouraged to remain independent instead of becoming a part of a larger unit of service; some states have only a few libraries to apply while others have a great many; it put the state library agency into the difficult position of selecting just one library from its state. Miss Ferguson mentioned that a number of regional libraries had won awards and that the application stressed cooperation with other libraries. Mr. Hamill hoped that the Board could present some alternatives to BOMC's proposal and asked the Board to look at the idea from BOMC's point of view. Some suggestions were to give the award money to the state library agencies or the state library association to distribute, or to divide the country into regions and distribute the award on that basis. It was also suggested that Mr. Greenaway be contacted since he had been in touch with BOMC on this matter.

PEBCO REPORT

Mr. Bryan, who represented PLA on the Program Evaluation and Budget Committee was unable to be present; Miss Ferguson reported for him that available funds came much closer to meeting requests than in previous years, so that all the divisions' requests were met. See Exhibit I for details.

ARMED FORCES LIBRARIANS SECTION

Helen Fry, President of the AFLS, reported that she had received many fine comments on Studying the Military Community, which was published by ALA and mailed without charge to all members of the section. Miss Fry used the manual to conduct a survey of book collections of armed forces libraries in her command which was very successful in bringing these collections up-to-date. She also reported that two new AFLS committees would meet during the Miami Beach Conference: one working on standards for armed forces public libraries and another working on an in-service training project.

MIDWINTER MEETING BOARD MINUTES

IT WAS VOTED that the minutes of the Midwinter Board meetings be approved as mailed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05.

Second Session
Friday, June 22, 1962, 2:00 p.m.
Barcelona Hotel, Penthouse Club

PRESENT

Board Members: John F. Anderson, June Bayless, Clara E. Breed, Mary Carter, Jerome Cushman, Harold L. Hamill, Paxton P. Price, Raymond E. Williams, Mrs. Raymond A. Young, ex officio

Incoming Officers: Persis Pooley, Ransom Richardson

Executive Secretary: Eleanor A. Ferguson

Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award: Russell Thacher, Award Director, Book-of-the-Month Club, Inc.

Committee Chairmen: Eleanor Plain, Dorothy Strouse, Florene Jordan

Staff: Ruth M. White, Mrs. Barbara Seshadri
 Absent: Paul J. Burnette, Helen Fry, Alta Parks,
 Harold L. Roth, Mrs. Benjamin Saks, Nettie
 B. Taylor

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Clara E. Breed, incoming president.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STANDARDS FOR SMALL LIBRARIES

and criticisms which were most helpful. In almost every case they have been incorporated into the present draft.

Eleanor Plain, chairman of the Subcommittee on Standards for Small Libraries, thanked the Board for their suggestions, comments,

Miss Plain had received an objection to the use of the word "standards" in the title of her document, although the committee had been instructed to prepare "standards." Suggested titles were: Goals for the Implementation of Small Public Library Service; Guidelines for Evaluation; Service in the Small Public Library. Miss Plain was asked to consider possible titles and use her discretion in selecting one.

IT WAS VOTED that the Board give final approval to Miss Plain's document on standards for small public libraries.

IT WAS VOTED that a bibliography of useful materials be added to the document.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF QUALITY FOR BOOKMOBILE SERVICE

for Bookmobile Service. The committee worked on draft 7 at the Miami Beach Conference which will be duplicated in the next 30 days and sent to a wide range of librarians. It will be a 7 or 8 page document and include an Introduction, Role of the Bookmobile, Organization and Operation, Scheduling, Library Materials, Bookmobile Staff, Physical Aspects of the Bookmobile, and the Headquarters in which it will be housed. The Committee encountered some difficulty with AASL who felt that the bookmobile should not be allowed on the school grounds.

In the absence of James Foutts, Chairman, Dorothy Strouse reported on the progress of the Subcommittee on Standards of Quality

IT WAS VOTED that the PLA Board give tentative approval to the current draft and that copies of the final draft be distributed to the board before Midwinter, when final approval can be considered.

DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER AWARD COMMITTEE

Fisher Library Awards and presented the new proposal discussed at the previous Board meeting. Mr. Thacher suggested that the requirements for the Award be eased, but it was the consensus of the Board that the requirements should remain high to encourage libraries to improve themselves. Miss Ferguson called the Board's attention to some changes in the criteria which she had discussed with the ASL Board, whose members do the initial screening of applicants. The changes emphasize cooperation, as does the PLA Committee in making its choice of the ten winners. Miss Bayless felt that

Mr. Russell Thacher, Award Director for the Book-of-the-Month Club, gave the Board the background of the previous Dorothy Canfield

any library meeting these criteria would be a very good library. Mr. Cushman stated that the award might conflict with the public library standards in that it would tend to encourage independent libraries rather than library systems. Miss Ferguson mentioned that a number of regional libraries had won awards. It was suggested that under No. 1 an item be added spelling out that a library could be an independent library, a region or system, or a unit of service within a region. Mr. Cushman stated that he wished to go on record that he felt that the award has implications for AIA and therefore might require Executive Board consideration and voted for the proposal with a note of caution.

It was agreed that the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award Committee should make a report to the Board at Midwinter on the first year's experience with the expanded award, including their recommendations for the future.

IT WAS VOTED that the Public Library Association Board acknowledges with thanks the expanded program offered by the Book-of-the-Month Club in book awards to small libraries with the suggestion that the award be made available to communities of 25,000 population or less served by independent libraries, county or regional libraries, or units thereof.

COUNTY AND REGIONAL LIBRARIANS COMMITTEE

The group that met at the County and Regional Librarians meeting at Miami Beach asked PIA to establish a "committee of

county and regional librarians to discuss mutual interests and co-operative library practices."

IT WAS VOTED that the president of the Public Library Association be authorized to establish such a committee, which would plan programs for future annual conferences.

CHICAGO CONFERENCE 1963

Miss Breed informed the Board of Mr. Bryan's proposed conference-within-a-conference to discuss the student problem in libraries.

It may be that a director will be hired immediately for this part of the conference to do the planning and prepare materials for study before they go to Conference. The committee is considering getting foundation funds to support this program or raising the registration fee for everyone attending; it was the consensus that raising the registration fee would not be desirable. If approved, this means that divisions will have less time at the Conference for their own meetings.

IT WAS MOVED that the Public Library Association endorse the conference-within-a conference.

ARMED FORCES LIBRARIANS SECTION

Miss Persis Pooley, incoming president of the Armed Forces Librarians Section, reported that the section at its business meeting

voted to recommend that a central national register of librarians be established and that librarians be placed on the critical list so that librarians may enter federal service at higher than base pay. She asked the approval of the PIA Board so that the AFIS can send this to the U. S. Civil Service Commission as an AIA recommendation. Miss Ferguson said that IAD would have to be consulted before AIA approval could be given since the recommendation concerns personnel administration.

IT WAS VOTED that the PLA Board endorse the Armed Forces Librarians Section recommendation that the U. S. Civil Service Commission establish a central national register of librarians and makes a strong recommendation to LAD for approval.

IT WAS VOTED that the PLA Board endorses the Armed Forces Librarians Section recommendation that the U. S. Civil Service Commission place librarians on the critical list and makes a strong recommendation to LAD for approval. The President of AFIS is hereby authorized to seek LAD approval and to write, after getting the approval, to the U. S. Civil Service Commission in the name of AIA.

AFIS would like to make an award of \$35.00 to an outstanding armed forces librarian. This item would be included in the PLA budget. Because members had left, there was no longer a quorum. The remaining members decided to postpone action to the Midwinter Board meeting.

The AFIS would like to change their bylaws to add a second vice president to take care of emergencies, and the second vice president would become Program Chairman. It was agreed that the Bylaws with these minor changes should be sent directly to the AIA Constitution and Bylaws Committee and did not require PLA Board approval.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STANDARDS
FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Miss Ferguson reported that the Standards for Children's Services would be circulated.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor A. Ferguson,
Executive Secretary

IT WAS VOTED that the AIA Board endorse the
 Armed Forces Librarians Section recommendation
 that the U. S. Civil Service Commission estab-
 lish a central national register of librarians
 and make a strong recommendation to IAD for
 approval.

IT WAS VOTED that the AIA Board endorse the
 Armed Forces Librarians Section recommenda-
 tion that the U. S. Civil Service Commission
 place librarians on the critical list and
 make a strong recommendation to IAD for
 approval. The President of AIA is hereby
 authorized to ask IAD to make an award of \$50.00

In the Basic AIA Budget	
Salaries of executive secretary, assistant to the executive secretary, Grade 7 secretary	
Division President's expense	\$400.00
Section President's expense	75.00
Part-time clerical assistance	475.00
Charged to the Publishing Department Budget:	
Division Newsletter (2 issues)	1250.00
AFL Section Newsletter	30.00
Division Program:	
Materials for free distribution	150.00
Publication of "Standards of Quality for Bookmobile Service"	100.00
Publication of "Standards for Children's Service in Public Libraries"	150.00
Revision of "Costs of Public Library Service in 1959" (questionnaires and postage to collect data on current costs only)	50.00
Charged to the Conference budget	
AFL Section - Professional Exhibit	25.00

Robert A. Ferguson,
Executive Secretary

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