

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FORMALIZED MINUTES

Meeting of the Board of Directors, Annual Conference, Chicago, 1963

First Session

Monday, July 15, 1963, 4:30 p.m.

Conrad Hilton Hotel, Parlor 1

Presiding: Clara E. Breed, president

PRESENT: Board members: Clara E. Breed, president; Ransom L. Richardson, president-elect; Harold L. Roth, treasurer; June Bayless; Paul Burnette; Mary J. Carter; Jerome Cushman; Alta Parks; Persis Pooley; Paxton P. Price; Mrs. Benjamin Saks; Nettie B. Taylor; Raymond E. Williams

Incoming president-elect: William Chait

Executive Secretary: Eleanor A. Ferguson

ALA Staff: Mrs. Barbara Seshadri

ABSENT: John F. Anderson; Virginia Owens, Division Representative to ALA Membership Committee; Mrs. Raymond A. Young, ALTA representative

MINUTES Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Clara E. Breed, president. Miss Breed welcomed Mr. William Chait, the newly elected vice president and president-elect of PLA and announced that Helen Hutchinson is the division's new councilor.

MIDWINTER MINUTES: IT WAS VOTED that the minutes of the Midwinter Meetings be accepted as mailed.

PEBCO REPORT Mr. Hamill, the division's PEBCO representative, reported that PLA had received all the money it had asked for. Next year three issues of JUST BETWEEN OURSELVES will be published. Mr. Hamill pointed out that there is no relation between the size of a division's membership and the amount of a division's budget. Many of the smaller divisions which had a number of projects had large budgets.

REAPPORTIONMENT OF COUNCIL SEATS Miss Breed called the Board's attention to the fact that the division was losing one councilor due to the reapportionment, although it had only 15 fewer members than the next larger division, which lost none. The executive secretary mentioned that another difficulty was that some years only one new person came on the Board and another year there would be three new people. Reapportionment is now made on even-numbered years and it might be better to have it every year or

every four years. Miss Parks said that ACRD actively promotes membership and perhaps when PLA has its new membership brochure it will attract a larger membership. It was pointed out that PLA now has a large membership and the problem is to have enough interesting activities to keep them. Mr. Cushman said that there is always a dividing line and that the only thing the Board could question is the method of arriving at the reapportionment figures.

It was agreed that the matter of reapportionment should be discussed with John Anderson, chairman of the Reapportionment Committee, at Friday's Board meeting.

**LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION DIVISION** Miss Breed asked for opinions regarding LAD's place in ALA, and on the assignment of projects to LAD which might just as properly have been assigned to PLA. In answer to a question on how projects were assigned to divisions, the executive secretary said that when a division initiates a project it normally carries it through; when grants are made to ALA, the assignments are made on the basis of a division's field of responsibility. COO considers only items brought to its attention. It was pointed out that PLA had a member or members on many LAD committees and projects, so the division did have some representation.

IT WAS VOTED that the Board of Directors of PLA ask that LAD be continued, but that a critical survey be made of its activities and projects, and all those which relate 100% to a type-of-library division be assigned to that division.

IT WAS FURTHER VOTED that where there are borderline projects, some organization be set up so that they can be discussed by interested parties. If no agreement can be reached, the project should be referred to COO for a decision.

**LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** Harold Roth, the chairman of the committee, reported that there was great interest in this committee's project on library accreditation. The committee has come to the conclusion that what they want is standards for development of the evaluative criteria first. The committee will carry through for another year and should have something to report to the Board at the Midwinter Meeting. They are using Interim Standards for Small Public Libraries as a working base. There will be seven areas for evaluation with 20-30 criteria for each area.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50.

\*\*\*\*\*

Second Session  
Friday, July 19, 1963, 2:00 p.m.  
Conrad Hilton Hotel, Parlor 3

**PRESENT:** Board Members: John Anderson, June Bayless, Clara E. Breed, Mary J. Carter, Jerome Cushman, Barbara Prince, Ransom L. Richardson, Raymond E. Williams

Membership Committee Representative: Roger Francis

Incoming Board Member: William Chait, incoming president-elect

Observer: Josephine Weaver, vice president, AFLS

Committee Chairman: William Rairigh

Executive Secretary: Eleanor A. Ferguson

ALA Staff: Mrs. Barbara Seshadri

ABSENT: Harold L. Hamill, Helen D. Hutchinson, Alta Parks, Persis Pooley, Paxton P. Price, Harold L. Roth, Mrs. Benjamin Saks, Nettie B. Taylor

MINUTES Meeting was called to order by Ransom Richardson, the new president. Miss Breed thanked all those going off the Board and the new members were welcomed.

INTERLIBRARY COOPERATION COMMITTEE REPORT William Rairigh, the chairman of the committee, reported that 164 people attended the committee's luncheon during conference week. Those attending were asked to list their most pressing problems, some of which are as follows: exchanging borrower's cards; revising the interlibrary loan code; the need for a union catalog at the state level; the use of professional and non-professional personnel; how to get sufficient support; and interstate cooperation. The only criticisms of the luncheon meeting were that the program was too brief, too general, and too superficial. The committee would like to publish an analysis of its luncheon meeting and send it to all the people who attended the meeting and all those people who signed the petition for such a committee a year ago, which created a financial problem, since this would require more money than the \$5.00 his committee had to cover their expenses. Mr. Rairigh also asked about approaching the Council of State Governments about developing uniform state library laws.

Mr. Rairigh expressed the committee's gratitude to Miss Breed, Mr. Richardson and Miss Ferguson for their help and cooperation, and said that the group is satisfied to remain a committee.

The executive secretary said that the list of people who signed the petition for the establishment of Mr. Rairigh's committee is almost illegible, but suggested that perhaps most of the people would be reached by putting the report of their luncheon meeting in JUST BETWEEN OURSELVES. Mr. Rairigh thought that this would be satisfactory to his committee and suggested that it would also be helpful if his report, with a covering letter, be sent to the heads of state library extension agencies, for inclusion in the state library publications.

IT WAS VOTED that the Board approves of the work that the Committee on Interlibrary Cooperation has done and hopes that they will look into wider possibilities with the idea of a project.

**ACTION OF ASL BOARD**

Miss Ferguson reported the approval in principle by the ASL Board of Interstate Compact legislation, and the approval of the state library standards, which will be reported at the Miami Beach Governors' Conference.

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON STANDARDS FOR SMALL LIBRARIES**

Although this special subcommittee of the Standards Committee had finished its work, it had not been terminated.

IT WAS VOTED that the Subcommittee on Standards for Small Libraries be terminated with thanks for their good job completed.

**COUNCIL REAPPORTIONMENT**

Mr. Anderson explained the mathematical formula for determining the number of councilors for each division. Although nothing can change the current reapportionment, it was felt that something should be done to make the number of councilors a division has reflect more currently the size of its membership. One idea was that there be a four-year reapportionment rather than the present two-year to coincide with the four-year Council terms.

IT WAS VOTED that a communication be sent to the ALA Executive Board asking that group to initiate a study to stabilize and make more current the reapportionment of Council seats for which the divisions make nominations.

**DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER AWARD COMMITTEE**

It was proposed that the name of this committee be changed to the Book-of-the-Month Club Award Committee to coincide with the name BOMC is now using. Many of the Board members felt that the removal of Mrs. Fisher's name was regrettable.

IT WAS VOTED that the name of the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award Committee be changed to the BOMC Award Committee to coincide with the change in the name of the awards.

**ARMED FORCES LIBRARIANS SECTION**

In the absence of Miss Pooley, Miss Carter reported that the AFLS Standards Committee is now at work and should have a report at Midwinter. The standards will be based on ALA standards and adapted to military library service. It is hoped that the first AFLS citation will be given in the coming year.

**BOARD MEETINGS AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The executive secretary felt there was a need for a decision on the transition from one Board to its successor at annual conferences, to eliminate the present confusion about who is to attend and vote at the two sessions usually held.

IT WAS VOTED that the new officers be invited to the first Board meeting at Annual Conference as auditors and observers, and that for the second meeting they become voting members, and the outgoing Board members be invited to attend the second Board meeting as observers and auditors without vote.

MIDWINTER MEETING

It was the consensus that the Board would need more time at the Midwinter Meeting to consider the future of the division and the recommendations of CWC. It was decided that extra Board meeting time be scheduled. The times agreed on were Sunday evening, January 26, at 7:30 p.m., and Tuesday, January 28, 8:30 a.m. to noon.

GRANT FOR PLA

The executive secretary reported that ALA has been promised an annual grant to be divided evenly among the Intellectual Freedom Committee and four divisions, one of which is PLA; its share being between \$4000-\$5000. The Board was asked for suggestions as to how the money should be spent. One suggestion was that the grant be used to lead the division to other sources of funds. Another possibility is to employ a qualified person to carry out and report on an experiment in a public library. Perhaps some recommendation of CWC might be a likely project.

Mr. Richardson will write to members of the Board asking for their suggestions on making the division's program more dynamic than it has been.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE  
COMMITTEE

Mr. Richardson reported that this committee did not meet at the Chicago Conference, but were in contact through the mail. Mr. Wagman has suggested that the emphasis of the Conference at St. Louis be placed on the problems and needs of libraries of higher institutions of learning. ACRL will, of course, be most directly concerned with this topic, but almost all divisions can relate their programs to this subject. The Board will receive copies of Mr. Wagman's letter and Mr. Richardson asked that reactions be sent to him.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor A. Ferguson  
Executive Secretary  
Public Library Association

JN 27150