

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

Meeting of the Board of Directors, ALA Midwinter Meeting  
Chicago, Illinois, 1959

Second Session

Friday, January 30, 2:00 p.m.

Edgewater Beach Hotel, American Room

Presiding, Mrs. Lura G. Currier, President

PRESENT

Board Members: James E. Bryan, Mrs. Lura G. Currier, Sigrid  
A. Edge, Donna D. Finger, Elizabeth Kennedy,  
John Lorenz, Mrs. Merlin M. Moore, Miriam  
Putnam, Hannis S. Smith, Rose Vainstein.

Committee  
Chairmen: Mark Crum, John Frantz, Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan,  
Alice Louise LeFevre.

Nominee for  
Vice-president: Mrs. Allie Beth Martin

Executive  
Secretary: Eleanor A. Ferguson

Staff: Mrs. Delphine Milstein, Ruth M. White

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Currier,  
President, at 2:00 p.m.

LIBRARY  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Miss LeFevre, chairman, made the following sug-  
gestions for the committee:

1. There is a need for more in-service training programs for non-professionals conducted by the state library extension agencies.
2. There is a need for more articles in the ALA Bulletin on the recommendations and work of the committee. The committee chairman will send progress reports to the Executive Secretary.
3. The Publications Committee could extend its functions to provide or promote more articles in the ALA Bulletin of interest to PLA.
4. The public library standards need to be dramatized for trustees and laymen..
5. There is a need for more methods of implementing the public library standards.
6. A recognition of some sort should be presented to libraries which meet the standards.
7. A revision of The ALA Glossary of Terms is greatly needed. The committee suggested that the Federal Relations Committee of LAD study the project and recommend standard terminology.

(Mrs. Love, Head of the Publishing Dept., attended the committee meeting. Miss Ferguson had sent a memo to the different divisions. Some divisions were in agreement as long as it would define all types of library terms.)

8. It would be desirable to have more trustees as members of PLA and ALA committees.

IT WAS VOTED that the PLA Board underscores the need for a revision of The ALA Glossary of Terms and instructs the Executive Secretary to present the need to the ALA Executive Director.

#### AALT PROJECT

Miss Ferguson reported that the ALA Executive Board has approved the project in principle.

The project will consist of several state workshops to train public library trustees and work out programs and procedures which can be used by any state. Trained consultants will work with the pilot states. ALA will attempt to secure a grant from an educational foundation.

IT WAS VOTED that the PLA Board approves the project as accepted by the ALA Executive Board.

#### ATTENDANCE AND REIMBURSEMENT OF TRUSTEES AT ALA CONFERENCES

Mrs. Currier reported that the ALA Executive Board refused to approve the statement, since it concerned a subject within PLA's field of respon-

sibility where the division is authorized to speak for the ALA. The PLA Executive Secretary was authorized to duplicate this statement.

#### AALT WORKSHOP COMMITTEE

Mrs. Moore reported that the AALT will sponsor a two-day institute Saturday and Sunday, before the annual ALA Conference at Washington, D.C.

The theme will be "The Library: A Tool to Build a Better World, a Better America, and a Better Community." Mr. Clift has been asked to speak in the opening session, and Jack Dalton at the banquet.

#### TRUSTEES AS COUNCILORS

Mrs. Moore reported that the AALT Board would like to see more trustees on the ALA Council.

However, membership in council depends upon their being active in other divisions and state chapters.

IT WAS VOTED that the PLA Board of Directors sees the importance of more trustees as members of ALA Council.

#### ARMED FORCES MILITARY COMMUNITY-LIBRARY STUDY

Miss Kennedy, president of the Armed Forces Librarians' Section since the resignation of Katharine Hyatt, reported that the committee

is working on the procedures and materials to be used in their Military Community-Library Study. The Committee has asked for an extension of the study for a second year. They plan to publish a manual for the study through ALA which will be distributed free to AFLS members and to others on request. The study is designed to help librarians on the posts evaluate their library collections and services. The study is being conducted in cooperation with ASD and LCP, Ruth Warncke, consultant.

#### AFLS MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Letters have been sent to all Armed Forces librarians in an effort to increase the section's membership.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR  
THE LIBRARY SERVICES ACT

Mrs. Fyan, chairman, made four recommendations.

1. There is a need for training of extension workers. The committee will poll the state extension agencies to determine the specific type of training most needed.
2. The committee will write the American Association of State Libraries suggesting two ways state agencies can help in training extension librarians; (a) contact library schools suggesting special courses in library extension be offered, (b) contact library schools and offer their help as instructors in special courses on library extension, and asking them to publicize the accomplishments under LSA in the AIA Bulletin and the ASL newsletter.
3. There is a real shortage of extension librarians. The committee is contacting the Recruiting Committee and suggesting a brochure on the extension librarian.
4. There is a need for a general session at the Washington Conference on LSA and a public relations office at ALA.

IT WAS AGREED that the PLA Board recommends that one of the general sessions be devoted to the Library Services Act.

IT WAS VOTED that a letter be sent to the ALA Executive Director asking ALA to develop a strong program of public relations, one of the prime responsibilities of the program to spread information on the results of LSA to date.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL  
LIBRARY AND PUBLIC LIBRARY  
RELATIONS

The president appointed three members to serve on the joint committee to study the relationship between public libraries and school libraries. They will serve with the three members appointed

by the American Association of School Libraries. PLA members are: Mary Louise Giraud, St. Joseph, La.; Edwin G. Jackson, Trenton, N.J.; and Bernard W. Van Horne, Portland, Ore.

IT WAS VOTED that a joint committee from AASL and PLA be appointed to study the mutual problems and relationships of public libraries and school libraries and to draw up a statement defining the relationship between the two types of libraries.

COMMITTEE ON  
PROGRAM COORDINATION

Mr. Bryan reported that the committee faces three problems before it can take any action.

1. Because the chairman serves for one year and the other members for three, he, at least theoretically, knows less about the work of the committee than the members.
2. All committee members serve for the same three year term.
3. Committee members representing other divisions are not necessarily members of the division executive boards nor aware of the programs of their divisions.

The committee will study its structure and make recommendations at Washington.

DIVISION ORGANIZATION  
COMMITTEE

Mr. Crum, chairman, reported on Mr. Custer's recommendations for changes in the ALA Bylaws, especially Article VI which relates to divisions.

The Committee's recommendations are detailed in its report and favor more division autonomy than allowed by the ALA Committee changes.

IT WAS VOTED that the PLA Board has confidence in the Division Organization Committee and authorizes it to have direct contact with the ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee and impowers it to report the PLA committee's comments on the revision of ALA Bylaws.

COMMITTEE TO REVISE  
"COST OF PUBLIC  
LIBRARY SERVICE"

Mrs. Currier reported that the committee plans to use the same form but to revise the figures to conform to present day costs.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Frantz, chairman, reported no action had been taken because he did not understand his responsibilities. The committee plans to so-

licit articles and reports for publication in periodicals and the Public Library Reporter.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
ON OPERATION LIBRARY

Mrs. Martin reported in the absence of Miss Foster, chairman, that no action was taken because of lack of information from Mr. Malloy,

who could not attend the committee meeting. There will be a meeting of the Junior Chamber of Commerce Board in March. It may be that further action will be taken at that time.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Miss Ferguson reported that there are four parts to her work; advisory, representation

of ALA at state and other meetings, secretariat for the division, and headquarters staff members. She asked the Board which parts of these duties should be emphasized.

IT WAS AGREED that travel and representation at state meetings is very important and should be continued compatible with other duties.

The Committee Chairmen felt the committees needed more staff assistance at committee meetings although they recognize the problems presented by schedules.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eleanor A. Ferguson*

Eleanor A. Ferguson  
Executive Secretary  
Public Library Association