

Minutes – Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Round Table

ALA Annual Conference 2000 – Chicago, IL

Steering Committee II
Hotel InterContinental-Illinois
Tuesday, July 11, 2000
8:30a.m. – 11:00 am
Convention Center Room 210A

Attendees:

Faye Chadwell, Roland Hansen, Michael Poma, Norman Eriksen, Michell Hackwelder, Chet Mulawka, Cal Zunt, John Littlewood, Kenn Bicknell, Bob Jaquay, David Van Hoy, Robert Bjerke, Steve Stratton, Kim Edson, Anne Moore, David Sands, Barb Stevens.

Roland Hansen called the meeting to order at 8:30am

Introductions were held.

Co-Chairs Report.

Roland Hansen announced that the breakfast for next year will feature 2 keynote speakers in addition to the 2 award-winning authors.

Hansen suggested that an Ad Hoc Committee for Bylaws Changes be created and he would head it. He also announced that we were invited to co-sponsor next year's program with the Western European Studies Section (WESS). The program title is "The Voices of Spain's New Emerging Community." Additional information will be provided via the GLBTRT discussion list.

Faye Chadwell attended the Round Table Coordinating Committee meeting. Discussion involved ALA's "one voice" policy. Legal counsel for ALA stated indicated that there are legal reasons why Round Tables cannot issue statements. ALA as a 501(c)(3) organization can issue statement; subunits such as Divisions and Round Tables cannot. We are limited to "insubstantial" lobbying. If we wish to endorse a product, such as a book, we need to work with Mary Ghikas at ALA.

Hansen announced that any profits derived from the Pre-Conference would go to the GLBTRT.

Newsletter Committee.

Cal Zunt summarized the written report she provided. As of Spring there are 98 paid subscriptions to the newsletter. A few complimentary copies were also sent out. A total of 278 Spring issues were sent out. Cal is considering sending a copies to all library schools. She is also working on the ISSN change. Correct information about the newsletter would appear in Ulrich's and the Oxford Directory of Newsletters in 2001 if the ISSN/title change is made soon. She suggested that John deSantis would be able to help with the process. She has also attended the Chapter Divisions Newsletter Group.

Zunt announced that she will remain as newsletter editor for another term. Barb Stevens suggested that she find an assistant editor to learn procedures and step in following the end of her term.

Regarding a possible electronic version of the newsletter that had been discussed previously, Zunt estimates that 80 – 85 percent of subscribers have email access.

Diversity Council.

Barb Stevens reported that the meeting was extremely brief – barely 20 minutes. Discussion centered around a new coordinator for the Council.

External Relations Committee.

Kenn Bichnell reported that volunteer forms submitted to Keith Trimmer via the GLBTRT website will be forwarded to him as well as the secretary, Michael Poma.

Book Award Committee.

Anne Moore announced that John Bradford was elected Chair/Chair-Elect of the committee. Anne asked about dates for submission of names to be included in the ALA Handbook. The BAC has always used a calendar year. It was suggested that she work with Satia Orange at OLOS to work this out.

Update on posters. The idea will continue to be explored. An Ad Hoc committee composed of Ellen Bosman, Steve Stratton and John Mitchell will work on it. Ellen's partner is an artist and may be able to help with design.

A variety of questions, issues and topics were brought up and briefly discussed:

Michell Hackwelder stated that the GLBTRT booth at McCormick was well attended, and suggested that we continue to have one. Norman Eriksen listed a number of items that the booth needs to stock: handouts from programs, membership & volunteer forms, bibliographies, contact information, local information brochures, book signing information, publisher flyers for new books.

Cal Zunt would like to get together information regarding threats and harassment in the workplace related to sexual orientation. This could be mounted on the website.

John Littlewood announced that an endowed chair in gay literature was created at the University of Illinois. It will be based in the library.

Roland Hansen requested that the issue of Round Table membership dues be placed on the Midwinter 2001 Steering Committee agenda. A change requires approval by the membership at Annual.

Norman Eriksen stated that 3 donations were announced at the GALA dinner: From Tom Wilding & Steven Stillwell - \$10,000; from Ann Symons - \$1,000; from Roland Hansen & Bill Bergfalk - \$1,000.

Barb Stevens suggested that we include information on how to make a pledge to the book endowment fund in the newsletter. Norman Eriksen reminded the group that we still need to match the \$2,000 matching grant. Our goal is to have \$40,000 by the book award's 35th anniversary.

The minutes of Midwinter Steering Committee II were approved. Barb Stevens moved to accept and Bob Jaquay seconded.

Hansen moved to adjourn the meeting. Poma seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Poma
Secretary