

In attendance :Cal Zunt, Keith Trimmer, Steve Stratton, John Sandstrom, KR Roberto, Holly

Lewis attended the FTRF Board meeting on Friday, January 19.

The FTRF will be holding its fundraiser at the Seattle Public Library at the same time we are having ours there; folks interested in hearing frequently-banned author Chris Crutcher should think about attending before or after the GLBTRT Social.

Lewis mentioned that the FTRF is seeing an upswing in GLBT-related challenges and bannings; we should be proactive in bringing any cases of GLBT-related free speech and free reading problems to the FTRF and ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Create an ad-hoc Read Aloud Committee to consider options for ALA Annual Meeting in Anaheim (June 2008); and to issue an interim report in June 2007 and a final proposal in January 2008.

Lewis Day ... Chair

John Sandstrom

John Bradford

Motion John Sandstrom

Second John Bradford

Pass unanimous voice vote

New Business

Two proposals for new committees were held over: Legislative and Advocacy Committee and Bylaws and Policies.

Legislative and Advocacy Committee. Larry Romans brought the idea to the agenda but was not present at either Steering Committee meeting. There was no discussion and no action was taken.

Bylaws and Policies. Lewis spoke of the need to create an official, ongoing committee to work on GLBTRT Bylaws and produce the Policy and Procedure manual. Organizationally, it should be located within the Secretary's purview.

Motion 3

Establish the Committee on Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, with the Secretary as Chair.

Motion Roland Hansen

Second John Sandstrom

Pass unanimous voice vote

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jibe with those given to GLBTRT Treasurer Dustin Larmore . Mary said she had comparative numbers:

December 2005 ... 752

December 2006 ... 881

Paul replied that this represented a third number. He said he and John Chrastka (ALA Membership Marketing Manager) are working on a reliable process for getting membership information to the RT.

Action Item 4

Work with John Chrastka on obtaining consistent and reliable membership numbers; report to the Steering Committee.

Paul Higdon

Books and Bookmarks

Cal Zunt

Cal said there had been interest expressed at Steering Committee 2 in New Orleans to create and publish an annotated list of Stonewall Book Award winners and honor books. She said she would like to see movement on this matter. John Sandstrom said he would be happy to get information from ALA Publications. Rich DiRusso mentioned the Caldecott Book Award bookmarks and asked if these might be a model for a GLBTRT product. There was support for the idea. John Sandstrom said such a bookmark would have to be issued by ALA Graphics. Steve Stratton responded that ALA Graphics and Publications have been neither communicative nor supportive of past efforts. He said if a private publisher were to be interested it might work better. Mary McInroy said ALA has right of first refusal when it comes to publications by ALA entities. Lewis Day said "perhaps ALA should be doing its job." Robin Imhof said ALA publishes lists including Newberry, Caldecott and Coretta Scott King titles, but not Stonewall Book Awards.

Action Item 5

Investigate publishing possibilities with ALA Graphics and Publications; report to Steering Committee.

John Sandstrom

Cal Zunt

Spectrum Scholars

Cal Zunt

Cal expressed her ongoing disappointment at the exclusion of GLBT people and persons with disabilities as represented groups within ALA's Spectrum Scholars program. John Bradford said the Steering Committee could prepare a resolution for ALA Council, reminding Council of the association's extensive diversity statement, which includes both the disabled and GLBT people. Steve Stratton asked if anyone had spoken with members of ALA disability groups; he said Jerry Reynolds has been involved in work with this community). Lisa Johnston advocated reaching out to the Libraries Serving Special Populations Section (LSSPS) of the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA). Cal agreed and said there may be other communities being overlooked. Bob Graziano reflected

that at the ten-year anniversary, any discussion of the purpose of, and communities represented by, the Spectrum Scholars program may be moot.

Steve Stratton offered a couple of reflections: “this group” (the GLBTRT Steering Committee) “is awfully white,” and “if we want something, we have to fight for it.” He said the GLBTRT still has to struggle with ALA to place articles in ALA publications regarding the Stonewall Book Awards, and is nowhere to be seen on the podium at the traditional awards announcements. Lewis agreed, saying the RT must become political in order to break down these barriers. Cal observed that a perception of low numbers of members from the days when the RT was a SRRT task force still lingers in some corners of the association. Lewis asked, “why isn’t lavender a color in the spectrum?” Cal volunteered investigate the matter and provide a report in Washington; Steve agreed to be a resource for this effort.

Action Item 6

*Investigate issues of inclusion
surrounding the Spectrum Scholars
program*

Action Item 7

Investigate reservation of a housing block at the 2008 Midwinter in Philadelphia and beyond.

Lewis Day

Breakfast Meeting

Lewis Day

Lewis reported on an OLOS breakfast that he and Dustin Larmore attended in Chicago. Would Steering Committee members be interested in looking at the cost and logistics of adding a continental breakfast to one or both Steering Committee meetings in the future? Members were receptive, providing the cost wasn't too high.

Action Item 8

Investigate adding a breakfast component to one or both Steering Committee meetings.

**Roland Hansen
John Sandstrom**

8. Announcements

New exhibitor. John Sandstrom reported that Vibrant Publishing, a Canadian GLBT firm, are first-time exhibitors; go see them.

ALA Pavilion. Norman reported that RUSA met regarding the difficulties in scheduling people to staff the ALA Pavilion. Paul Higdon said John Chratska told him that the Pavilion is replacing the free both OLOS has provided in years past. There was unhappiness with this; Cal said this was not what they had been told at the Round Table Coordinating Assembly. Paul said he would check into it and report to the Steering Committee list.

Action Item 9

Gather details regarding the ALA Pavilion and status of the booth.

Paul Higdon

Social. John Bradford reported there had been no collection of donations at the Social at the Seattle Public Library. The difficulties of producing the Social from a great distance and questions about the appropriateness of having the Social a part of the Program Planning Committee ensued.

Motion 5

Move responsibility for the Social from the Program Planning Committee to the Membership Committee.

Motion John Sandstrom

Second Dustin Larmore

Pass unanimous voice vote

Intellectual Freedom. Martin Garnar brought greetings and congratulations at having an ALA Councilor from the Intellectual Freedom Round Table. He reported that work has been completed on *Out in the Library: Materials, Displays and Services for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Community*, a new toolkit to deal with challenges to GLBT-related material and content. The Steering Committee thanked Martin for his work in this effort.

Motion 6

Motion to adjourn.

Motion Lewis Day

Second John Bradford

Pass unanimous voice vote

The meeting was adjourned.

Addendum

Visit to the GLBTRT Steering Committee 2 meeting by ALA Treasurer candidate Rod Hersberger.

Rod Hersberger

Rod Hersberger arrived during the discussion of the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures Committee.

Rod touted his qualifications, including the MBA (as well as MLS), and said he'd been active on LAMA, working on budget and finance. He also has served as an ALA Council member for LAMA.

He currently serves on BARC, "a good apprenticeship for ALA Treasurer."

If elected, Rod is committed to making plain the "arcane, complex world of accounting" for ALA membership. Paul Higdon asked how he would publicize his initiatives, and Rod said through visits to groups and Round Tables, through the website, and other means. Norman said getting on-time reports has been a struggle and would be greatly appreciated in a new Treasurer; Rod agreed, saying the information should be on the ALA Treasurer's website..