

MINUTES FOR ACTION COUNCIL MEETING AT ALA CONVENTION

CHICAGO, JUNE 26, 1972

Action Councilor's Tyron Emerick and Ellis Hodgkin were present at the beginning of the meeting. Only five Action Council members were present at the convention on this day.

The meeting opened with an explanation by Tyron Emerick that Bob Croneberger, Action Council member, could not attend the convention. Jackie Eubanks was ill and in the hospital, and Dick Akeroyd will arrive on Tuesday. Jim Wright, Pat Schuman and Oliver Kirkpatrick are at the convention but not present for this meeting.

Tyron further explained that Dick called him long distance and expressed a concern that there were no official minutes for Mid-Winter Action Council meeting. He asked that Action Council members get their heads together and provide minutes from memory. Dick also asked that Tyron take minutes for the meeting today.

Ellis Hodgkin requested that Tyron act as acting coordinator until the election of a new Action Council. Tyron Emerick explained to those attending the meeting that Action Council sessions are open to all who wish to attend but that only Action Councilors can vote. He further expressed that the Council did wish the members to make input during Action Council sessions. It was reported that some people at Mid-Winter ALA felt that the meeting where the vote on the strike fund took place did not give them the opportunity to express themselves on the issues.

The acting coordinator reported that somehow someone neglected to sign SRRT for an exhibit booth and that Pat Schuman learned of this oversight and was able at the last minute to get a booth assigned to SRRT. She called Tyron and asked if the Task Forces could man the booth to which he agreed thereby he became designated as exhibit booth chairman.

Ellis announced the Newcott-Caldebery luncheon that has been promoted by the Task Force in order to assist local people in developing service oriented library programs. Tickets were on sale for \$5.95 with all proceeds to go to the community program. Bus transportation will be provided from the convention site to the location of the luncheon.

Vincent Aceto inquired about the Task Force on Service to Poor People and wondered what this Task Force was doing, as it was closely related in activities to the Service for the Disadvantaged Office. Tyron Emerick explained that the Task Force had never really gotten off the ground and no longer existed.

Ellis Hodgkin stated he did not know what Action Council could really accomplish at this meeting with so few members present. Tyron agreed saying he did not believe, as some have stated, that one Action Council member constituted an Action Council meeting.

At this point, Action Councilor Pat Schuman arrived. Pat reminded those in attendance that there was still a need for volunteers for Action Council and Clearinghouse elections. There were three two-year terms on Clearinghouse, five two-year terms in Action Council, and one one-year term on Action Council. (Due to the resignation of Joe Lindenfeld) It was noted that the election would occur at the membership meeting Wednesday night. Maki Jacknowitz pointed out that there should be more than 25 in attendance at the membership meeting if SRRT is to be a democratic organization. Liz Futas agreed but felt that the bylaws were written as they were so that those who showed up were those who cared and that's what counts. Pat Schuman concurred with Ellis that Tyron Emerick be appointed as acting coordinator until a new Action Council is organized.

At the request of one of the members, Tyron explained the duties and responsibilities of members of Clearinghouse and Action Council. This explanation was followed by a discussion as to how "outsiders" can offer input into SRRT. Miriam Crawford pointed out that AC/CH members should extend themselves to others and make everybody feel that they are part of the group.

Maki announced that there would be someone in the SRRT suite everyday from 4:00 p.m. to midnight and that all SRRT members and guests were welcome to come.

Action Council agreed to supply SRRT funds up to \$100 to cover any SRRT expenses above the rate set for those sleeping in the suite.

Tyron Emerick announced that the new second edition of Alternatives in Print was out and that it was \$2.75 for SRRT members and \$4 for non-members. It was reported that Ohio State University had made money on AIP's first edition.

Pat Schuman suggested that Action Council should plan time to make some decisions regarding the direction that SRRT was going and what we would want to do in the future. She stated that a lot of good people at the convention were not going to get into SRRT because an effort had not been made to attract them or to meet their needs or interests.

Joan Marshall reported on the Freedom to Read Foundation. Mrs. Merritt is limiting the funds to the defense and support of people where the intellectual freedom factor is clearly defined. Joan recommended that SRRT propose to ALA that a non-tax exempt fund be set up to aid librarians in intellectual, due process, etc., cases. Ellis Hodgkin pointed out that SRRT members in the spring SRRT questionnaire had strongly urged such an ALA fund.

Ellis noted that the Ellsburg Defense Fund had been set up and suggested that Action Council consider a donation. He felt it would be good that such support by librarians come out so that others can be encouraged to give contributions. Action Council requested that Tyron Emerick and Josh Williams contact Zoia Horn regarding what she wished to have done on her behalf. Tyron pointed out that the California Library Association had a resolution on the matter and felt that it should be considered as a possible avenue of action. Joan Marshall expressed the opinion that something stronger than the California Library Resolution be written. Action Council further suggested that Tyron and Josh visit with Homer Fletcher and the California ALA Chapter councilor about the possibility of

strengthening the California Resolution. Action Council agreed to support the California Library Association Resolution regarding the Library of Congress. Pat Schuman gave a status report on Peter Doiron's hearing before S.C.A.M.I. (Recorder's Note: The cassette recorder recording this meeting ran out of tape, and the balance of the meeting is not on record)

Tyron D. Emerick
Recorder