
Visitors reporting: Mary McInroy, Rod Hersberger.

1. Call to Order
   Norman Eriksen, Cal Zunt
   The meeting was called to order at 8:11 a.m. by Co-Chair Cal Zunt.
   Norman Eriksen reminded the group of additional items for the agenda (those not completed in Steering Committee 1 on Saturday).

2. Introductions
   Norman Eriksen, Cal Zunt

3. Approval of Agenda
   Norman Eriksen, Cal Zunt

4. Reports from Coordinators, Councilors and Liaisons

   Co-Chair
   Norman Eriksen
   Norman announced that he had attended the RUSA meeting. He also announced that ALA Treasurer candidate Rod Hersberger would attend briefly to speak about his candidate; as with the presidential candidates in Steering Committee 1, the meeting would pause to hear from him.

   Diversity Council
   Lisa Johnston
   Lisa attended the meeting of the Diversity Council and brought a number of issues to the Steering Committee.

   Diversity Council wants to know if the GLBTRT is interested in co-sponsoring programs. The consensus was yes; there have been too many scheduling conflicts in recent years.

   Diversity Council offers ALA 101 at Annual Meeting; this year the Committee on Diversity will offer Diversity 101 as a part of the program.

   The 10th anniversary of the Spectrum Scholars program is 2007.

   There is a Diversity Blog in the works; the GLBTRT should participate.

   Who is running for Council?

   Freedom to Read Foundation
   Lewis Day
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.

**Action Item 1**  
*Write a newsletter article on FTRF activities.*  
*Lewis Day*

The GLBTRT is behind in payment of dues.

**Action Item 2**  
*ReneW membership in the Freedom to Read Foundation.*  
*Dustin Larmore*

Since no other liaisons were present, the agenda items from Steering Committee 1 were considered.

5. Agenda Items held over from Steering Committee Meeting 1  
Old Business  
**Final status of Read Aloud**  
Norman began the discussion by reminding the Steering Committee that no Read Aloud program was scheduled for Washington. Conversation ensued, mostly about how sad it was that a program which had once been so popular had become poorly-executed and –attended. Paul Higdon suggested not having a physical event, and creating a podcast instead; Lewis suggested modeling the event on a poetry slam, and moving it from conference hotels to other locations (bars, restaurants, public spaces).

**Motion 1**  
*Place the Read Aloud on hiatus for ALA Annual Meeting in June 2007.*  
Motion John Sandstrom  
Second John Bradford  
Pass unanimous voice vote

Discussion ensued about creating an ad-hoc committee to discuss options for the Read Aloud and present a report at ALA Annual Meeting in June 2006.

**Motion 2**
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._

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<th>Motion</th>
<th>Roland Hansen</th>
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<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>John Sandstrom</td>
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<td>Pass</td>
<td>unanimous voice vote</td>
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Roland Hansen, current keeper of the Bylaws and GLBTRT institutional memory, agreed to serve on the committee; Norman agreed to be the third member (though mostly as adviser, given his duties as Co-Chair).

As discussion of the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures Committee ended, ALA Treasurer candidate Rod Hersberger arrived and the agenda paused to hear him (see *Addendum*).

6. Reports from Coordinators, Councilors and Liaisons (resumed)

**Round Table Representative—ALA Council**  **Mary McInroy**

Mary congratulated the GLBTRT on the new ability to directly elect a Council Representative. She asked that Steering Committee members consider attending the Round Table Coordinating Council meeting on Fridays.
Mary asked if the Steering Committee had any issues to be brought before ALA Council during the Seattle Midwinter Meeting. Norman replied that the issue of the Spectrum Scholars’ program’s lack of recognition of GLBT people and persons with disabilities as classes in its programming and in the awarding of scholarships. Mary replied that it was “a substantial and worthwhile” concern. Rich DiRusso asked if the RT has taken an official position on the issue, and Cal said no. Mary asked if the Steering Committee would be making a proposal to Council at Midwinter and Cal and Norman said no. Cal mentioned that Satia Orange (Director, OLOS) had suggested the GLBTRT raise the money to sponsor parallel scholarships to the Spectrum Scholars (echoing Nancy Davenport’s comments at Steering Committee 1). Lewis asked if this meant ALA was recommending we buy a place at the table. Mary said she would look into it, saying she was not fully aware of the issues. Norman thanked her for coming.

7. New Business

**Recommended Books for Young Readers**  
Roland Hansen

Roland reported on the initiative, tentatively titled the *Rainbow Reading* List. The list, modeled on the *Amelia Bloomer Project* (a list of “feminist books for young readers” produced by the Feminist Task Force of ALA’s Social Responsibilities Round Table), which would produce a yearly list of books on GLBT themes for young readers. Roland and Lisa Johnston have been working on a proposal with Jane Cothron and others to bring the list into being for the 2008 Annual Meeting (reflecting the 2007 publishing year).

Bob Graziano asked how this project would differ from the projected addition of a children’s/YA prize to the Stonewall Book Awards. Roland said he hoped there would be synergy between the committee working on this list and the Book Awards Committee. Norman reported that the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) is interested in working on this project. Lisa said it would be helpful to have a list of children’s/YA titles considered for the Stonewall Book Awards. John Sandstrom thanked the committee for its work and said he looked forward to their final report in Washington.

**Action Item 3**  
Roland Hansen

**Membership Issues**  
Paul Higdon

Paul reported that he writes to each person who declines to renew membership in the GLBTRT to give them a sense of closure and to find out what might be helpful in encouraging members to renew. He said many are also dropping basic ALA membership, saying they are “not getting their money’s worth out of membership.” Forty (40) such letters have gone out since ALA Annual in New Orleans; there have been eight (8) responses, and all but one cite disappointment with the association. Mary McInroy said she is on the ALA Membership Committee, and they are looking into this issue.

Norman asked Paul how many new members the GLBTRT has. Paul replied that reliable numbers are difficult to obtain from ALA, and that often membership numbers he gets do not
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.

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<td>Investigate issues of inclusion surrounding the Spectrum Scholars program.</td>
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<td>Cal Zunt</td>
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<td>Steve Stratton</td>
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Steve mentioned Mario Gonzalez as a possible resource.

**OLOS/Jean Coleman Lecture**

Steve Stratton

Steve reported that Barbara Gittings has been asked to deliver the 2007 Jean Coleman Library Outreach Lecture at ALA Annual in Washington. He mentioned that Anne Moore would be visiting Barbara and Kay Lahusen soon. John Sandstrom suggested asking Barbara to present the award in her name at the 2007 Stonewall Book Awards brunch in Washington (which is scheduled for just after the Coleman Lecture).

Discussion of the Coleman Lecture and brunch led to discussion about the name of the committee which produces the brunch. Since the event is now a brunch, and no longer a breakfast, it was felt the name of the committee should reflect this.

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<td>Rename the Breakfast Planning Committee the Stonewall Book Awards Celebration Committee.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motion Lewis Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second John Bradford</td>
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<td>Pass unanimous voice vote</td>
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**Housing**

Lewis Day

Lewis mentioned that he had heard of ALA groups establishing housing blocks for members, and wondered if such a block of rooms in a common location might be of interest to GLBTRT members. There was consensus that looking into the matter was worthwhile.
**Action Item 7**

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

*Lewis Day*

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**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.

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**Action Item 8**

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

*Roland Hansen*

*John Sandstrom*

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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.

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**Action Item 9**

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

*Paul Higdon*

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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.

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**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.

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<td>Pass</td>
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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..