The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:36 a.m. This was followed by introductions. John Phillips agreed to take minutes, for which the Chair thanks him.

The agenda was adopted after the addition, under "New Business," of a discussion about the appointment of (external) liaisons.

The minutes from the 2004 Midwinter meeting were approved (with two minor corrections), as this had not been possible at the 2004 Annual meeting, due to the lack of a quorum. The minutes from the Annual 2004 meeting were also approved.

Reports from Liaisons:

The FDTF liaison reported on remarks made by Judith Russell, the U.S. Superintendent of Documents.

The SLDTF liaison reported that a program was planned for the 2005 Annual meeting concerning preservation of "born-digital" government documents. There were discussions at the SLDTF meeting concerning how DtIP is doing, and the continuation of the State and Local Documents Toolbox. A representative from CRL discussed progress on organizing the state collections which they hold and the possibility of organizing tours at the 2005 Annual meeting in Chicago. Aimee suggested a tour of the Newberry Library for the REGP Committee. The Chair appointed Aimee and August to work on this plan for the 2005 Annual meeting.

The IDTF liaison reported that IDTF had discussed the problems facing the Canadian depository library program. There had also been a discussion of the UN Treaty Database and how to keep it up-to-date. Some treaties are not being added. IDTF plans to propose a pre-conference for the 2006 Annual meeting on the basics of finding international documents and information from foreign governments and international organizations.

PARS, MAGERT, and RBMS did not make reports.

Web Manager's Report:
As GODORT is migrating its Web site technology to XHTML format, the REGP Web site will come to reflect these changes. There was a discussion of the maintenance of "archival" REGP minutes on its Web site. David wants these older minutes maintained permanently on the site, as they are crucial in finding essential information concerning what the Committee did in the past. Aimee pointed out that, in the original petition to GODORT, to establish REGP as a standing GODORT committee (preserved in the GODORT archives), an allowance for more detailed minutes was set forth. This practice (of maintaining detailed minutes) will continue. August asked whether a counter could be added to the site, and Mark will look into this suggestion. In a discussion of new content which the Committee would like the Web Manager to add to the Committee's Web site, David asked that the report of the Subcommittee for Endangered 1932-1962 Federal Documents be added. August asked that the hand-out which accompanied his remarks concerning endangered Federal documents of the "New Deal era" be added. The Committee agreed to these proposals. Aimee asked whether a "wiki," to facilitate intra-Committee electronic communication and discussions could be introduced on the site. David asked that Mark look into this possibility. Susan Golding volunteered to assist the Web Manager in this task.


The Subcommittee report on "Digitization of Federal Government Publications, 1932-1962" was presented by Geoff and Aimee. Following the presentation of the report, and the Subcommittee's six recommendations, David asked August to make his supplementary report concerning endangered Federal documents of the "New Deal era." August summarized his findings: Many executive agency reports were not printed on good paper, and substandard printing methods were often used. Many of the reports are not in the Documents Catalogue.

Following these presentations, the Committee proceeded to a consideration of the Subcommittee's recommendations. George Barnum said he had already begun collecting information on the paper stock and printing technologies used between 1932 and 1962 (the first recommendation). Trade catalogs could also be checked for this type of information. It was agreed that this task would offer an excellent opportunity to re-engage PARS in REGP's work. Aimee moved and Geoff seconded that this recommendation be adopted by the Committee. The motion passed, 10-0. The second recommendation, to collect information on techniques to determine document brittleness and deteriorating physical condition, was discussed. This would be another area in which to re-engage PARS participation. August moved and Aimee seconded that this recommendation be adopted. The motion passed, 10-0. The third and fourth recommendations, to compile comprehensive lists of pre-existing micro-form or digital preservation projects, were discussed together. Aimee moved and August seconded that these recommendations be adopted. The motion passed, 10-0. The fifth recommendation, that REGP ask the GODORT Chair to write a letter to the U.S. Superintendent of Documents, supporting GPO's plan to establish and maintain a national clearinghouse for digital collections, was discussed. GPO suggested that, even though they are already committed to this undertaking, it would be good to have a letter making REGP's position on this issue clear. Sheri suggested that the letter to GPO should specifically mention 1932-1962 Federal documents, and point out the urgent need to preserve these materials. Geoff moved and Aimee seconded that this recommendation be adopted. The motion passed, 10-0. This request will be an "action item" at
the GODORT Business meeting. The sixth recommendation, to conduct a national survey of
depository library holdings from this period (and their physical condition), was discussed. A
survey is necessary to determine what documents exist in actual collections, although a
comprehensive survey may prove impractical. Geoff moved and August seconded that this
recommendation be adopted. The motion passed, 10-0.

David thanked the Subcommittee for their work, and let those present take a break from 11:09 to
11:20 a.m.

Old Business:

REGP's project to sponsor a monograph on the U.S. Serial Set was discussed. Aimee (Quinn) and
Donna Koepp have agreed to serve as editors, and have already secured commitments from
some contributors. The volume will focus on the question, "Why did the Serial Set start?"Aimee and Donna will prepare a draft outline of the volume for the 2005 Annual meeting, and
expect the volume to appear in time for the 2007 Annual meeting in Washington. After the
presentation of the draft outline in Chicago, REGP will begin discussions with the GODORT
Publications Committee concerning the legal and procedural issues which may surround a
GODORT Committee-sponsored publication. Geoff made a motion, which August seconded,
asking REGP to assume sponsorship of this project. The motion passed, 10-0.

There was a discussion of REGP's work to review and evaluate pre-existing "priority lists" of
Federal government (legacy) publications for digitization, which the Committee originally
undertook at the behest of GODORT's Steering Committee. David reminded those persons from
GPO attending the Committee's meeting that the Committee did not want to reduplicate what
others (e.g., DLC, ARL) had been doing. Those present from GPO asked that REGP undertake
to review the results of GPO's "digitization ranking survey," and guide GPO in the "nomination"
of materials which would be optimal for initial digitization activities. David moved and Geoff
seconded that REGP would do this. The motion passed, 8-0. Volunteers were solicited, and
August Imholtz, Jane Gillis, Anna Xiong, and Anna Korhonen agreed to undertake this task, and
work with GPO. T.C. Evans agreed to send David a concise statement of the task, and David
agreed to thereafter set a deadline for these Committee members to report the results of their
review to GPO.

David withdrew the proposal for a program concerning rare and endangered local documents,
which he put forward at the 2004 Annual meeting. He thinks this would be of interest to only a
very small group and, therefore, would not be viable as a GODORT program. However, he
indicated an interest in initiating an informal (electronic) discussion group for these issues in the
future, perhaps under the aegis of SLDTF.

New Business:

A proposal for a (future) program, or pre-conference, concerning Congressional documents in
the history of the 18th-19th century United States was discussed. One topic would be "pre-Serial
Set" publications which are not included in the Gales and Seaton American State Papers. Aimee,
David, August, and John agreed to continue work on the proposal. Geoff moved that members
of the Committee continue planning and report back at the Chicago meeting. Aimee seconded
the motion, and it passed.

David asked for a motion to extend the time for adjournment until 12:45 p.m. Aimee so moved,
and Anna (Korhonen) seconded it. The motion passed.

The Committee discussed how difficult it has been to get appointments of liaisons from LITA.
David mentioned REGP's prior consideration of this problem (see 1998 Annual and 1999
Midwinter REGP minutes), which occasioned a discussion of establishing a liaison with GITCO.
As the discussion was taking a lot of time, there was a motion by Anna (Korhonen) to table
further discussion of these issues until the 2005 Annual meeting. Geoff seconded the motion,
and it passed. The same problem (lack of any appointment) applies to the two PARS liaison
positions. David and Aimee agreed to work to solve this problem, which is a more serious
hindrance to the Committee's work.

Announcement:

David reminded people to attend the tour of the Boston Public Library's Government Documents
Department at 3:30 p.m.

Chuck moved that we adjourn. August seconded the motion, and REGP adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by David A. Utz, Chair.