

**The American Library Association
VIDEO ROUND TABLE
Midwinter Conference Meeting Minutes
Saturday, January 25, 2003
Loews Philadelphia, Commonwealth D**

- I. Mike Boedicker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.
- II. Additions to Meeting – VRT Booth to be discussed after VRT Scholarship.
- III. Reading and Approval of Minutes – Becky Albitz
 - a. Minutes from ALA Annual VRT meeting distributed. Additions or corrections should be sent to Becky Albitz via email (r2a@psulias.psu.edu).
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Nell Chenault
 - a. Nell distributed the current fiscal report provided by ALA. Currently there is a balance of \$14,494.19, though not all of the Atlanta Gala figures have been reported yet.
 - b. Nell thanked Lisbeth Goldberg for her hard work on the Gala in Atlanta at the Fox Theater. There was a deficit of roughly \$1,300 for the Gala, which was slightly smaller than expected. VRT brought in \$2,580 in ticket sales for 135 people. Nell also thanks Mike Boedicker for his fundraising efforts which resulted in \$4,750.
 - c. There should be minimal printing costs this year, as new brochures and stationery were printed last year.
 - d. Carleton Jackson and Cecilia Hurt reported on the Budget Analysis Review Committee – If VRT wishes to sponsor a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 it would require seed money in the amount of \$25,000. Due to ALA's status as a non-profit organization, the budget are currently under close scrutiny.
- V. General Chair/Vice-Chair Reports – Mike Boedicker, Carleton Jackson
 - a. Mike Boedicker noted the change in the meeting schedule due to the trial formulation of the Digital Media Discussion Group, and postponed discussion of the Gala until the Monday meeting when John Sirabella would be present.
 - b. Carleton Jackson thanked the attending members for their vote of confidence in electing him as vice-chair/chair-elect, and reminded all VRT members to spend time at the exhibits visiting with video exhibitors.
- VI. Introduction of New Members
- VII. Reports from Standing Committee Chairs
 - a. Membership – Mary Laskowski

- i. Membership has remained fairly static, with a total of 257 current members.
 - ii. Ideas for better use of the membership database were suggested, such as for labels for the newsletter.
 - iii. New publicity could be done through videolib and attendees of the conference gala who are not current members.
 - iv. Each liaison to other ALA organizations/committees should be responsible for finding someone to attend those meetings if they are unable to attend.
- b. Nominating – Kris Brancolini
 - i. Nell Chenault and Mary Laskowski are the current nominees for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. Bios need to be submitted by the end of the month to Danielle Alderson and Lisbeth Goldberg.
 - ii. Voting has been very low, roughly 50 members of VRT.
- c. Program 2003 – Rick Provine
 - i. We are cosponsoring our program this year with ALA ARTS.
 - ii. A more complete discussion will be held at the Monday meeting.
 - iii. Current idea is to have one of three suggested celebrity speakers (Atom Egoyan, David Cronenberg, Norman Jewison) talk about their work, discuss American imperialism in film, possibly show clips, etc.
 - iv. It was suggested that it might be helpful to have a celebrity interview format rather than just giving the speakers a topic.
- d. Gala 2003 – Michael Boedicker for Jim Scholtz
 - i. Jim’s notes on the gala planning to date were distributed.
 - ii. Further discussion will take place at the Monday meeting.
 - iii. The idea of having only one ticket price for members and non-members per Jim’s suggestion was discussed and rejected, as the board felt that it is important to maintain a discount for VRT members as it one of the few perks of membership.
- e. Publications – Lisbeth Goldberg
 - i. There will be a new issue of the newsletter shortly following Midwinter highlighting the Notable Videos for Adults and preliminary gala and program information.
 - ii. The idea of a possible survey of members regarding print or electronic distribution of the newsletter was discussed, but the decision was made to send them basically simultaneously as most of the info in the newsletters is already posted on the website and the newsletters could then serve as an archive when the information on the website is updated.
 - iii. There was strong support for the idea of doing a joint publication of a compilation of Notable Videos for Adults with other notable video award groups such as YALSA.
 - iv. The purchase of a digital camera to enhance publications was briefly discussed.
- f. Website – Cecilia Hurt

- i. We need to move beyond maintenance of current information to enhance the website with pictures of current events and links to other appropriate ALA organizations/committees.
 - ii. The digital camera idea was revisited and the decision made to purchase a digital camera with VRT funds to be housed with Lisbeth Goldberg in her capacity as chair of publications.
 - iii. Cecilia will draft a letter requesting copyright permission to stream clips of Notable Videos for Adults. The draft will need to be approved by the Executive Board before use.
 - iv. Cecilia created a style guide and documentation for a smooth transition to a new webmaster should that occur.
 - v. Several specific links need to be checked: the redirect from the old VRT site as the brochures still have that address and the ILL policy and approval.
- g. Notable Videos for Adults – Rue Herbert
- i. The Notables Committee will be meeting to discuss 24 final nominees for this year's awards.
 - ii. The new online nomination form is working well (about 10 nominations came in through the form).
 - iii. Cecilia is working on getting the awards added to the Internet Movie Database.
 - iv. We need to follow through with press releases for ALA and need to liaison with the ALA Awards Office.
 - v. The committee will be losing two members this; Rue will send out a call for volunteers.
 - vi. The committee is also working on a second list for this year of titles relating to 9/11.

VIII. Liaison Reports

- a. ACRL ARTS – Becky Albitz
 - i. Discussion at ACRL ARTS revolved around the need to streamline and reconfigure committees as mandated by ACRL.
 - ii. A discussion group meeting on Saturday, January 25th from 4:30-5:30 was announced, the topic related to the Film Literature Index online project.
- b. ICF/OIF – Ron Sigler
 - i. VRT's membership in the Freedom to Read Foundation was discussed, and it was determined that VRT would join again with a donation of \$100.
 - ii. Ron updated the Board on the status of two recent cases relating to videos (Byers v. Edmonson and Interactive Digital Software Assoc. v. St. Louis County).

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 to allow the Digital Media Discussion Group to meet from 11:30-12:30.

