

Membership Committee
Karen Russ presiding
Catherine Hansen recording
1998 ALA Midwinter Convention New Orleans
Friday Jan. 9, 3:15pm

Attending: Phyllis Christenson, Linda Fredericks, Catherine Hansen, Karen Rush, Bill Sudduth, Frances Skiffington, Yvonne Wilson.

Announcements and Approval of the minutes.

Karen thanked Frances for her hard work and good job on the hotel and arrangements.

Frances moved to accept minutes from San Francisco. Motion was seconded.

New member luncheon discussed - 16 participants signed up. Menu is salad, gumbo, creole sampler or chicken and dessert. Price is \$15.00

Arrangements for DC annual

St. James Hotel is GODORT hotel, 120 rooms reserved for conference with rooms before and after the conference available for vacation time. Contract is signed, price is \$125.00/night plus tax. Rooms will be held until May 20.

Reception: It was announced that Patricia Muir recommended Hotel Washington. Bill contacted them, make arrangements and signed contract. Attendance is estimated at 200 people, that will allow us access to the Terrace. Catering will be decided 6-8 weeks before the reception. Dena Hutto will arrange financing for the reception - budget appears to be aprox. \$3000. Details of the budget will be forthcoming. Karen will talk with Dan Barkley and try to arrange a meeting with the caterers during the GPO conference.

Dues Increase

Dues are now \$15.00/year. Original proposal put forth called for a \$5.00 increase the first year, and \$5.00 the second year. Dues were raised from \$12.00 to \$15.00 in 1994.

The ensuing discussion led to questions about the survey of dropped members. Results of the survey of dropped members (there has been a 50% response rate so far) The #1 reason for people dropping out is that they have been transferred from documents positions. #2 reason is the increase in dues. Comments from several of the cards and email also indicated a feeling of clannishness among GODORT people. People having difficulty getting involved in various activities, and the same people seem to be involved in committees over and over. General discussion among committee over whether GODORT is difficult to become involved in and members own stories related.

The survey has so far been sent to people who have dropped out of GODORT, but not ALA. In October of 1996 there were 1237 GODORT members, in October of 1997 1183 members. Karen will have a full report from the survey results on Monday January 12.

Phyllis asked if we know how other roundtables are doing. Karen will explore this issue.

Karen strongly urged everyone to attend the Monday January 12 meeting that concerns the proposed merger with ASCLA and the proposed dues increase.

Karen will discuss the results of the dropped member survey with the Steering Committee on Monday and broach the subject of reinvigorating the Mentoring program.

Dena Hutto joined the group at 4:15pm and was welcomed.

Questions raised: How many people are only members of GODORT, and how many people are members of multiple groups/organizations? Karen will talk with Patricia Muir about getting statistics concerning this issue. At ALA Annual this summer Karen will also discuss revising the GODORT membership information pamphlet (pending the outcome of the proposed ASCLA merger). Currently there is misinformation contained in the pamphlet. Suggesting a student rate to encourage membership was also mentioned.

Web page design

Catherine Hansen will discuss with her library administration the possibility of mounting the Membership Web page at the University of Rochester.

The remainder of the Web page discussion was moved to the Monday morning 8:00am meeting of Membership committee.

Dena moved to adjourn, motion seconded at 4:55pm.