

SRRT Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2023

In attendance: Rebekah Black, Tara Brady, Katelyn Browne, Jane Cothron, Jen Derless, Al Kagan, Marie Langevin, Olivia Scully, April Sheppard, Derek Wilmott, Julie Winkelstein and Mark Winston.

- Approval of March [minutes](#) – April Sheppard – Without a quorum of voting members, voting on March minutes is postponed until Annual.
- FYI: Round Table Bylaw Template Update – April Sheppard – Now that the ALA Bylaws have been passed, the Round Table Coordinating Assembling is putting together a small committee to review the round table bylaws template. April Sheppard will be part of this committee. After this work is complete, work can restart on the SRRT bylaws that we started last summer.
- FYI: SRRT Student Membership Coupon – April Sheppard – April has begun discussions to create the coupon code so students can continue having free SRRT membership and help get the word out.
- Budget Request – Derek Wilmott, co-chair of the SRRT Programming Committee – The Planning Committee has started planning events, including the Afternoon of Social Justice in August, a summit on abolitionism and intersectionality in February, a small event in November, and a book talk in July. The Committee is asking for a \$1,000 budget for speaker honorariums, particularly for those with lived experiences not in the library field. Jane Cothron asked if \$1,000 was enough. Al Kagan recommended a budget of \$2,000. Jane made a motion to approve a budget of \$2,000 for the SRRT Planning Committee and Al seconded. There was not a quorum to take a vote, so April Sheppard said she would send the vote out via email to Action Council along with an updated SRRT budget.
- New Task Force: Diversity in Organizations Task Force – April Sheppard & Mark Winston – Mark and April want to create a new task force called the Diversity in Organizations Task Force. They imagine this task force to act as a sort of think tank for those working on issues of diversity in library organizations, including those facing pushbacks or intimidation against their library's diversity efforts. We hope members will be able to identify approaches to being proactive, share ideas and best practices, foster collaboration and allyship, and help make diversity an organizational and societal priority. Questions and comments:
 - Does “think tank” mean focus will be discussion and reading, not action? Mark: It would be both, thinking and action. Discussions will also help indicate areas where support and action are needed. Rebekah Black: For example, areas where research is needed and laws need to be supported.
 - Notice that specific groups are not labeled, don't be so careful to avoid labels that no one is included.

- How will people learn about the task force? April: Social media, web pages, working with other groups, ALA offices, etc. Rachel: MLIS discussion boards.
- FYI: SRRT Programs at ALA Annual – April Sheppard – A website was created for SRRT and ALA Annual: <https://www.ala.org/rt/srrt/2023annual>. Please make sure to check back as things may change.
 - Al Kagan: There has been some opposition regarding Trita Parsi’s presentation. Trita himself has asked for security. Tara Brady: Can we coordinate with security to make sure they know protesting is ok? Al: We will meet with security and talk with them. Julie Winkelstein: Will security have guns? Al: Don’t believe so, but will confirm.
 - Julie: would like to see acknowledgement of people who can’t come to conference.
 - April: Membership and Council meetings are free and hybrid, thanks to SRRT and other who supported our resolution. April noted that she is looking into making the SRRT Action Council meetings hybrid as well.

Meeting adjourned at 11:56.

Minutes prepared by April Sheppard