

2/25/21 SRRT Meeting Notes

Action Council Members Introductions

Brief SRRT Membership Update (April Sheppard, SRRT Coordinator) - 2059 members, up 3.8% from December

Sponsoring ALA and SRRT memberships for ALA Annual Virtual (April Sheppard, SRRT Coordinator) - We had 6 we sponsored in January. Do again for Annual 2021. Other roundtables now also looking into sponsoring. We can decide where the money will come from via email.

11:20am ALA Presidential Candidate: Stacey Aldrich - Need to spend year of intentional future thinking. At end of year, have an ALA Guide to the Future. Questions: What role do you see for round tables for ALA governance? Vital to have groups of interests, need to have round tables, and need to continue. Digital equity and serving people who are being left out? Digital equity: network access, device, and skills. During pandemic: library tried library pickup, wi-fi outside library, now looking at devices. Need to help libraries get devices, look at costs, make sure federal funding supports library digital access, ways to partner.

Update on the Biblo Award (Charles Kratz, Action Council) - Endowment is set thanks to Al Kagan, Action Council, and Monica Chapman, ALA Staff Liaison. Endowment is established at \$50,000. Work with Monica to get a press release to announce it, get more money, and call for first round of nominations in the fall.

Brief Update on Honoraria for Native American Speakers (Tom Twiss, Action Council) - Good news: all three speakers have received their payments \$500 dollars. Thanks to Tracie Hall, ALA Executive Director, and Monica Chapman, ALA Staff Liaison for SRRT, for their work to make this happen. Came to our attention that Dallen was sent check in December - was unaware check was made, now has been paid twice. How to deal with this? If allow him to keep, he will need to receive a 1099 form. What about other speakers? Give them an extra \$500 each to make fair. Motion to give \$500 to Winona and Tadd and allow Dallen to keep extra payment: Sherre. Seconded: Charles Kratz, Action Council. Vote: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstain. Passes. Monica will need memo stating Action Council voted to give extra money (for all three). Will help with audit. April Sheppard, SRRT Coordinator will write memo, Tom Twiss, Action Council, will contact speakers. What went wrong? How can we make sure this doesn't happen again? Monica: we have a much better system in place, staff side.

Brief FYI regarding Rachel Carson Children's Book Award (Fred Stoss) - Did not discuss

11:45am ALA Presidential Candidate: Lessa Pelayo-Lozada - As SRRT member, thankful for Action Council and SRRT's influence in the Association. See self as president that represents hands-on work that need advocacy the most. Questions: What role do you see for round tables for ALA governance? We're still in very intentional place for governance. Whatever structure ends up being, see round tables being at the table and being a direct voice.

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Update on the Conference travel grants (Charles Kratz, Action Council) - Renamed the SRRT Conference Travel Grant to avoid confusion with Biblio Leadership Award. Gave two awards in 2019. Annual 2020 went virtual, forwarded their registration fees to 2021, but 2021 now virtual. Have decided to allow both winners to register for virtual and keep the difference instead of returning any monies to SRRT. Will need \$2,000 to be in budget for 2022 to plan to be in person again. Need to have discussion to have grant cover conference registrations if goes virtual again.

Update on Bylaws Task Force (Charles Kratz, Action Council) - We've had a chance to respond to work of Task Force. Report is almost complete. Some things we will agree with, some we won't. We don't want to be pigeonholed into naming conventions. Believe we will have option to call ourselves what we want, but will be pushed into generic bylaws - but bylaws will do what we need them to do. Question: Is there still going to be a 1% threshold for round tables? Wasn't a lot of support, but will likely be some sort of threshold. Tara Brady, Round Table Councilor: what is most important thing for SRRT if have to make a choice? Charles Kratz, Action Council: That round tables have representation in governance, we can deal with generic bylaws.

Update on Freedom to Read Foundation Board Meeting (Steven Phalen, SRRT Liaison to FTR) - Posted links to FTR documents in ALA Connect. On meeting agenda include current lawsuits that may interest SRRT and FTR: Problems with revenge porn ban in Texas - could ban images that have artistic or news value; Cell phone metadata and search warrants - content and metadata should be equally protected; PEN America vs. Trump regarding Trump's censorship of press - government dismissed case; Gibson Bros vs Oberlin College - student group formed protest against Gibson's Bakery but their flyer was deemed libel by store, Gibson sued for defamation. FTR argues wrong use of libel/defamation used in court, would require libraries, news to independently verify all speech they report. Tom Twiss, Action Council - recent cases involving Arkansas' law requiring state contractors to pledge not to boycott Israel is unconstitutional, Georgia case is coming up. Are FTR discussing these bans, if not, how to get on their agenda? Steven: FTR asking people bring ideas to them, can bring this up. Julie: could be a call-out for newsletter.

12:10pm **ALA Presidential Candidate: Ed Garcia** - Round tables are so important. As president, want to increase financial stability, transparency, communication, effective governance, amplified member-led advocacy, advocate for library workers and their safety, advocate for school librarians, and member engagement. Want to visit LIS programs and students. Questions: What role do you see for round tables for ALA governance? We do need a more effective governance. But if we go to a smaller board, we would lose ability for members to make difference. Need direct representation, including round tables. Possibility of removing in-person barriers, have more virtual options, more meetings to increase representation.

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Executive Board Update (Ed Garcia, Board Representative) - Operating Working Group has asked for extension.

COPE Document: Concerns regarding the proposed "Resolution to Condemn White Supremacy and Fascism (Tom Twiss, Action Council) *** **Move to next meeting** ***

SRRT 2022 Budget (Lisa Eichholtz, SRRT Treasurer) **Action Council Voting Agenda Item - Lisa: shouldn't our estimated due be higher?; Monica Chapman, ALA Staff Liaison: have been encouraged to estimate lower end of things for revenue. Will need redistribute money from 2021 meals line to 2021 speaker line. Task Forces: let Monica know what estimated expenses would be and can create a spreadsheet for task forces. Monica will also update 2022 budget and send out to Action Council, budget will be approved via email.

Minutes prepared by April Sheppard, 02/26/21