

SRRT's Midwinter Meeting
Saturday, January 23rd, 1:30pm – 2:30pm Central

Call to Order

Action Council Introductions

Biblo Award (Charles Kratz) - Have received threshold to begin using funds, however more donations ideal. Can accept corporate donations. ODLOS can help put together press release which can be shared online and on social media.

Gift Memberships (Julie Winkelstein) - Didn't get info out for gift memberships until 6 days before deadline, but did sponsor people. Also paid for SRRT membership for them. Should we do again? Are other round tables interested? - Yes, RRT. Lisa will bring up gift memberships in SustainRT

[Resolution to Condemn White Supremacy and Fascism as Antithetical to Library Work](#) (Tara Brady) -

Expects it to pass. Had quite a bit of discussion:

- Fred Stoss gave warning in chat of when TFOE Proposed the Rachel Carson Children's Book Award
- Excellent topic for a blog post— what is the distinction between neutrality and impartiality? Does a commitment in principle to democracy figure in here too?
- Are ALA members committed in principle to upholding and defending the US Constitution? Or is this oath only suitable for public employees?
- Wondering how this affects our collection development duties since we're supposed to get variety of different viewpoints but what about political books or "health"/"wellness" books that clearly provide disinformation but are on the NY Times bestsellers list?
- Do we want to call on ALA to encourage libraries to develop collections and public programs that help the public educate itself about the history of racism and white supremacy and antiracist movements?
- Continuing education for the profession on this neutrality myth seems warranted in 2021 -- beyond a resolution -- would SRRT consider this?
- Several recommended readings in chat (below)
- Should we have another Afternoon of Social Justice event this summer covering these topics - general favor yes.

Tara asked Action Council if wanted to vote. Mark moved to support, Wendy second. Passed with 1 abstain.

Issues Acquiring Honorariums (Tom Twiss) - Speakers from Native American Treaty Rights program still have not receive honorariums. Monica and others state it's a larger problem than just SRRT. Problem is above ODLOS. April will write email to Maggie Farrell regarding our concerns, will cc Ed Garcia, Tracy, Julius Jefferson, and Monica. Write that we expect an apology sent with checks. ODLOS has already tried. Monica is doing great job. Julie: possible newsletter topic? ALA uses EDI, but doesn't support EDI. This is a great example.

Carbon Offset Resolution (Al Kagan) - Al had sent newest version this morning. Discussed Ed's contributions to resolution and support. Noted that most resolutions come from roundtables.

Brief FTRF Update (Steven Phalen) - Steven shared FTRF agenda in chat. Willing to write column for newsletter.

Fred Stoss:

15 years or so ago, TFOE Proposed the Rachel Carson Children's Book Award(s). ALA initially agreed and later in the day rescinded its agreement. We had permission from the Rachel Carson Foundation, and pledges of \$5,000 and a MUCH larger contribution WHEN the award was approved. ALA DEMANDED a \$100,000 endowment. I was told not to resubmit, that if someone else from TFOE wanted to continue they said someone else had to seek their permission (the Awards Committee). All files and emails concerning with this were to OLOS. The idea was never presented the idea and one person quit ALA as a result of what was felt the rudeness of the Awards Committee.

Resources and Links Shared in Chat:

Paul:

Just had my book "Change the World Using Social Media" published by Rowman & Littlefield, and decided to drop into this meeting to see if there's any overlap between what SRRT is doing and what I've been doing.

Kate:

<https://hcommons.org/deposits/item/hc:18389/>

Gary:

<https://candisebranam.wordpress.com/2014/05/15/the-myth-of-library-neutrality/>

Sherre:

<https://slis.simmons.edu/blogs/emclaireknowles-publications/2018/03/26/can-libraries-be-neutral-should-they-strive-to-be-neutral/>

Mark:

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/EDI>

Stav:

<https://litwinbooks.com/books/questioning-library-neutrality/>

Gary:

<http://www.progressivelibrariansguild.org/>