

1979

SRRT ACTION COUNCIL MINUTES, THURS. JAN. 11, (9:30-11 a.m.)

Coordinator,
Marjorie Joramo/made these announcements:

- 1) Nominations are being accepted for next year's Action Council.
- 2) Mary Biblo is planning a new task force on affirmative action; those who are interested should contact her.
- 3) No formal budget report would be given due to the absence of the treasurer.

The meeting was turned over to Margaret Collins, Task Force Coordinator, for task force reports as follows:

Peace Information (Elizabeth Morrisett)

A program was announced for the Dallas convention that would include a speaker from the "Mobilization for Survival" group.

It was noted that because such concerns as nuclear energy are included in the task force, a better name for the task force would be Peace Information Exchange. This suggestion was adopted.

A request was made for a \$250 additional budget appropriation.

The question arose as to whether South African protest group activities would be handled by this task force.

An exhibit table will be provided in Dallas and space will be available for South African protest materials.

Elizabeth mentioned that the SRRT budget included somewhere between \$1500 and \$2000 in additional funds held over from previous years.

Farm Workers Task Force (Barbara Pruett)

Comments were made about a task force pre-conference, and it was announced that the ALA publication "Information for everyday Survival" will be revised. Those with suggestions should contact Barbara.

Tools for Consciousness-raising (Donnarae MacCann)

This program for Dallas was announced: an address by Professor Fredrick Woodard, Afro-American Studies Dept., University of Iowa, on "Patterns of Racism and Today's Media Centers." Two ALA members will be asked to contribute responses to this paper.

A budget request for \$100 in additional funds (or the possibility of borrowing that amount from 1980) was made.

bibliography. Tips: Please give complete citation information on each item, including addresses of pamphlet publishers (but not book publishers). Include all relevant lesbian items. Articles can be book chapters as well as articles from non-gay periodicals (if we tried to list articles from gay periodicals the job would be unmanageable). Pamphlets include special gay issues of non-gay periodicals. Keep in mind that our GAY BIBLIOGRAPHY serves a huge audience--over 33,000 copies of the 5th edition have been distributed --an audience that's diverse in interests, reading ability, etc.

We'll also be grateful for suggestions about audiovisuals, periodicals, and directories/bibliographies to list in their separate sections. We'd rather hear about an item ten times than miss hearing about it because everyone assumed we knew.

*** Recently we issued two short specialized lists, GAY RESOURCES FOR RELIGIOUS STUDY and GAY AIDS FOR COUNSELORS. One or two copies of either list are free for a stamped reply envelope; bulk rates, 5¢ each counseling list, 8¢ each religion list. We're also preparing short lists on gay health and on gay civil rights.

*** Gay Task Force members Frances Hanckel and John Cunningham now have a contract with a major trade publisher's YA division for their book for teenagers about the gay experience. In their text, they're using anecdotes and reminiscences, with the names changed, and they'd be grateful to get more of them. If you have a story to tell, or something to say, about being a gay adolescent (or knowing one), please send it along to the Gay Task Force for the authors.

*** Our list of GAY BOOKS IN FORMAT FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED, first issued in 1976, will soon be revised. As before, copies will be free for a stamped reply envelope.

*** We've helped the Gay Teachers Association of New York City to prepare a list of gay materials for use in schools by teachers, counselors, and students. The list will appear soon in the GTA Newsletter. (For a copy, send a donation with your request to cover costs, to Gay Teachers Association, 204 Lincoln Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217.)

*** We're collecting suggestions for our program event at ALA's 1979 conference in Dallas. The program should be clearly relevant to librarians' professional interests--and should also be entertaining and fresh. What's your idea for what we might do?

*** Our GAY MATERIALS CORE COLLECTION LIST is a buying guide for small and medium size public libraries. It lists twelve basic gay books, six pamphlets, and Gayellow Pages. (Copies of list are free for a stamped reply envelope.) We were spurred to do this list when we found out that H. W. Wilson's PUBLIC LIBRARY CATALOG, even in 1977, recommends only two books on homosexuality: Merle Miller's ON BEING DIFFERENT, and the Wyden's very anti-gay GROWING UP STRAIGHT! No matter how widely we distribute our core collection list, it can never be as influential as Wilson's buying guide. So how can we get the PUBLIC LIBRARY CATALOG to serve up a better selection of gay materials? When we contacted PLC about this two years ago, we learned there's a complicated sort of jury of librarians who pass on all suggested titles--so just sending in our recommended titles, which we did, doesn't help much. We'd like to recruit someone who knows what more can be done and who's willing to do it. If you're the one, please call or write!

-- Barbara Gittings, Coordinator
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