

MINUTES

Saturday, July 9, 1988 9:30-11

New Orleans, LA

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ROUND TABLE

ACTION COUNCIL

1. Meeting called to order at 9:35a.m. by John Hostage, Action Council Coordinator
2. Introduction of members
24 members present (see attached sheet)
3. Additions to agenda
4. Announcements
 - a. ACRL now has a social responsibilities committee
 - b. SRRT is co-sponsoring an OLOS program on developing minority leadership
 - c. Resolution on federal prisoner Danny Martin
Jody Bush informed membership on this case. Martin has been removed from his current California prison for writing articles in the San Francisco Chronicle about prison life, especially prison conditions under a new director. The ACLU has taken up his case. Bush asked for resolution from SRRT to direct the ALA president to ask FTRF to file an amicus brief on Martin's behalf.
Several members raised objections to this on procedural grounds. It was amended to say that the coordinator would send a letter about this case to the FTRF and a resolution be sent to membership. It was moved by Linda Pierce that Action Council endorse the resolution. This was passed unanimously.
5. Jackie Eubanks spoke on ALA policy, which was originally a 1970 policy in the ALA Handbook on library education. There is an ALA resolution on "What Makes a Professional Librarian?" SRRT wants the word "preferred" to replace "appropriate" in describing the degree of education necessary to be a professional librarian.
6. Herb Biblo spoke on ALA's Budget Assembly, which appears to assume that dues increases are inevitable. He said that a large amount of new money is going into ALA administration rather than ALA programming. Recently, COPES recommended the creation of 7 new positions at ALA headquarters. The Membership Committee has discussed this with incoming treasurer Carla Stoffle, and she seems to be supporting a dues increase. ALA Council voted unanimously to fund an affirmative action program in ALA "if outside money can be found", which also seems to indicate a future dues increase, plus establishing an affirmative action program that is dependent on outside money is not what was originally voted on.
Biblo proposed that we make a resolution freezing dues for 5 years. Biblo, Hostage, Pierce, and Warner will write a resolution on this and return it to Action Council at a future meeting in New Orleans.
7. "We Are Not Pleased" manifesto
Miriam Crawford and Noel Peattie talked about a discussion Action Council hopes to have about this matter. Discussion questions should include:
Where do we go from here? What reforms can be proposed?
Hostage will decide when we will discuss this matter.

8. Jeanne Kocsis asked that all information for September issue of our newsletter be sent to her by July 27.
9. The by-laws of the Coretta Scott King Award Committee were presented to Action Council by David Searcy. They will be voted on on Sunday.
10. Freedom to Read Foundation board meeting
Noel Peattie, FTRF liason, reported on Thursday's FTRF's board meeting.
 - a. They will hold a colloquium on protecting legal rights in censorship cases in Washington, D.C. in January, right before Midwinter.
 - b. Several censorship cases were reported on.
 - Wasco still dragging on.
 - Bullfrog Films won battle on films that had been labelled "propaganda" by U.S. government.
 - Playboy case in Scottsdale, AZ still pending
 - Child Protection and Obscenity Enforcement Act a danger in Congress
 - FBI's "Library Awareness Program" being dealt with by FTRF and OIF.
- ~~11. A Central America Task Force group is forming.
They will work in support of building a library in Nicaragua.~~
12. Meeting adjourned 11:15 .