

## MINUTES

### Social Responsibilities Round Table Action Council

June 29, 1991

It should be noted that the minutes for the 1991 Action Council meetings have not been approved by Action Council membership. This will occur at Midwinter 1992.

The meeting began at 9:40 with a reminder from SRRT Coordinator Denise Botto that the primary purpose of this meeting was to examine any resolutions which came before Action Council.

Action Council voted to approve an ALA resolution requesting legislative action which would make public librarians serving low-income communities eligible for the same loan reduction programs as teachers and school librarians. Coordinator Botto was to inform the author.

Action Council members voted to shut off a tape recorder, fearing that it might impede discussion.

Sandy Berman reported on the recent Richard R. Kreimer vs. Morristown, NJ case, adding that the Freedom to Read Association would support the plaintiff/ACLU while Morristown Public Library will reportedly ask ALA for support. Action Council voted to send a memo to the ALA Executive Board which reads:

The Social Responsibilities Round Table opposes ALA support for the Morristown, New Jersey Public Library appeal of Judge Sarskin's decision concerning the right of access to public libraries.

Elizabeth Morrisett and Sandy Berman were asked to prepare and deliver the memo.

Elizabeth Morrisett brought a resolution on access to information and discrimination against marginal users to Action Council for endorsement. SRRT unanimously endorsed the resolution, which will be taken to membership by Morrisett.

David Williams brought to Action Council a draft IFC resolution on the free flow of information in Israeli-occupied territories.

After considerable discussion, Al Kagan moved to endorse the intent of the IFC draft, but not the language, which Kagan felt should be stronger. The motion passed unanimously.

David Williams suggested changes which he will present to IFC at their next meeting. A motion to that effect was made, with 6 voting "yes," 5 voting "no," and 2 abstaining.

Information was presented on a resolution concerning U.S. membership in UNESCO.

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### Social Responsibilities Round Table Action Council

July 1, 1991

The meeting began with the introduction of the new OLOS Director, Mattie Nelson.

The minutes for the Midwinter Action Council meetings were reviewed, and it was noted that Jackie Eubanks' name had been omitted from the list of those attending the second meeting. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Chris Sokol, SRRT Newsletter Editor, gave her resignation. Tom Wilding will replace her after the September issue is completed. The Newsletter Editorial Board will be Teresa Tobin, John Sandstrom and Elizabeth Morrissett. They will begin their duties in December.

Chris Sokol suggested a possible 3-year term for both the editor and the editorial board. She also made a strong plea for Task Force coordinator participation, reminding them that as a general rule the deadline for the Newsletter is 6 weeks before the publication month of the issue.

Carol Barta, Kansas SRRT Coordinator, made a request for affiliate status for Kansas SRRT. A motion was made by Gail Warner and seconded by Cynthia Johanson to accept Kansas SRRT as an affiliate member. The motion passed unanimously. Stephen Stillwell reminded Action Council that the SRRT Constitution requires Affiliate members to meet periodically to elect 2 representatives to Action Council.

The SRRT Action Council meeting schedule was discussed and the following schedules were approved:

<u>ANNUAL</u>	<u>MIDWINTER</u>
Sat., 9:30-11:00 AM - Action Council	Sat., 9:30-11:00 AM - Action Council
Sun., 6:00- 7:30 PM - Membership	Mon., 2:00- 5:30 PM - Action Council
Mon., 2:00- 5:30 PM - Action Council	

Carol Greenholz will investigate the details for the membership meeting in San Francisco. SRRT liaisons are:

ALCTS-CCS Committee on Cataloging - Sherry L. Kelly  
Freedom to Read Foundation - Daniel C. Tsang  
Library Education Assembly - Vacant  
Planning & Budget Assembly - Cynthia Johanson

A discussion of SRRT's Israeli Censorship Resolutions followed, with comments from Sara Fine, SRRT member, David Williams IHRTF, Josepha Pick and others. Stephen Stillwell moved to revise SRRT's January 1990 and June 1990 Resolutions on Israeli's Censorship by deleting the following phrases from the "Be it resolved" clauses, (the whereas clauses were ignored) Jan. '90: "massive & stringent," "alleged," "sweeping & arbitrary." June '90: "alleged gross inequities," and paragraphs 4 and 5 which read:

#4: Be it further resolved that the SRRT will encourage the sending of an official ALA fact-finding mission to the Occupied Territories and Israel if necessary to further investigate the above-stated issues and,

#5: Be it further resolved that the SRRT will suggest appropriate measures to the International Federation of Library Associations, UNESCO, and other international bodies, and...

Following discussion, Cynthia Johanson called the question. The motion failed.

A motion made by Donnaræ McCann to leave "massive" in the Jan. 1990 Resolution passed.

A motion to leave "massive" in and delete "stringent" failed.

A motion to delete "massive & stringent" in the Jan. '90 Resolution in paragraph 1 and in the Resolved and to delete the 4th and 5th resolved paragraphs of the June 1990 Resolution passed with a 10 "yes" and 7 "no" vote.

Action Council also passed the following Resolved as a stand alone resolution which was not connected with the Israeli censorship issue:

Be it further resolved that the SRRT Action Council will be willing to consider a resolution condemning censorship and/or the closure of libraries in any country if that resolution comes to SRRT with the appropriate documentation.

Twelve "yes" votes, 5 abstentions.

The SRRT Constitution, which has not been revised since 1981, was discussed. It will be on the 1992 Midwinter agenda.

Action Council approved the Committee on Organization's definition of the term "task force" as follows:

A task force is an action-oriented membership group whose charge is to address specific goals, complete a specific task, or to consider a particular issue. There may be a designated time frame defined by the nature of the task or set forth in the function statement. Functions of a task force may include the following:

1. Gathering information and making recommendations
2. Studying an issue and preparing a report
3. Carrying out a specific project or activity
4. Conducting programs at conferences
5. Establishing committees or other sub-units

A task force is used to address critical, urgent, or ongoing situations which require a strong, visible organizational effort and/or activist response.

There was brief discussion on the Poor People's Services Policy and the Guidelines for South Africa. Both were referred to various ALA Committees and should be brought back to Council at the 1991 Conference.

Action Council and the audience were reminded to attend the ALA Membership meeting.

Action Council then adjourned and immediately reconvened with the newly elected members for the purpose of electing its officers.

Sherre Dryden and Stephen Stillwell were nominated for the position of Coordinator. Dryden was elected by one vote. Stillwell was declared Secretary by acclamation. Cynthia Johanson agreed to continue as Treasurer. The decision on a booth coordinator was deferred until Midwinter, when a detailed discussion of the staffing and operation of the booth will be held. Stephen Stillwell agreed to remain on as Recruitment/Membership person until then as well.