

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Task Force
of the American Library Association
1999 Midwinter Meeting, Philadelphia

Steering Committee II
Meeting Minutes

February 2, 1999

I. Call to order

Michael Miller opened the meeting at 8:45am.

II. Introductions

Steve Russo, Ron Kurpiers, Chet Mulawka, Michael Nitz, Michael Poma, David Van Hoy, Michael Miller, Shari Clifton, Karen Whittlesey, Keith Trimmer, Norman Eriksen, Gary Klein, Barbara Stevens, Carolyn Mahin, Cal Zunt, Victor Schill.

III. Reports

a) Co-chair Reports

Michael Miller

Michael Miller reported that the GLBTF budget request was raised to meet projected earnings. The baseline budget for FY2000 will be \$24,650. Miller reported that budgeting and staying within budget has been problematic for the SRRT/GLBTF as well as the other Round Tables due to "hidden costs." These are items for which ALA charges but does not list on budget reports. Units will operate as is for 10 years to determine costs.

ALA Council Discussion:

Cal Zunt brought up the Spectrum Initiative and indicated that we will be included in the 2nd phase of that initiative.

Michael Miller suggested that the Social be held on Sunday with the Read Aloud at the next conference so as not to conflict with Ann Symons' All Conference Social on Saturday.

Scholarships. Ann Symons is hoping to raise \$200,000 at the All Conference Social in New Orleans for scholarships, diversity issues, and other needs. The GLBTF would be included if we had a scholarship fund.

b) Ad Hoc Committee for Round Table Status Report

The Committee wrote the letter which accompanies the petition. There was additional general discussion centered on contacting ALA Councilors and others as discussed during SC I.

Additional general discussion took place regarding possible names for a new Round Table. For the time being, "GLBT Round Table" will remain the first choice, in accordance with the motion passed at SC I.

Seventy signatures were collected on the Round Table status petition that was circulated at the Social.

c) **Diversity Council Report**

David Van Hoy

David Van Hoy reported that there was discussion about how to make the Council more diverse. There are 15 people from ethnic caucuses running for Council. Barbara Stevens suggested names of candidates who represent multiple diversity groups. It was suggested that these names be submitted to the Nominating Committee.

d) **Fund Raising Report**

Gary Klein

Gary Klein is working on an 8 page form to request a Tax ID number for the Rainbow Literacy Foundation. He also reported that potential contributors may be more amenable to making a contribution once this process is complete.

Cal Zunt offered to check with REFORMA regarding the organization of a similar fund they have. She recommends that we not use the newsletter for publicity until there is a Tax ID and charter in place since ALA is the publisher of the newsletter.

Klein offered to develop a web page for the Rainbow Literacy Foundation which could be linked to the GLBTF website at an appropriate time.

e) **Newsletter Report**

Cal Zunt

Cal Zunt will post subscription information on the listserv.

The deadline for submitting material to the newsletter will be February 15. She would like to hear from the Book Award Committee. She would also like to include annotations for the finalist/winning titles, which has not been done in the past.

Cal announced that she will be the GLBTF official representative on the Diversity Fair Committee.

f) **Program Planning Report**

Chet Mulawka

Chet Mulawka thanked Steve Russo for the successful Social.

Speakers have been scheduled for Annual. Program: "Daring to Save Our History: Gay & Lesbian Archives." The speakers will be Jim Van Buskirk, Barbara Gittings, Jim Carmichael, Lucinda Zoe.

Gary Klein explained ALA's proposed changes in conference organization – structured by themes and locations to gather like programs together. He asked if we should submit a resolution addressing these changes.

Jules Tate suggested that a resolution should include the position that ALA is 1) a member driven organization; 2) diversity is good; and 3) ALA units and members need more information about the proposed changes.

The committee will send a letter/resolution to the ALA Conference Planning Committee immediately following the conference.

g) Read Aloud Report

Victor Schill

Victor Schill reported that 16 attended and 7 read. The Read Aloud and Social will be combined in New Orleans.

h) Social Report

Jules Tate

Victor Schill reported that 16 attended and 7 read. The Read Aloud and Social will be combined in New Orleans.

For planning purposes GLBTF policy will be not to include alcohol because of cost. However, if a sponsoring organization wants to include it, we have no objection.

Michael Miller suggested that these types of issues need to be written up in the form of a planning document. Victor Schill and Chet Mulawka will work on guidelines.

i) Secretary Report

Once minutes are approved, they will be submitted to Keith Trimmer for posting on the website.

j) Book Award Committee

Faye Chadwell

Faye Chadwell indicated that press releases will go out by ALA in the near future regarding this year's winners and finalists.

Faye proposed that the BAC create a Vice Chair/Chair Elect position, and suggested that the GLBTF itself may wish to consider this in light of the possible change to Round Table status.

The BAC would like to compile a reading list, Annual, for the Clearinghouse and website.

This year book award finalists will be given a certificate.

Michael Miller suggested that a book nomination form be added to the GLBTF website.

IV. New Business

k) Out of the Past video

The video was viewed on Saturday. Victor Schill moved to provide GLSEN with our endorsement. Michael Poma seconded. Approval was unanimous. Michael Miller will convey our endorsement to GLSEN.

l) Bylaws

Keith Trimmer distributed a handout containing the proposed changes. These will also be published in the newsletter and be mounted on the website. A vote will take place at the Membership Meeting at Annual in New Orleans.

m) Volunteer Forms

Keith Trimmer has been sending them to Kenn Bicknell. There needs to be follow-up by the External Relations Committee. He also suggests that sign-in lists from Social, etc. need to be followed up on with e-mail thank you notes.

n) Diversity Council Visit

The Friday visit by the candidates for Diversity Council was summarized.

o) Libraries: An American Value

The GLBTF is able to endorse this document independent of SRRT according to Wendy Thomas and Ann Symons.

Motion: Keith Trimmer moved that the GLBTF endorse the document. Chet Mulawka seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Poma
Secretary