

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Round Table  
American Library Association  
Annual Conference, 2007 • Washington, DC

**Steering Committee I**  
Madison Hotel • Montpelier Room  
June 23, 2007 • 8 —10 a.m.

**In attendance :** Billy Beal, John Bradford, Beth Briggs, Lyman Clayborn, David Conners, Lewis Day, Richard DiRusso, Norman Eriksen, Kyle Felker, Roland Hansen, Paul Higdon, William Holden, Robin Imhof, Andy Johnson, Lisa Johnston, T.J. Kao, Dustin Larmore, Dale McNeill, Holly Mercer, Anne Moore, Danielle Pollock, K.R. Roberto, Larry Romans, John Sandstrom, Keith Trimmer, Gary Wasdin, Cal Zunt.

**Visitors reporting :** Jane Cothron.

- 1. Call to Order** **Cal Zunt**  
The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m. by Co-Chair Cal Zunt.
- 2. Introductions** **Cal Zunt**  
Cal invited attendees to introduce themselves.
- 3. Approval of Agenda** **Norman Eriksen**

<b>Motion 1</b> <i>Approve agenda as presented by Lewis Day.</i> Motion            Cal Zunt Second           John Sandstrom Pass                unanimous voice vote
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- 4. Approval of Minutes** **Norman Eriksen**  
The minutes of Steering Committee 1 and 2 (prepared by Secretary Lewis Day) from Seattle were distributed and discussed.

<b>Motion 2</b> <i>Approve minutes of Seattle SC 1 and 2.</i> Motion            Cal Zunt Second            Paul Higdon Pass                unanimous voice vote
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Cal complimented Lewis on the style and thoroughness of the minutes from the Seattle meetings.

- 5. Reports of Officers**

- Co-Chair Norman Eriksen  
Norman reported that Tom Wilding, who pledged \$10,000.00 to the RT BAC endowment some years ago, has sent the final installment of \$3,000.00. This pledge is now paid in full.

Yesterday, Norman attended the Round Table Coordinating Assembly. Of note is the availability, on the convention floor, of wireframes for the newest update to the ALA website. He encouraged attendees to visit the terminals set up for this purpose and fill out the electronic comment log.

Norman mentioned that his term of office is ending, and asked all to work as well with K.R. and Cal as they have with him. He has posted a list of unfinished business on the Steering Committee list.

- Co-Chair Cal Zunt  
Cal reported she met with Dixon Osborne, who recently stepped down as head of the Servicemembers' Legal Defense Network. Osborne will be the keynote speaker at the Book Awards Celebration.

Regarding the BAC endowment, she asked how the RT leadership can work to accomplish the endowment goal.

Cal thanked committee chairs and members for their hard work and commitment.

Cal said she and Norman were working with K.R. to ensure a smooth transition to K.R.'s tenure as co-chair.

- Treasurer Dustin Larmore  
Dustin was not present, but forwarded the 2008 budget to Cal. Dale McNeill, incoming treasurer, was introduced.

- Secretary Lewis Day  
Lewis reported on his desire to assemble and produce an Annual Report for the GLBTRT. The issue of the new ALA Pavilion at Annual (in lieu of the RT's own booth) came up, and Lewis asked if design specifications had been issued. Paul Higdon said he would follow up.

## 6. New Business Norman Eriksen

Norman interrupted the agenda to introduce Jane Cothron, a representative for the proposed Rainbow List of books for children/young adults. Timing necessitated Jane's speaking to the Steering Committee at this time.

Jane reported on efforts to create a GLBT-aware reading list for youth aged 3-18. There has been some contact with GLBTRT and SRRT, but the list, personnel and procedures are in flux. SRRT has accepted the nascent committee as a task force of the RT, but GLBTRT input and support is desired.

- Lisa asked if GLBTRT members would be part of the committee. Jane said some would be GLBTRT members.
- Cal asked if input and/or support has been sought from ALSC or YALSA. Jane said there had not been, since the work of the Rainbow List falls outside their purview.
- Lewis mentioned that participating in the Rainbow List would help elevate the RT's profile.
- Anne asked how costs would be dealt with. Jane replied that reading copies are supplied by publishers.
- John Sandstrom asked how committee members would be appointed. Jane said a mechanism was not yet in place for membership beyond the initial group.
- Cal asked who makes up the initial group. Jane listed the names.
- Lewis asked when the list would be issued. Jane replied that the annual list would be produced after Midwinter meetings, possibly in May to coincide with other lists produced by other ALA units.
- John Bradford asked how many titles would be featured. Jane replied the first list, covering 2005-2007 would include between 50 and 75 titles; she anticipates yearly lists to include approximately 35 titles.
- Cal asked if what Jane was seeking was to add a new GLBTRT standing committee. Jane said yes.
- Discussion, at times heated, ensued about reporting structures and expectations, and about involvement of SRRT, ALSC and YALSA.
- Lewis said he didn't think the relationship between the RT and Rainbow List committee needed to be adversarial.
- Norman said it wouldn't be appropriate, for the purposes of this project, to involve ALSC or YALSA, that the GLBTRT is the proper home for the Rainbow List.
- Rich asked if there would be an affect on the work of the Book Awards Committee, and would this dilute or parallel the proposed children's/YA award.
- Norman suggested this committee might evolve over time to take on the responsibility for selecting the children's/YA award. Jane replied that there is a fundamental difference between a book award and a book list, and that the Rainbow List is just that, a list. A list serves a very different function from an award, notably that the list can support librarians and collections which find content and holdings challenged.
- Cal suggested the conversation be deferred to SC II.
- Larry said the addition of a standing committee would entail a bylaws change.

**Motion 3**

*Refer the issue of the Rainbow List's status to the Bylaws Committee for additional conversation at SC II.*

Motion	John Sandstrom
Second	Paul Higdon
Pass	unanimous voice vote

**7. Break****Norman Eriksen**

A ten-minute break was called at 9 a.m.

**8. Reports of Committee Chairs**

- Book Awards Committee Robin Imhof  
Robin Reported that the committee would meet later in the day.  
Book award plaques have arrived.  
Alison Bechdel will be present at the brunch (Andrew Halloran will not).  
Pat Connolly has modified the book award seal design, and it is ready for production.  
Lewis asked if it is the design shared with the SC by Bob Jaquay in the past. Yes, robin replied.  
Cal asked if the seal was in the ALA Editions catalogue. Norman said the RT must first produce a seal.

**Action Item 1**

*Investigate and report cost of seal production to Dale McNeill.*

**Rich DiRusso****Action Item 2**

*Work with Satia Orange on details regarding production of the seals.*

**Rich DiRusso**

Robin asked if books have arrived from the publishers for distribution at the brunch. K.R. said that four have arrived and will be brought to the hotel for the event; Dustin said transport costs can be reimbursed.

Lastly, Robin mentioned it would be useful for there to be a clear delineation of responsibilities in areas where the BAC and Celebration coexist.

- Bylaws Lewis Day  
Nothing to report.
- Council Larry Romans  
Larry had to leave the meeting at this point. He expressed his appreciation at being included in the meeting. He asked for input regarding the upcoming ALA General

Membership Meeting (at 3 p.m.): should the ALA take an official stand on the war in Iraq and on other issues generally thought to be non-library-related. Larry also expressed his delight that the measure which he introduced in Council to broaden RT representation in that body had passed in the ALA election, and that the GLBTRT was benefiting from this measure's passage.

- External Relations Holly Mercer  
Holly asked if an incoming chair of external relations had been identified. Norman said no. Cal suggested an announcement be made at the social to alert members to this need.  
Holly said the READ software had been purchased for the RT.
- Fundraising David Gray  
Deferred to SC II.
- Membership Paul Higdon  
Paul reported that the mentoring program has begun, with three pairings ; there are three mentors in need of mentees, and two mentees in need of mentors. Mentoring forms have not been received from all SC members.  
Social networking presences have been established via an ALA blog, MySpace page, Flickr account and LiveJournal site. There have been 192 visits to the MySpace page, and 35 friends are listed. Lewis asked if all the sites are linked from the GLBTRT page and cross-linked. They are not. K.R. suggested including the web addresses for all sites in a newsletter article. Paul agreed.  
Paul said his working relationship with ALA Membership Marketing Manager John Chrastka is positive, and that he has been receiving much in the way of useful data. The RT has over 900 members.  
Paul said efforts so far to broaden the RT's ethnic diversity have so far not been successful. John Sandstrom said he is working on GLBT programming with REFORMA President Mario Ascensio for their upcoming national conference; perhaps this will help build bridges.

**Action Item 3**

*Work on networking to increase racial and ethnic diversity in GLBTRT.*

**Cal Zunt**

**Paul Higdon**

Paul also mentioned that the new ALA Pavilion is cramped, certainly less spacious than the booth of previous years.

The member profile is now up on the GLBTRT website.

Planning for the Washington social was problematic at best. That said, the social will be at Remington's C/W bar, near the Eastern Market Metro. Paul was interested in any comments. John Bradford wondered if the social couldn't be given its own standing chair. Dale agreed. John said perhaps it should be given to the bylaws committee. Anne volunteered to work on the Philadelphia social.

**Motion 4**

*Refer the issue of a separate Social Committee to the Bylaws Committee for discussion in Philadelphia.*

Motion            John Sandstrom  
Second           Paul Higdon  
Pass                unanimous voice vote

**9. Extension**

At 10 a.m. it was decided to extend the meeting.

**Motion 5**

*Extend the meeting until 10:15 a.m.*

Motion            John Bradford  
Second           Gary Wasdin  
Pass                unanimous voice vote

**8. Reports of Committee Chairs (Resumed)**

- Newsletter John Bradford

John reported the current issue had a press run of 1,000, a first for the GLBTRT. Advertising continues to wrap the newsletter, produced by Haworth Press.

<p><b>Action Item 4</b></p> <p><i>Investigate possibilities for increased advertising in the newsletter, and develop procedures.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>John Bradford</b></p>
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John is adding Kay Lahusen and Carl Navarro to the subscription list.  
K.R. is the next person who will be profiled in the newsletter.  
Cal mentioned how good the newsletter looks.  
John noted that ALA's publications picked up our coverage of Barbara Gittings.  
Norman said ALA increasingly wants our content and that we should be poised to provide it.

- Nominating Committee Anne Moore  
 Anne said there was a good slate of candidates for the recent election; the bylaws revision passed, K.R. Roberto was elected co-chair, Dale McNeill was elected treasurer, and John Sandstrom was elected ALA Councilor. 280 members (approximately 31 percent of the membership) voted.  
 For 2008 elections, candidates will be sought for co-chair and secretary.  
 Norman mentioned the ALA Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for President-Elect and Council-at-Large seats.

**Action Item 5**

*Write newsletter articles regarding upcoming election cycles for ALA and GLBTRT.*

**Norman Eriksen  
John Bradford**

- Program Planning Committee Gary Wasdin  
Gary announced programs on Aging Issues for GLBT persons and Female-to-Male Transgender Issues. He announced Barbara Pickell as the new committee chair. If members have program ideas for Anaheim, they should be e-mailed to Barbara.
- Stonewall Awards Celebration Committee John Sandstrom  
John reported that 151 of 160 possible seats have been sold for the brunch. A few seats are still available. Volunteers are needed for table set-up after 8 a.m. Sunday. The head table will have seating for 10-12 people; who should be seated here? Houghton, Mifflin, Alison Bechdel’s publisher, has provided 40 free copies of Fun Home for the brunch.  
Bob Jaquay is the incoming chair for the committee.
- Website Keith Trimmer  
Keith encouraged members to alert him to staffing and committee changes so that the website can be kept up to date.

**Action Item 6**  
*Provide minutes to Keith for the website.*  
**Lewis Day**

The MOSAIC site for ALA is still not working; Keith will work with them until ALA fixes the bugs.  
Keith’s term is expiring. Norman asked if he’d like to be reappointed, and Keith said yes. Norman and Cal said Keith should consider himself reappointed.

**10. Adjournment**

**Motion 6**  
*Adjourn.*  
Motion Anne Moore  
Second Paul Higdon  
Pass unanimous voice vote

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.