

**ALA LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF INTERESTS ROUND TABLE
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center

Room N-129

San Antonio, Texas

Saturday, January 21, 2006

8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

LSSIRT STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim Hill	Sue Knoche	Nina Manning
Jennifer S. Kutzik	Carol Thomas	Sandy Olson
Linda Porter	Jack Fitzpatrick	

ALA STAFF PRESENT:

John Chrastka	Darlana Davis	Lorelle Swader
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LSSIRT MEMBERS & GUESTS SIGNING THE ATTENDANCE LOG:

Dorothy Morgan	Kerrie Stramler	Diane Fay
Regina C. Bociulis	Barbara Ward	Leslie Monsalve-Jones
Kent Slade	Sherri Fitzgerald	Debra Cosby
Susan Hinds	Dave Dowell	Thomas Duszak
Jordan Scepanski		

I. CALL TO ORDER (Sue Knoche)

President Sue Knoche convened the meeting at 8:05 a.m. Steering Committee members and guests introduced themselves. Sue stated for the record that LSSIRT President, Ali Poffinberger, resigned January 3, 2006, due to health reasons. As Vice-President/President-Elect, Sue assumed the Presidency.

II. ALA ROUND TABLE COUNCILOR (Jordan Scepanski)

Jordan provided a history of the Round Table Councilor position. He represents 12 Round Tables with very disparate emphases. His term is ending and Jordan is encouraging nominees from each Round Table. Another strategy would be for several Round Tables with a common thread to put forward one nominee. A Council resolution will be introduced at this conference to designate permanent seats for the larger Round Tables, based on membership above 1% of the total ALA membership. Currently, four are above the 1%, including LSSIRT. If this resolution is approved by Council, it must be approved by the ALA membership before going into effect in 2007.

ACTION: Sandy Olson moved to endorse this Council resolution. Nina Manning seconded. Motion carried.

III. MINUTES FROM ANNUAL MEETING (CHICAGO) (Jennifer S. Kutzik)

Sue called for a motion to approve the Chicago meeting minutes, posted to the LSSIRT website.

ACTION: Jim Hill moved to approve. Sandy Olson seconded. Motion carried.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT (Sue Knoche for Meralyn Meadows)

(Document: "LSSIRT TREASURER'S REPORT, Prepared for the LSSIRT Business Meeting at Midwinter in San Antonio, Texas, January 2006 by Meralyn Meadows, Treasurer" [no date]) Sue summarized the Treasurer's report. We made \$505.89 on the Chicago Night Out and ended the year with a Fund Balance of \$11,412.58.

ACTION: Sandy Olson moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Linda Porter seconded. Motion carried.

V. ALA MANAGER FOR MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (John Chrastka)

A. John recognized the rapid growth of our Round Table, currently numbering 792. He noted that 340 joined at the \$35 rate and 350 at the regular membership rate. He cited a healthy balance of job titles which lends real strength to strategic planning and joint programming. The largest overlap of our membership is with RUSA.

B. John reported on the pilot joint membership programs in Alabama, Kansas, Massachusetts and New York. Participation has been very supportive from the chapters, but it needs more push. The two year test run is up for renewal in New Orleans. Also, the \$59 package will end Aug. 31.

C. John urged LSSIRT to make local contacts in the area of conferences. He was asked to provide programming for the Louisiana State Association (on hold due to Katrina).

D. The proposed ALA membership dues increase will raise LSSIRT dues from \$35 to \$46 over 3 years. The last dues increase was 1999. More money is needed to support the ALA Ahead to 2010 initiatives. The ALA Director of Development would like to see six non-dues-revenue dollars for every one dues-revenue dollar (currently, it is four to one).

VI. AGENDA ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION:

A. Sue asked for a motion on a nominee for Round Table Council Coordinator.

ACTION: There was no formal motion. This topic will be discussed via email.

B. Sue asked for a motion on the draft ALA Council resolution honoring *Library Mosaics* (Document: "A Resolution to Honor *Library Mosaics, The Magazine for Support Staff*" authored by Jennifer S. Kutzik [no date])

ACTION: Nina Manning moved to approve the wording of the resolution. Carol Thomas seconded. Motion carried.

C. Sue asked for a motion to make a contribution to the Gerald Hodges Fund, in support of intellectual freedom issues and legal challenges to legislation like CIPA and the USA Patriot Act.

ACTION: Nina Manning moved to contribute \$250 toward the Gerald Hodges Fund.

Sandy Olson seconded. Discussion ensued. Motion carried.

D. It was unanimously agreed to create and present recognition plaques to Ruth and Ray Roney, Charlie Fox and Ed Martinez of *Library Mosaics*. Carol reported AFSCME Local 1930 would order and pay for the plaques.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Sue will distribute the most recent listing of those serving on LSSIRT and ALA Committees. Sue asked all Board members to send her their ALA committee interests via email by Jan. 27.

B. Certification Task Force (Dorothy Morgan): Dorothy, Carol and Sandy are serving on this Task Force. Dorothy expressed regret that the certification survey still has not been statistically analyzed. However, the clear message from the survey is that respondent's favor certification and it appears they favor certification based on experience. However, a certificate of this type would carry less weight than a license from an accredited institution. LSSIRT will need the backing of ALA-APA plus a division (like LAMA or PLA) to move forward with a recommendation.

C. Membership: Nina will update the letterhead to reflect Sue's presidency and update the wording of the welcome letter to reflect our growing numbers. Nina expressed concern about the lag time between a new LSSIRT member joining and Nina being notified.

<<<THE MEETING WAS RECESSED FOR A TWENTY MINUTE BREAK.>>>

D. Nominating Committee: Since Sue has assumed the Presidency, there is no current chair of the Nominating Committee. Jim, as Past-President, agreed to serve. Diane Fay, former LSSIRT President, urged the consideration of a regional representation model but this would involve a significant ByLaws change. Since we currently have no ByLaws Committee, **Sue appointed Jim Hill, Diane Fay and Kent Slade to work on revamping our ByLaws to provide for regional representation. Jim will serve as Chair.** Leslie Monsalve-Jones recommended an LSSIRT member mentoring program.

E. Publications/Communications: Jennifer spoke to the former practice of restricting our current newsletter edition to LSSIRT members only. She heard that members found it very confusing to login/view the content, so she is posting the current issue to our web site for all viewers approximately a month after the newsletter is mailed to our members. We are currently without a newsletter editor, but Kerrie Stramler has volunteered to serve.

ACTION: Sandy Olson moved that Kerrie Stramler be appointed LSSIRT newsletter editor and be given latitude to develop a publishing schedule. Linda Porter seconded. Discussion ensued. Sandy amended her original motion to read "I move that Kerrie Stramler be appointed LSSIRT newsletter editor and be given latitude to develop a publishing schedule, with the goal of publishing an all-electronic newsletter within the next year." Carol Thomas seconded. Vigorous discussion ensued. Motion carried.

ACTION: Nina Manning moved that the LSSIRT newsletter editor receive some type of remuneration, the type and amount to be determined. Sandy Olson seconded. Lorelle recommended surveying other Round Tables and Divisions about their practices. Motion carried.

F. CONFERENCE PROGRAMMING: Lorelle reported 25 registrants for the Preconference "Circulation – Frontline and First in Service." Debra Wilcox Johnson of Johnson & Johnson Consulting was the facilitator. There were no formal evaluation instrument, but Lorelle will be debriefing with Debra. The New Orleans Conference Within a Conference is titled "Empowerment 2006: Taking Charge in a Sea of Change." The conference will be held Saturday, June 24 from 8 am-5:30 pm and Sunday, June 25 from 8 am-2:30 pm. The highlighted programs will be a presentation by former Library Mosaics editors Charlie Fox and Ed Martinez, sessions on resume writing and interviewing skills, "Effective Communication Skills" presented by Maureen Sullivan and a closing session address by Cali Williams Yost of Work+Life Fit, Inc. Registration will include breakfast on Saturday, lunch on Sunday, admission to the Exhibits and admission to the ALA Opening General Session featuring speaker Madeleine Albright. Lorelle stressed this CWC was planned primarily by ALA conference staff to keep the momentum going from the Chicago CWC, but her future recommendation would be that the ALA Conference Committee appoint a sub-committee with LSSIRT representation for CWC planning.

G. LSSIRT NIGHT OUT: Sue read a letter from the Louisiana Support Staff Association about possible social events in New Orleans. Discussion ensued. No motions were brought forward.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Term Limits: This agenda item had been tabled at the Chicago annual meeting. Lorelle volunteered that most Round Table officers have two year terms, and a maximum of two terms before a mandatory one term layout.

ACTION: Sandy Olson moved to change the terms of office for regular Members-at-Large from 3 years to 2 years. Linda Porter seconded. Motion carried.

This will go on the ALA ballot for membership approval **Kent Slade will provide wording to Darlena Davis of ALA concerning our justification for this proposed change.**

B. Reaching Forward South: Sue reported the organizers of Reaching Forward South have asked for LSSIRT to co-sponsor programs.

ACTION: Sandy volunteered to communicate further with them.

C. COPE-3 Follow-Up: Lorelle asked for an LSSIRT representative to keep her posted re: progress on COPE-3 initiatives, as she must report this to ALA Executive Council. In the absence of another volunteer, the LSSIRT President will report to Lorelle.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

A. ALA Communities Online: Sue discussed alternative methods for meeting, such as online chat, conference calls and the proposed ALA Communities Online portal on the ALA Web site.

B. National Library Workers Day (NLWD): Diane Fay spoke to ALA-APA plans for publicizing NLWD. Visit the ALA-APA website for updates: <http://www.ala-apa.org/>

X. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Linda Porter moved to adjourn. Sandy Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer S. Kutzik, LSSIRT Secretary