

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table  
of the American Library Association  
2012 Midwinter Meeting, Dallas, Texas

Steering Committee I  
Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2012

**I. Call to order**

(Linda Williams at 9 and Miguel Figueroa at 9:30)  
Anne Moore called to order the regular meeting of the GLBTRT Steering Committee of the American Library Association at 8:10 a.m. on January 21, 2012 in Houston Ballroom B of the Sheraton Hotel in Dallas.

**II. Introductions**

Karen G. Schneider, Interim GLBTRT Secretary, recorded the names of those in attendance. The following were present:

Jane Cothron, Rainbow Book List Committee Member  
Amanda Clay, Stonewall Book Award Committee  
Lewis Day, Chair, Stonewall Book Award Committee  
Roland Hansen, Stonewall Book Award Committee  
David Vess, GLBTRT Chair-Elect, Past-chair Web Committee  
Dale MacNeill, Treasurer, Past-chair  
Arla Jones, Chair, Over the Rainbow Committee  
Peter Hepburn, GLBTRT Councilor  
Franklin Escobedo, YALSA Liaison  
Anna Fridgeon, Student Visitor  
Shawn Vaillancourt, Chair, Program Planning Committee

Visitors included Linda Williams, GLBTRT's Executive Board Liaison and Miguel A. Figueroa, GLBTRT Staff Liaison and Acting Director of Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS).

**III. Approval of Agenda**

- **Motion Number 1**
- **Motion to approve agenda**
- **Motion: David Vess**
- **Second: Arla Jones**

- **Motion Passed**

#### IV. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings**

NOTE: Minutes from Annual 2011 were not voted on at this meeting. They will be voted on at the 2012 Annual Conference Steering Committee I Meeting.

[Draft of Annual Conference, Steering Committee Meeting I \[pdf: 539kb\]](#)

Steering Committee II, at 2011 Annual Conference was cancelled.

#### V. **Reports of Officers and ALA Executive Board Liaison**

##### a) **Chair Report**

**Anne Moore**

Reported on Emerging Leaders program – expanded to librarians over 35, less than 5 years, also expanding to support staff. We can do \$1500 sponsorship. It would cover someone to come to ALA. Encourage you to resubmit same proposal because groups change every year. Watch for April message and September proposals are circulated to candidates.

##### b) **Past-Chair Report**

**Dale McNeill**

RT Coordinating Committee –BARC has posted some basic financial info on YouTube—very basic info about ALA – good to listen

##### c) **Chair-Elect Report**

**David Vess**

David is currently past-chair of web committee and chair elect of the round table. Worked on drafting [language for the roles of our officers and board members](#). Draft is an aggregation of material from other ALA organizations like ACRL and LITA. Other future plans are: advocating for developing our [Procedure Manual](#) to its full potential, and formalizing some processes like proposing projects with this [draft form language](#). Because we also need to articulate our expectations of GLBTRT Liaisons and Representatives, he prepared [draft language about liaisons and representatives](#). Another important goal is forming the [GLBTRT Ad Hoc Resources Committee](#). There is already a great list of volunteers. If you would like to join them, e-mail [david.vess@gmail.com](mailto:david.vess@gmail.com). See the web committee report below for the rest of the report.

##### d) **Treasurer Report**

**Dale McNeill**

More revenue than expenses.

Endowment fund: ALA wants us to call it the long-term investment fund.

\$75k was original fund goal. But that goal was set in a different economic era. ALA has a goal based on the average value of the fund over the last 20 quarters. By that standard we will be fine in 5 years. But we should increase fundraising so we don't have to wait five years for the fund to support the award, and inflation will keep impacting it. Authors excited by honor less than by check. We have had some significant donations. Electronic solicitation from ALA is new, long time coming. Long ago there was no way to give a direct link to donate. This is making it much easier to request donations. \$110k for the fund, a bulk from members, most from many many small donations.

Miguel F will be here at 9:30. Can answer info re processes.

e) **Interim Secretary Report** **Karen Schneider**

Karen thanked people.

f) **Councilor** **Peter Hepburn**

Relatively quiet on Council since NO. some convo re OWS Library. Only res has seen is from Larry re Lois Ann. Has heard rumblings. Also COC has met with Maureen. Peter didn't see a lot of familiar names from the RT. Meet Sun/Mon/Tues so bring things forward if you have them.

Moore: surprised re no SOPA resolution. Hepburn: wouldn't be surprised to see a resolution come out of committee.

g) **ALA Executive Board Liaison** **Linda Williams**

Linda Williams will arrive ca 9:15

Jim Neal, ALA Treasurer (Executive Board Member) talked about ALA's revenues. 3 legs membership, publishing, conference declining, but have increased endowments and electronic publishing. Huron Street Press imminent; ALA has purchased Neal Schuman publishing.

J. Linda Williams – most of the info from EB is more informational than any major concern. Talking points are 5 pages in length.

Advocating for school libraries is an association priority. Please encourage everyone to sign the white house petition. Need 25k sigs, we have 15k. SL concern is with the reauthorization of ESEA school libs not funded. School libs being eliminated. Huge need. Time-sensitive. See dedicated computers in exhibit area.

School library task force – made up of members of all divisions.

e-content other big issue. Equack TF – major committee working on resolving some of the issues they brought forth. Fields, Raphael, Sullivan – meeting with vendors. Licensing practices a big issue. Christopher harris in charge of blog for e-content. More inf

4823 – Dallas

5108 – SD

Membership down 2% . some RTs decreased, some increased. John C left, have replacement.

Will be a virtual membership meeting. June 6, 3-4:30 central.

During elections – cannot make contributions to politicians, cannot speak to candidates proposal.

Acquired Neal Schuman, moving to Chicago, will have own imprint. ALA Board did extensive due diligence, crated IR business plan. Purchase plan does involve financing through a bank loan. Neal will share acquisition w Council on Monday. Will help increase publishing revenue.

Larry: how much did it cost? Linda: have to wait til Monday for Neal’s announcement.

Roland: how many books? Do they have ebooks?

Linda, not sure, yes

#### **h) Other Reports**

Heard from election candidate Barbara K. Stripling.

Roberta Stevens encouraged people to sign WH petition re school library services. Up to around 10k sigs with 25k needed. Up to 15k.

### **VI. Reports of Committee Chairs**

#### **i) External Relations Committee Report**

Needs a chair. Committee has been inactive for a couple of years. Scott Sanburg is left on it, he is willing to be on it, but doesn’t want to lead it. Liaison work with LLF and GLSEN are future projects.

#### **j) Fund-Raising Committee Report**

Needs a chair. Committee has been inactive for a couple of years.

**k) Membership Promotion Committee Report Larry Romans**

Larry Romans: forgot to bring numbers. Good response from mailing people who didn't renew. Most people cite economy or job situation. Did buddies program for first time. Response wasn't great but it was a good start. Had only 6 pairs of mentors/mentees . there were 5 more veterans that applied and 2 more novices. Novices were not going to be at MW, one of the vets didn't come to MW. Pleased at response from leadership.

Moore: buddy program: mentee met up at exhibits. Create a discussion group for the mentor/mentee program? Group agreed. Larry will work w David to set up a discussion group.

Larry: election: you all have to run! Last report—only had 4 candidates.

Secretary, chair-elect, directors at large. 7 positions, 4 candidates. No candidate for chair-elect.

Moore: elephant in the room – commitment to attending conferences?

Vess: lack of job descriptions plays a role.

Romans: put out stuff that gives people a pretty good idea.

Dale: we need to do the “ask”—would not have run for treasurer.

All of us have to do that.

Have mike at the social.

Moore: mentee “game” includes finding candidates

Vess: ad hoc resources committee

Need to know when X meets.

Deadline is Feb 2. Moore: that's the deadline for description, summary, etc. into ALA website.

Need chair-elect candidate (at least 1); need another secretary candidate

Need more directors

**l) Newsletter Committee Report Nel Ward**

Nel not present. Committee was inactive for a few months. Nel Ward accepted the appointment to be chair. Nel already released an issue and plans to do a follow up issue just after Midwinter.

**m) Program Planning Committee Report**

**Shawn Vaillancourt**

Shawn: working on annual programs for Anaheim with GLSEN and LLF. Working on literary proposals. Have a couple of ideas on the table. One is Out and Equal? Workplace equity organization. Open to suggestions.

**n) Over the Rainbow Committee Report**

**Arla Jones**

Incoming chair, Danielle Elaine Pollock will be at SC II. OTR selects books for LGBT issues and characters. The list is for adults. The committee reads a lot of books—approx 100 books. Volunteers for the committee must be able to evaluate many books.

**o) Rainbow Project Committee Report**

**Lynn Evarts**

Lynn Evarts is not attending the conference. The book list covered titles for children from birth to 18. The committee reads 300-400 books a year but nominate to about 50.

**p) Stonewall Book Awards Committee Report**

**Lewis Day**

Did not submit report. Worked with Kerchoff about a donation. Nice to have members who are excited about this work. Looked at ca. 200 books. Voting starts this afternoon and continues Sunday. Morgan-Romans today, Fishman today/tomorrow. Working on press releases. Needs to be to PIO Sunday at 10. Announcing at the Social. Monday at 6 a.m. for photos. 7:45 will be part of the Youth Media awards crowd. 10k online viewers. Be there early if you want to attend. New seal for honor books. Follow Twitter for link to viewing. Also meeting to look at next steps for spring. Lisa will head effort on brunch as immediate pp

Immediate past chair is chair of brunch celebration.

Publication stuff is in the pipeline.

Dale: we sold about \$3k of seals. Electronic seals. Adult book publishers don't care about seals, but for youth books this is a big deal. It's like adding 200 more members.

Book chairs—answered not-nice . No member of ALA made negative comments about the GLBTRT awards being presented at the youth media awards.

Moore: is it possible to get copies of the releases and take them to the social?

Arla: hard, t's long

Lewis: can do for adult awards as long as PIO will let them print. Moore can help.

Lewis: turnaround on Gittings might be tight because they finish at 4.

Arla will try to get list to Moore

Moore: had a PR re naming of award for Larry and Mike. Forwarded to list. Anyone have a concern with ALA posting to list? Agreement, no need for motion. We'll ask them to do that.

Day: YMA circus: cover images will be available for Morgan-Romans award. SBC Mike Morgan Larry Romans Award in Children and YA Literature.

**q) Stonewall Book Awards Celebration Committee Report Lisa Johnston**

See above Stonewall Book Awards Committee Report. Past-chair of Stonewall will be the chair of this committee.

**r) Website Committee Report Caitlin Stanley**

Caitlin not attending conference. David Vess, past-chair of web committee reported. Helped Anne and Dale launch new [Stonewall Book Awards 40th Anniversary Fund Raising Campaign](#). Round table website was one of the first groups to migrate into ALA's new Drupal content management system last Fall. At the time of migration the round table also adopted the [official information architecture \(navigation bar\)](#) all ALA sites are required to use. Over the Fall we also adopted the [ALA Committee Volunteer Form](#). This tool will help track appointment processes, automate appointment notifications, automatically update the ALA committee roster database. This database generates rosters for each committee's web page ([Steering Committee example](#)). To see full contact information of committee members, log in with the link at the top of any page.

Has committee members managing the round table social networking accounts. Another member has taken over processing newsletters into PDFs and is the administrator of the GLBTRT blogs.

**VII. Reports of Liaisons**

**s) Diversity Council Nancy Malone-Hill**

Nancy Malone-Hill: Diversity Council: John Sandstrom has cycled off so she's it and it's her last year. DC is a group of all ethnic caucuses and GLBTRT and EMER. Each group has reps. It's the only group we have to send diversity issues to the floor. Info re councilors at large. Program at Annual. Possibility includes how a project you worked on served a wider audience. Another about diversity begins at home... minorities w/in minorities. Committee met Friday at 2 pm. Need to arrive in enough time to be there Friday early afternoon.

Dale: Diversity Council includes reps from Council on diversity, committee on diversity (council committee), committee on diversity research, plus spectrum initiative and spectrum scholars interest group. All meet on Friday (traditionally). Each group is doing its separate business but in the same room. Committee on Diversity deals with resolutions. Diversity Council requires reps from each group.

Not run by OLOS, run out of Diversity Office.

t) **YALSA**

**Franklin Escobedo**

Next month YALSA is having a webinar. Megan Honig webinar. Check Cognotes for details.

**VIII. New Business**

u) **Finances**

**Miguel A. Figueroa**

Miguel: OLOS liaison to GLBTRT. Discussing long-term investments. Question about how much we need to have. \$110k in there now. ALA changed policy about how you can use your longterm investment. Used to be at end of year you could apply investment income to operating expenses. That is difficult for planning. GLBTRT had been smart and had not used the endowment money for expenses. Yay us.

ALA will now say you can use between 3 to 5 percent of the rolling average. Look at ending balance for 20 quarters. This year was 4%. Our endowment is \$75k because we're young.

Positives: makes planning easier.

Negative: if you spent 4% you'd end up dipping into principle of account. Doesn't include bank fees. Reluctant to say to spend it. Concern about how to do 3 book awards per year, and then 4 awards per year. \$180k would get us to the point where we could spend the 4% and also cover bank fees without touching principle.



To get to the 4th award we are looking at \$213k-\$225k to prevent us from dipping into principle.

Many member groups don't have the kinds of funds we have. Need to celebrate what we have accomplished.

Investments are starting to pay off in revenue. The K12 awards will produce revenue due to seal income. Got \$5k for being included in a reading initiative. Almost Perfect licensed seal.

\$2800 in interest, but \$600 in bank fees. Still not covering full award. But we didn't spend it yet.

Dale and Lewis: this helps give us a concrete goals.

What's the time range to get to our goal?

Lewis: We need a campaign. Also need a large donor.

Schneider: can we have projections?

Miguel: can sequence from October 2000.

We need to at least double what we have to get to a 4th award.

So what do we target?

Dale we can target both.

Lewis: can look at different models.

Larry: \$10k matching is one of best things going on. Used example from Unitarian matching challenge.

Moore: appreciate work from Miguel et al such as fundraising letter.

v) **Proposed Leadership Descriptions**

**David Vess**

Over the past year, David has been aggregating leadership descriptions from organizations such as LITA and ACRL to help us define our board and officer descriptions. Plus environmental scan. Language can be modified in the future but this gives us something for the election.

David: moved to adopt language. Dale second.

Hepburn: correction: change GODORT to GLBTRT.

Day: is this a policy-making body? Vess: yes.

Strike manage and replace with provide oversight and long-term planning for the RT

Moore: need to include an addendum about when the reps show up – eg Treasurer has to attend BARC. Point out chairs need to be at RT coordinating.

Dale: should we clarify that these positions can't enter into contracts

Roland: yes this should be in the procedure manual how contractual rels work. Vess: will pull together procedural information (including not speaking for ALA, etc.).

Moore: what about small things like spectrum fair? Vess yes can add to requirements.

Vess: we need reps, not chairs? Just ALA annual.

- **Motion Number 2**
- **Motion to absorb suggestions from discussion into document, and post for a 2 week vote in Connect**
- **Motion: David**
- **Second: Dale**
- **Passed**

## **IX. Announcements**

### **w) Election**

**Larry Romans**

Larry: election: you all have to run! Last report—only had 4 candidates.

Secretary, chair-elect, directors at large. 7 positions, 4 candidates. No candidate for chair-elect.

Deadline is Feb 2. Moore: that's the deadline for description, summary, etc. into ALA website.

Need chair-elect candidate (at least 1); need another secretary candidate

Need more directors

## **X. Adjournment**

- **Motion Number 3**
- **Motion to adjourn**
- **Motion: Lewis**

- **Second: David**
- **Passed**

Minutes submitted by: Karen Schneider, Interim GLBTRT Secretary and David Vess, Chair-Elect, 19 June, 2012.

Minutes approved by GLBTRT Steering Committee: *[DAY MONTH, YEAR]*