BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
ALA SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES
ROUND TABLE
ALA CONFERENCE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY
June 26, 1969

1. Organization and Procedure

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Bill DeJohn, Chairman of the Organization Committee, ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT). A brief description of the action taken at Midwinter Conference, including formation of the SRRT By-Laws and Program Committees was presented by the Chairman.

By-Laws - The Chairman then opened discussion of the proposed By-Laws. He pointed out the two elected committees to serve the Round Table, an Action Council of 9 members, instead of a steering committee, and a Clearinghouse Committee. Objection was raised to the number of members on the Action Council. It was stated that, if SRRT elected 3 members each year, by 1972 there would be only 6 members on the Council instead of the proposed 9. It was moved and seconded that the term of office should remain at 2 years as proposed in the By-Laws and that the Organization Committee should be allowed to work out the math. Motion passed.

The Chairman then asked for comments on the proposed dues. There were questions about the low dues for affiliate members. Jackie Eubanks, Chairman of the By-Laws Committee, said the intent was to keep the dues low in order not to hinder development of regional groups. Some members felt that affiliate dues should be higher than, or at least as high as, personal dues.

In the discussion of affiliate members it was pointed out that an affiliate group would, presumably, be started by personal members; however, non-members (of ALA and of SRRT) could be admitted. The chairman of the affiliate group would receive copies of SRRT publications. The affiliate group would not have to belong to ALA.
Bill Hinchliff objected to the term "task force" in the By-Laws and "to the use of any other term that sounds like Pentagonese."

A suggestion to add the words "of Libraries" to the name of the organization (Social Responsibilities of Libraries Round Table of the American Library Association) was rejected. The group felt it was sufficient to say Social Responsibilities Round Table of ALA.

It was moved and seconded to accept the By-Laws. The motion passed.

2. Organization Committee

In order to fill the 9 positions on the Organization Committee, or Action Council, the Chairman asked the members of the Organization Committee who wished to serve for another year to stand. Seven wanted to remain; two more were needed. The Chairman then asked for volunteers or nominations. The following names were presented: Ruthanne Boyer, Jackie Eubanks, Joan Goddard, Pat Schuman, Elliot Shelkrat, who immediately declined, Bob Smith, and Jim Welbourne. Those individuals were asked to leave the room and select two to serve on the Action Council. Ruthanne Boyer was selected because of her "advantageous location near ALA headquarters in Chicago" and Pat Schuman was selected because of her "femininity which is a major asset in working with male publishers to get finances." It was moved and seconded that Bill DeJohn remain as Chairman of the SRRT Action Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Members of the SRRT Action Council for 1969-70 are:

Bill DeJohn, Chairman
Marjorie Barker
Ruthanne Boyer
Patricia Raley
Pat Schuman
Betty-Carol Sellen
Bill Streamer
Margaret Turanski
Charles Weisenberg
Selection of individuals for Activities Committee to be formed by President Dix: 6 to be nominated (by SRRT), 3 to be selected for the Committee (by President Dix)

Bill DeJohn discussed the Activities Committee, approved at the Membership Meeting on Wednesday, June 25, 1969, to be appointed by President Dix. He asked for "volunteers who would be willing to read the ALA Constitution, work like hell, and travel." In order for the SRRT to select 6 nominees from the volunteers, the chairman asked each volunteer to come to the front of the room, explain why he would be useful to the committee and how he hoped to serve the committee. A suggestion that volunteers give their age was rejected.

Several members were disturbed that the selection should be made at that time from such a small group. Ruth Warncke stressed the fact that expertise, as well as time, was needed by the volunteers. The Chairman explained that the Activities Committee had to prepare an interim report for Mid-Winter; and, for that reason, the SRRT nominees had to be selected as soon as possible.

Ruth Warncke stressed the fact that it was important for volunteers to consider the time involved in working on the Committee because, in order to restructure, one must investigate the content of the program. Also, individuals serving on the Committee would have to attend ALA Conferences. She stated that, if meetings were required at times other than scheduled ALA Conferences, ALA would pay the expenses.

The volunteers and their special interests were:

1. Landry, Mary - Revitalize ALA and make it relevant.

2. McShean, Gordon - Intellectual freedom. (Mr. McShean also wanted to be on the Committee to get something done, because he felt personally, that it was a "sop.")

3. Harrison, Cynthia - Intellectual freedom and changing ALA's election procedures.

4. Alfred, George - Service to disadvantaged minorities with emphasis on service to blacks.

5. Smith, Robert - Intellectual freedom.

6. Ternes, Patricia - Interlibrary cooperation and the social worker approach to library service.
7. Eubanks, Jackie - Social change and the concept that urban library service should coincide with the goals of SRRT.

8. South, Jean Anne - Intellectual freedom and eagerness to work in ALA.

9. Hodgin, Ellis - Involvement of young librarians in revitalization of ALA.


11. Hinchliff, William - Pointed out that AIA has not fought against progress as many professional organizations have. Now more speed is needed in recruiting blacks, fighting racism, and achieving peace.

12. Shelkrat, Elliot - Desire for ALA to evoke from libraries immediate responsiveness to the needs and demands of the community.

13. Curley, Arthur - Administration and management (Willing to work to get the job done because he feels that "committees are what is wrong with ALA.")

Bill DeJohn announced that the names of the six nominees selected by the SRRT and the number of votes each received will be given to President Dix. Arrangements will be made for the 6 nominees to meet with President Dix on Friday, June 27, 1969, if possible.

The six nominees selected by SRRT for the President's consideration were: George Alfred, Arthur Curley, Jackie Eubanks, Bill Hinchliff, Gordon McShean, and Pat Ternes.

4. Clearinghouse Committee

It was announced that Joan Marshall needed 5 more people, preferably from different parts of the country, to work with her on the Clearinghouse Committee. There were 10 volunteers. The Chairman asked them to go out of the room and get the number down to 6. The following people were selected to serve on the Clearinghouse Committee for 1969-70:

Joan K. Marshall, Chairman
Joan Goddard
George Hathaway
Diana Vescelius
Bettie Wilson
Ruby O. Woods
5. **Local Round Table Formation**

A brief discussion of how to form a local round table followed. If several people in an area are interested in forming a round table, they should simply get together and start working it out. Notify people who would be interested, discuss and determine what the issues are for that area, select the most important issues, or the issues on which some action is possible, decide the proper course of action, and ACT. Plans were being made to form regional round tables in the following locations: Kentucky, Suburban New York, Ohio, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. An organizational meeting was planned for July 8, 1969, in Philadelphia. In Kentucky the students in library school intended to do something.

6. **Issues**

The issues which were discussed at the SRRT Mid-Winter Meeting were: reorganization and revitalization of ALA, recruitment of black librarians, library organization and management, intellectual freedom, and community participation. In addition, it was suggested that SRRT work on the aspect of humanization of library personnel. It was further suggested that library goals and objectives should be reevaluated to place more emphasis on the disadvantaged than on systems technology.

7. **Selection of Task Groups to work on the Issues**

The following task groups were formed:

A. **Task Force on Reorganization to Work with the President's Activities Committee**

   Members are: Thomas Alford
                 Allen Cohen
                 Ed Doherty
                 Leonard Grundt
                 John Morgan
                 Many Jane Schmidt
                 Dave Weill

B. **Task Force on Intellectual Freedom**

   Members are: Jean Anne South, Chairman
                 Edward Bachus
                 Marge Benson
                 Pat Schuman
C. Task Force to Evaluate Literature and Media on the Negro

Members are: George J. Alfred
Marilyn Berg
Allen Colon
Betty M. Culpepper
Helga Eason
Sherrie Friedman
Emmie Hayes
Eunice McPherson
Trish Raley
Ann Slevin
Dottie Stephenson
Jerry Whitney

D. Task Force on Community Participation

Members are: Marie Hensler
Patricia A. Henning
Norman Jung
Mary Landry
Steve Mayner
Peter G. Niami
Anita Seviller
Elliot Shelkrat
Shirley Streitfeld
Patricia Gaven Ternes
Michelina Vaccaro
Malis Walton


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At the SRRT program on June 24, 1969, donations, totaling $422.00, were accepted.

Assets
Balance before ALA $178.95
Collected June 24 422.00
Outstanding Bills 225 400.00
Balance 375 200.95

Since the SRRT can not, as yet, officially charge dues, all contributions are appreciated. Send contributions to:

Bill DeJohn, Chairman
ALA Social Responsibilities
Round Table
Missouri State Library
308 East High Street
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

New Business

The Chairman announced that the membership meeting would reconvene at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, June 27, 1969.

Gay Detlefsen reported on the Congress for Change. On the week-end prior to ALA, June 20-22, a group of people concerned about libraries met in Washington, D.C. They discussed issues and drafted resolutions on intellectual freedom, ALA election procedures, the war in Vietnam, library education, library recruitment, and the ABM. Gay Detlefsen said that those who attended the Congress for Change wanted to work with the forces for change in ALA; therefore, they were participating in the JMRT and the SRRT. The Congress for Change is planning to publish an Underground Library Journal which all individuals on the SRRT mailing list will receive. When the report was finished, John Foresman made an earnest plea for the SRRT to see to it that the Congress for Change resolutions were presented to the membership of ALA.

It was moved that the SRRT endorse the Congress for Change and its activities. Individuals who attended the Congress for Change opposed this stating that they were not an organized group making demands on ALA. They were concerned individuals who came together because of their concerns and the result of their meeting was a series of resolutions for change. Motion died for lack of a second.
It was then moved and seconded that the resolutions presented by the Congress for Change be presented to the membership of ALA by the Chairman of SRRT one by one as motions as near to 8:00 a.m. on Friday, June 27, 1969, as possible. Motion passed.

There was some discussion about procedure. Since the meeting of Council was scheduled from 9-12 on Friday, June 27, 1969, how could all of the resolutions be presented and discussed by the members in one hour from 8:00 to 9:00? It was moved and seconded that a resolution be adopted that Council be delayed until the end of the membership meeting. Motion passed. A suggestion was made that a member of Council, present at the SRRT meeting, present the resolution to the membership. Ken Duchac volunteered.

Question about who has the final vote, membership or council, was then raised. If the membership passes a resolution, must that resolution be presented to Council for action? Ruth Warncke clarified the matter. Council, as the delegate assembly, must have the final vote.

The meeting then broke up into small groups to discuss the various resolutions to be presented to the membership and to line up articulate speakers who would present a brief statement on each of the topics.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne A. Sward