
The following members of SRRT Action Council were present: Gay Detlefsen, Jackie Eubanks, Pat Schuman, Tom Shaughnessy, Anne Sweat, and David Weill.

Meeting opened at 4:30 p.m.

1. Pat Schuman announced that Paul Wang will be able to serve on Action Council, and he will be in Dallas.

2. The SRRT suite in Dallas will be in the Adolphus.

3. Marilyn Gell is SRRT Program Chairman for Dallas. She needs volunteers to help.

4. It was announced that Action Council voted to send $200.00 to the Angela Davis Defense Fund. The check was sent in Jackie Eubanks' name. She will send a formal request for ALA to repay her from the SRRT treasury. If ALA refuses to pay, there are several ways of fighting. First of all, ALA's failure to pay will be announced in the SRRT Newsletter. The money could be recovered by collecting contributions from the SRRT membership or by asking Action Council to share the expense. Asking the Affiliates to participate, so it can be done in the name of the Affiliates is also a possibility. Jackie sees three aspects to this:
   - To guarantee Angela Davis' rights.
   - ALA at present has no policy on access to information for prisoners.
   - Letters should be sent to prison systems all over the country but especially in New York and California, because prison libraries have been notorious for censorship. In the area of prison libraries ALA is not autonomous; the Department of Correction is responsible for book selection. A survey is being taken to determine the library resources and needs in California County Prisons.

5. Virginia Matthews (Task Force on the American Indian) reported that they want to have a two-hour program with Indian leaders as speakers at Dallas. They feel it is important to make the membership aware of the differing life styles of American Indians. The meeting would serve two purposes:
   - To discover the feelings of Indians now.
   - To determine how libraries can be used to disseminate these concepts.
Pat Schuman said we already have a program meeting for Dallas. She suggested this be advertised as a Task Force meeting and then the time be used for the program as proposed.

A question arose about the availability of a large enough room for such a meeting. If there are no large rooms available at hotels, they will try to get the meeting room at the Dallas Public Library.

The Task Force will meet in Phoenix, Arizona, in mid-March to outline a plan of action and to establish the Indian Task Force Policy.

Question was raised about money for expenses of resource people for Phoenix and Dallas. The policy is the Task Forces pay the bill for all planning meetings. It was moved, seconded, and passed that we grant up to $300.00 to facilitate implementation of the Indian Task Force program in Dallas.
It was emphasized that $300.00 is all there is for this Task Force for the year and that the Task Force should provide Action Council with a detailed breakdown of expenses.

6. The JMRT booth at Dallas will feature spokesmen from minority and dissident groups both inside and outside ALA. SRRT has been asked to participate. Since this would provide a good opportunity for SRRT to meet people, it was moved, seconded, and passed that SRRT (either Action Council or membership) will cover a two-hour period at the JMRT booth.

7. The Children's Services Division of ALA invited SRRT to co-sponsor a program on the Exceptional Child and the Library, June 24 from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Coordinator of Action Council should write a letter declining the offer to co-sponsor the program.

8. The following resolutions were presented by Joe Lindenfeld for the Philadelphia SRRT:
   - The Philadelphia SRRT is concerned about communication and membership participation within SRRT.
   - We suggest that the Action Council provide the membership with an opportunity to participate by consideration, discussion and advice in policy decisions between meetings at ALA conferences.
   - This might be done by sending Action Council minutes promptly to SRRT affiliates and asking for comments.
   - Since there is need for greater communication and joint activities among regional SRRT groups and since there is a need for greater feedback and support for the Action Council from SRRT affiliates and since many SRRT members cannot attend ALA conventions and participate in meetings of Action Council and national taskforces, we ask that plans be made for organization of meetings of affiliate SRRT groups along regional lines.

   Jackie Eubanks said that every mailing to the Action Council includes the same information for all Affiliates. Question was raised: Is it customary to send out minutes to the membership? Jackie said that it is not customary, but the Philadelphia chapter is unique because it has more ALA members than other Affiliates. (Copies of the minutes are filed in ALA headquarters, too.)

   It was suggested that the minutes be listed in the Newsletter as one of the items available upon request from Clearinghouse.

9. AFFILIATES
   - Affiliate groups do not get money from national SRRT. A national SRRT member has to be present in the formation of an affiliate. Affiliates may draft resolutions but they may not vote on SRRT problems, except as individual ALA-SRRT members. If there were 1,000 Affiliates, they would all be non-voting. Affiliates are not representatives to SRRT.
   - Bernadine Rodueski asked if this contrasts with SRRT's position on ALA chapter representatives. The answer was no. Our position is to urge elimination of the voting chapter representatives.

10. Carolyn Forsman said SRRT members need more information. Action Council decisions should be summarized in the SRRT Newsletter. SRRT policies should be published in the library press. Bill DeJohn said the time lag in communication is the biggest problem. A Task Force on Communications was suggested. Jackie pointed out that Clearinghouse has the responsibility for communication in SRRT.
11. It was moved, seconded and passed that Jackie Eubanks ask the Affiliates
if they do wish to receive copies of SRRT minutes. (4 in favor, 1 opposed)

12. CLEARINGHOUSE
- The present Clearinghouse is the first elected. Three vacancies must be
  filled in the up-coming elections.
- The Clearinghouse now has a fairly complete mailing list, including Action
  Council and representatives of Task Force and Affiliate groups. Now the
  mechanics have been established so that Clearinghouse can put one person,
  who is interested in a particular subject, in touch with all other people
  who are interested in the same subject.
- Clearinghouse needs to know what people are doing, what people need, and
  what people have to offer. Then, Clearinghouse will either provide the
  information or put an individual in touch with other people working on
  the same problem.

13. LIBRARIANS’ TRIBE
- The purposes are to expand communication and to get important material
  circulated as widely as possible. One person, for example, might take
  something like the Gay Liberation Bibliography, xerox five copies, and
  distribute it to five people in his area. Those five people would each
  make five copies to distribute to others, etc. In this way the material
  would be circulated but the cost would be evenly distributed among all
  who participate.
- Jackie Eubanks questioned not the idea but the physical difference between
  Clearinghouse and Tribe. Is it an attempt to develop a task force out-
  side of Clearinghouse?
- George Hathaway said that, if they want to become a task force, they will.
  They might distribute things like the order brochures for Schism.

14. Jackie Eubanks proposed the printing of an additional issue of the Newsletter
for this year. It is needed in order to announce plans for the proposed
SRRT regional meetings. It was moved, seconded, and passed that a fifth
issue of the Newsletter be printed and distributed. One issue will come
out in March or early April with all the information about regional meetings.

15. A lengthy discussion followed about why the Newsletter is mailed first class.
Most people seemed satisfied to have the Newsletter mailed first class in
order to get it faster.

16. TASK FORCE ON PRISON LIBRARIES
- John Berry and Sylvia Price are interested in a Task Force on Prison
  Libraries to achieve four things:
  - To study and provide information about the problems of access to
    materials in prisons and other detention centers.
  - To breakdown restraints both on the part of librarians and on the part of
    staff members in the Department of Correction.
  - To put ALA on the line to work for goals in this area.
  - To work for the establishment of real libraries in prisons and to provide
    access to information for convicts and individuals in pre-trial.
    penal situations.
- We must work together to solve the problem. If anyone is interested in
  working on this task force, please write to John Berry, Editor, Library
- Jackie asked if it would be possible to plan a Task Force (Prison Libraries) meeting for Dallas. John Berry thought it was a good idea, if it can be done that fast.
- It was suggested that SRRT members become familiar with Synergy's issue on prisons and with the book by Willard Gaylin, In the Service of Their Country: War Resisters in Prison.

17. TASK FORCE TO SUPPORT THE "WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY DEFENSE COMMITTEE"
- The purpose is to gather news articles on the Berrigans, Harrisburg 6, and the conspiracy law in general. News reports, columns, editorials, letters to the editor on these subjects should be clipped, xeroxed, or summarized beginning with the week of February 14 and sent to Prof. Stewart Schaar, P. O. Box 188, Madison Square Station, New York, New York 10010. Betty-Carol Sellen, Brooklyn College Library, and Anne Sweat, Prince George's County Memorial Library (Md.) are co-coordinators.

18. SRRT REGIONAL MEETINGS
- Jackie Eubanks is eager to have Affiliates plan regional meetings in order to involve new people in SRRT.
- Those people who never attend ALA might attend a regional SRRT meeting. She suggested five possible regional conferences but there could be from four to seven.
- Recommended time for the regional meetings was a week-end between the middle of April and the first week in May. This would be up to the Affiliates and would depend on local circumstances.
- Suggested program:
  - 1st day
    - National and ALA issues.
  - 2nd day
    - Contact movement sources and discuss local issues.
    - Plenary Session - Action
    - It is hoped that the groups will decide to meet again.
    - Meetings will be publicized locally and through announcements in the library press. The box-approach in American Libraries will allow a news item to be included if it is received three weeks before publication.

19. DALLAS PRE-CONFERENCE ON MINORITIES
- They plan to limit attendance to 150 administrators, personnel officers, and directors. The meeting will be composed of problem-solving sessions. So far, Arthur A. Fletcher (Asst. Secy. for Wage and Labor Standards) has accepted.

20. BUDGET PROPOSAL
- Bill DeJohn said pressure should be applied to Council and to the Executive Board. COPES is responsive to the Executive Board. Gay Detlefsen will draft a letter to the Executive Board from Action Council.

21. TASK FORCE ON INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM
- Jean-Anne South can not continue as coordinator after Dallas. Either a new coordinator will volunteer, or Jean-Anne will recommend dissolution of the Task Force in Dallas.
22. Gordon McShean reported that the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee will no longer investigate cases which state IF committees are investigating. There will be more discussion about this at the IF Task Force meeting on Friday morning, January 22.

23. The ALA Publishing Board refused to publish a book by Sandy Berman called Prejudices and Antipathies. It is a well-documented book concerning LC subject headings. ALA contracted to publish it but objected to the language of the finished book. Scarecrow is going to publish it. It was moved, seconded, and passed that Action Council direct the Coordinator to draft a letter to the ALA Publishing Board deploring the action which the Board took in refusing to publish Sandy Berman's book.

24. A joint JMRT-SRRT Task Force is being formed to investigate the ALA Council, especially to discover how Council members vote on specific issues. The Task Force will meet in the SRRT suite at 10:30 p.m. to organize. The question was raised, why is JMRT involved in this Task Force? SRRT is still not reaching some members. Jackie Eubanks proposed JMRT participation.

25. SRRT members were unhappy that the Executive Board met in closed session to discuss intellectual freedom and then did not let people know when the meeting was open again. Dave Weill will draft a letter to the Executive Board on this matter. It was suggested that a quick complaint should be brought to the press deploring the action of the Executive Board and the Intellectual Freedom Committee. The meeting was adjourned.

Anne Sweat