

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

**Steering Committee II**

Washington State Convention Center • Room 140 B  
June 26, 2007 • 8 a.m. —12:30 p.m.

**In attendance :** Lewis Day, Norman Eriksen, David Gray, Paul Higdon, Lisa Johnston, Dale McNeill, Anne Moore, K.R. Roberto, John Sandstrom, Keith Trimmer, Cal Zunt.

**Visitors reporting :** Jane Cothron.

1. **Call to Order** **Cal Zunt**  
The meeting was called to order at 8:22 a.m. by Co-Chair Cal Zunt.
2. **Introductions** **Cal Zunt**  
Cal invited attendees to introduce themselves.
3. **Approval of Agenda** **Cal Zunt**

<b>Motion 1</b>	
<i>Approve agenda as presented by Lewis Day.</i>	
Motion	John Sandstrom
Second	Keith Trimmer
Pass	unanimous voice vote

4. **Approval of Minutes** **Cal Zunt**  
The minutes of Steering Committee 2 (prepared by Secretary Lewis Day) from Seattle were corrected to record the attendance of Kyle Felker.

<b>Motion 2</b>	
<i>Approve corrected minutes of Seattle SC 2.</i>	
Motion	Lewis Day
Second	Keith Trimmer
Pass	unanimous voice vote

5. **Old Business**  
Additional reports of Committee Chairs (deferred from SC I)

- Fundraising Committee David Gray  
David reported \$515.00 in donations were received at the Book Awards Celebration (brunch).  
He also submitted a written report.

Dale McNeill, as incoming Treasurer, will serve as ex-officio to the committee. David asked for new members to serve on the committee, particularly those who can solicit funds. He is retiring and moving to California, but will continue his work with the committee.

A conversation ensued regarding fundraising issues. Cal asked if the RT can raise \$15,000 in the next year to fully endow the book awards. David said he believes this is possible. He said this effort would be helped through increased communication between the Fundraising, Book Awards and Book Awards Celebration committees.

**Action Item 1**

*Work collegially on common issues regarding the Stonewall Book Awards, endowment and the celebration to maximize income.*

**David Gray  
Rich DiRusso  
Bob Jaquay**

David noted the endowment fund target of \$75,000 is for the two existing awards (Gittings and Fishman), and said once that figure is reached income from the endowment can fund costs related to the awards.

David mentioned maximizing income at the celebration, including use of table sponsorships and/or table captains. John Sandstrom noted that not announcing the program at Midwinter (rather than later in the Spring) discourages attendance. Dale McNeill said increasing lead time on the selection and announcement of a keynote speaker for the awards would allow the program to be known at Midwinter, thus increasing the draw for the event.

- Book Awards Celebration Committee John Sandstrom  
John agreed that communication and coordination between the three committees should increase.

The brunch will continue as the event for the celebration, and the buffet will continue as the serving style.

John mentioned that some individuals expressed reservations to him regarding the normative queerness of the event; their concern was for the alienation of straight-identified attendees. Dale said this was not a concern for him, given the sponsorship by the RT and the nature of the awards.

David mentioned his concern about the scheduling of the banquet space by the hotel.

Cal thanked John for his work as chair.

## 6. Reports from Coordinators, Councilors and Liaisons

- Diversity Council Lisa Johnston, Anne Moore  
Lisa reported that Karen Letarte is the new director of the ALA's Office for Diversity; she previously worked with the American Indian Library Association.

Lisa also reported that a diversity blog would be going live soon, and indicated the expectation was that each round table representative to Diversity Council would post at least once a week.

D.C. is slated to run a program in Anaheim on how to run for Council.

There are currently 80 Spectrum scholars.

Anne is continuing as one of our two representatives, but Lisa is cycling off and will need to be replaced. Lisa mentioned one critical aspect of the position is to write a memorandum of RT activities for the DC chair before Midwinter and Annual.

Cal thanked Lisa for her service.

- Freedom to Read Foundation Lewis Day  
Lewis reported his frustration the GLBT issues aren't more prominent in the Foundation's work. Anne asked if it might not be useful to produce a program or two on GLBT and freedom to read issues, including challenges, banned books, etc. Dale mentioned that the most common theme for challenges is GLBT content, and that most librarians are unprepared to deal with these challenges. He suggested Jerilyn Williams as a possible panelist. Anne added Ann Symons' name to the list. Cal said David Gale, from Simon and Schuster, has said projections of interest in children's books with GLBT topics is high. John Sandstrom suggested a program on collecting kids' GLBT materials.

- Public Library Association David Gray  
David said the GLBTRT doesn't have an official presence within PLA, and that such a presence would be helpful for PLA's biennial meetings. He wondered if working within PLA's intellectual freedom committee might be an option.  
Dale said he thought there was a way, within PLA's structures, to propose GLBT programs for PLA.  
David noted that the PLA conference is very popular with those who attend, and that many do not attend ALA Annual during those years. Anne asked if perhaps an exhibit floor booth might be a possibility. The next PLA meeting is March 25-29, 2008, in Minneapolis.

### Action Item 2

*Investigate various options for increased GLBTRT presence at PLA.*

David Gray

## 7. Other Old business from SC I

Cal said David Gale, of Simon and Schuster publishing, is interested in working with the GLBTRT to find funding to endow a children's/YA Stonewall Book Award.

Lewis suggested this is an issue for the Fundraising Committee. David said he could get contact information from Cal and explore the issue.

**Action Item 3**

*Speak with David Gale regarding his interest.*

**David Gray**

David reminded SC members that if any individuals, corporations or philanthropies are approached for donations and/or funding, he needs to know so that he can inform the ALA Development Office.

- **Rainbow Reading List**

Lewis asked if we should outline procedures for a bylaws change incorporating the Rainbow List as a committee.

Jane Cothron said the bylaws piece sounds fine, and that the main focus of the Rainbow List ad hoc committee is on producing a list for 2008. She acknowledged that some of the issues involved in moving from an ad hoc group to one fully part of the RT structure involved information exchange from all sides. She said 2008 should serve as a shakedown period in which the Rainbow List group and the GLBTRT discover how best to interact.

**Motion 3**

*Establish the Rainbow List group, as currently constituted, as an ad hoc committee of the GLBTRT through the end of 2008.*

Motion	Lewis Day
Second	David Gray
Pass	unanimous voice vote

Jane asked that information be forthcoming from the Steering Committee about needs for reporting in the future.

## 8. New Business

- **Reporting from Council**

John Sandstrom asked if an official role needs to be accorded the GLBTRT's member of ALA Council. He said he doesn't particularly want to be a part of the SC, but believes communication between the group and the RT's Councilor is important. Lewis suggested the roles be codified at a minimal level, and suggested the group look to divisions and other round tables with a history of Council membership for examples of practice.

Cal said that in the days when the RT was a task force, Karen Schneider, as Councilor, would report regularly.

There was a brief discussion of whether John's position as Councilor meant he was representing the group or the Steering Committee's wishes. Consensus was that while the Councilor represents and comes from the RT, she/he acts as she/he sees fit. David summed the perspective up by saying the Councilor would do well to listen to the point(s) of view of the RT membership and leadership, but—finally—has to make the final decision on any actions or votes.

- Subject Analysis Committee Liaison (CSS/ALCTS)

**Action Item 4**

*Work to identify a liaison from the GLBTRT to the Subject Analysis Committee.*

**KR Roberto**

- Reforma

**Action Item 5**

*Work to identify a liaison from the GLBTRT to Reforma.*

**Cal Zunt**

**Action Item 6**

*Work to identify programming possibilities with GLBT content for Reforma's third national meeting (September 18-21, in El Paso).*

**John Sandstrom**

**Action Item 7**

*Work to set up a social at Reforma's third national meeting (September 18-21, in El Paso).*

**John Sandstrom**

- Norman Eriksen

John Sandstrom thanked Norman Eriksen for his years of service to the round table, and noted that service would shift into a new phase with his appointment to the Budget Analysis And Review Committee of ALA. There was unanimous appreciation for Norman's efforts. Cal said that it has been "an honor and a joy" to serve as co-chair with Norman in 2006-2007.

## 9. Adjournment

<b>Motion 4</b>
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<i>Adjourn.</i>
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Motion	Paul Higdon
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Second	John Sandstrom
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Pass	unanimous voice vote
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The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.