

**Literacy and Social Responsibility Special Interest Group
International Reading Association Annual Convention
Hyatt Regency, Chicago, Illinois
Tuesday, May 1, 2012**

Business Meeting Notes & Actions

Presiding: President Patricia Dean

Persons Present: Patty Dean, Rebekah Kelleher, Carolyn L. Cook, Denise Stuart, Joyce Wheaton, Alma Flor Ada, Kenny Fasching Varner, Zanthia Smith, Sarah Harrison-Burns, Andrea Karlin, Beth Breneman

- Congratulations and thank yous were extended to Andrea Karlin for the stellar 2012 program and to all board members who contributed to its success and that of our SIG. Andrea reports that Sleeping Bear Press has been wonderfully supportive.
- The updated “Directory” and “Leadership Responsibilities” were distributed and quickly reviewed.

Reports

- Treasurer, Melanie Cohen Goodman, reported (via Beth Breneman) that we currently have \$2250.60 in the SIG Treasury. Carolyn Cook raised some questions about the treasury, and it was agreed to defer this item to a future meeting. It was suggested that more than one person should have access to the account to optimize flexibility for accessing resources, now that there is a predictable expense every year for the student award.
- Denise Stuart raised the issue about improving the publicity for the Student Awards Program. Alma Flor Ada suggested making use of her list serves and networks. It was suggested that we could also make better use of the LSR eList. Patty Dean recommended visiting author Lynne Cherry’s web-site where examples of environmental action by students are featured. Denise also mentioned her plan to do a piece on Olivia.
- Patty reminded the group of Kaye West’s concern that 2012 presenters be reminded to send Kaye their presentation summaries and handouts for posting on the LSR Website.
- Patty reminded the group that members should also submit to Kaye important web links to add to our list of resources. Weblinks should be checked and nonfunctional ones removed.
- Beth Breneman was nominated as the new Chair of Instructional Strategies and approved by a unanimous vote. Beth also reported her renewed focus on retrieving IRA member numbers and expiration dates for the LSR Membership List to be submitted to IRA as part of the Activity Report. IRA staffer, Shirley Morton, who used to assist with this task, is no longer working at IRA.

Other Business

- Kenny Fasching-Varner, Assistant Professor of Foundations and Elementary Education, Louisiana State University, was nominated to serve as program Chair for 2015 and 2016 and unanimously elected. He also volunteered to begin training for this role by serving as Program Co-chair in 2013 and 2014. This will enable him to learn the process while assisting Andrea, who reported that she needs more assistance with the workload.
- Rebekah Kelleher volunteered to serve as our new Communications Coordinator. She was nominated and unanimously elected. The LSR List Serve and Facebook will be transferred to Rebekah.
- Kenny suggested doing a Member Challenge when Rebekah gets the list serve and challenge every member to bring in one new member. Patty asked Kenny if he would assume leadership for the Membership Challenge, and he agreed. Kenny will write up a Challenge statement, and Rebekah will post this to all members and the Board.
- The need for a Research Chair was identified, and Melanie Goodman was suggested. In a post-conference e-mail communication Patty Dean succeeded in recruiting Melanie Goodman for the position.

Planning Ahead

- The 2013 IRA Annual Convention will be in San Antonio, Texas April 21-24. The LSR SIG program is set for Wednesday am. Patty suggested that next year we plan to have dinner on Tuesday evening, and there were no objections.

New Literature List Project

Alma Flor Ada led a follow-up meeting to launch our first Literacy and Social Responsibility Book List (similar to **Notable Books for a Global Society**). The following members of LSR SIG wish to become part of the reading committee to create the first list, **Notable Books For a Responsible World** (*name of list not yet established*)

Participants

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Alma Flor Ada | almaflor@almaflorada.com |
| 2. Carolyn L. Cook | cook@msmary.edu |
| 3. Patty Dean | pkdean@salisbury.edu |
| 4. Kenny Fasching-Varner | varner@lsu.edu |
| 5. Sarah Harrison-Burns | shburns@wingate.edu |
| 6. Andrea Karlin | karlinar@sbc.global.net |
| 7. Rebekah Kelleher | rkellehe@wingate.edu |
| 8. Aimee Rogers | aimeeann76@hotmail.com |

9. Denise Stuart
10. Zanthia Smith
11. Joyce Wheaton

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zanthia.smith@lamar.edu
jwheaton@frostburg.edu

Leaders

- Alma Flor Ada explained the tasks and overall process required to create this list and offered to write up a schedule of tasks for the group.
- Kenny Fasching-Varner, Carolyn Cook, & Aimee Rogers will serve as co-Chairs
- Patty Dean agreed to initiate contacts with them and assist in organizational coordination.

Notes

- Professors of Children's Literature and other professionals like to be involved in projects such as this
- Everyone on the committee gets to keep the books
- A letter must go out to the publishers. (picture books, poetry, fiction, nonfiction)
- The chair sends out a list of books that have been received
- Books go to members of the committee.
- Every book will be read by 3 people.
- A date (example: September 15) is set for a first vote on top priorities
- Then a second elimination process
- Criteria (not terribly detailed) need to be developed; we will have to define social responsibility
- Could develop a seal for the books. (such recognition means a lot to authors)
- Book reviews could be written up for *Reading Today* and authors honored