

Business Meeting
Literacy and Social Responsibility Special Interest Group
International Reading Association Annual Convention
New Orleans, LA
May 10, 2014

Business Meeting Notes & Actions

Presiding: New President Andrea Karlin

Persons Present (in alphabetical order): Alma Flor Ada, Beth Breneman, Isabel Campoy, Carolyn Cook, Kathleen Fontaine, Andrea Karlin, Char Moffit, Cheryl Nelson, Jenne Palmer, Marguerite Penick-Parks, Bethany Stetson, Linda Wendler

Andrea Karlin called the meeting to order following a round of applause and congratulations to Andrea Karlin and Kenny Varner for the outstanding 2014 Program. Andrea has served a record-breaking five years as LSR Program Chair. President Patricia Dean was called away for a family emergency. Incoming President Andrea Karlin presided over the meeting.

The Directory & Leadership Responsibilities Documents were distributed.

Items Discussed:

Reminder. Program Chairs need to remind all 2014 presenters that they need to email their handouts to LSR Web-manager Kaye West if they want them posted.

Plans for 2015 Program. Carolyn Cook has a lead on a possible presenter and will e-mail that contact now. Andrea has a connection and will inquire about the possibility of the person coming next year.

Status of LSR Book Award Committee. Carolyn Cook is taking the lead to facilitate the work of the LSR Book Award Committee and is looking for a co-chair. Laura Klingaman (a librarian) wants to be involved. Carolyn has a committee of 8 now and 9 is the maximum number. Carolyn will write a resolution about rotating the leadership of the committee and will send it to Andrea. It was suggested that for outreach to committee members an announcement could be crafted for *Rethinking Schools* or *Reading Today*. The cost of seals for award-winning books will be investigated. Often the

publisher will pay for this cost when printing the second edition of an award-winning book. Carolyn plans to send information about the Social Justice Literature Award to the following: 1) IRA Today, 2) *Teaching Tolerance* e-newsletter, 3) our SIG journal, 4) Our SIG website, 5) possibly *Rethinking Schools* (pending inquiry by Carolyn)

Membership. As of June 16, 2014, the LSR roster showed 161 total active IRA members and 218 previous members with expired memberships.

Treasury. The current amount in the LSR Treasury is \$2250.60. The Treasurer stated in an email that she had a cashier's check and asked if she should mail it or deposit it. She was asked to mail it. In 2013 a resolution was passed that a co-signee be established on the LSR Account.

Newsletter Editor. Our current Newsletter Editor, Susan Speer-Powers, suggested that we ask if there is anyone who would like to replace her. No one volunteered.

New Award Suggested. Board member, Isabel Campoy, suggested a new award (or other way of showcasing) a web-site or other electronic phenomenon that is making a difference in creating a better world. It was agreed that we would consider this idea and look into possibilities including linking with another organization. Perhaps Linked In should be studied and considered as part of this process for interaction on issues for dialoguing/bloggging. The Coretta Scott King group provides good resources, and perhaps the focus could include the use of technology to promote social justice. This topic should be revisited again next year.

Honoring a Body of Work. A proposal was submitted by Patricia Dean to honor Susanne Gervay from Sydney, Australia, for her body of work on social justice issues. (She will not be in the United States in July 2014.) Reaction from the Board was that we have not instituted an award for a body of work, and if we are to pursue this idea, we should study the process for developing an award for a body of work, create criteria, name of award, regularity, and frequency etc.

Actions Taken:

New Treasurer Elected. The group unanimously voted in Patricia Dean as our next Treasurer. President Andrea Karlin volunteered to serve as co-signee. The two don't have to be close geographically because access can be achieved electronically. It was suggested that we look into having our treasury bonded, which is the same as insurance, and agreed that the new Treasurer should look into bonding.

New Awards Chair Elected. Cheryl Nelson volunteered to serve as a New Awards Chair. The tasks involved in this role were briefly summarized. Cheryl was voted in unanimously. Former Awards Chair, Denise Stuart, has advised that we pause for a year because the 2014 awardees are scheduled for the 2015 Conference.