

MEETING OF THE BRAILLE AUTHORITY OF NORTH AMERICA
American Foundation for the Blind, Legislative Office
Washington, DC
November 15-16, 1978

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Roberts, at 9:35 a.m. Present were:

Mr. Harold G. Roberts, AAWB	Mrs. William N. Epstein, NBA
Mrs. Irvin F. Richman, NBA	Mrs. Helen Perry, CNIB
Mr. Martin Droege, Clovernook	Mr. Richard Evensen, LC/NLS
Mr. Floyd Cargill, ACB	Dr. George V. Gore III, AEVH
Mr. Ralph E. McCracken, APH	Mr. Joseph Sullivan, ACM

Mrs. Darleen Bogart of CNIB was present as an observer.

MSC The minutes of the meeting held April 19-20, 1978 were accepted as mailed to the members.

Mrs. Richman reported that she had made no progress in securing our registration as a tax-exempt organization since she had been unable to obtain an Employer's Identification Number, although she had sent in the application in May.

I. US-UK PROJECT

Mr. Roberts reported on his meetings in London with Mr. Poole of the Uniform Type Committee of the United Kingdom and Mr. Boulter of the Royal National Institute for the Blind. Mr. Poole and Mr. Boulter felt that there was a general feeling that the "time was ripe" for our effort to develop a single code for English braille and that they had "good assurances" of government support.

It was agreed that, while all should be cognizant of ongoing research and should keep each other informed of the work being done in our respective countries, we should not wait for the results of such research before beginning our efforts to produce a single code.

It was agreed that the first step would be for BANA and the UTC to each appoint one or two persons to serve as a Liaison Committee. The Committee would be charged with developing a specific proposal and outlining the procedures to be followed in developing a single code.

In the discussion following Mr. Robert's report, several suggestions were made to help the Liaison Committee.

1. The results of John Gill's work and of the FSU studies should be transmitted to England, even though the FSU project is not addressing the basic literary code.
2. An analysis of the two codes should be made and a tabulation made of the points of difference.
3. Each party should analyze his own code to determine which of the present rules create problems.

4. The codes should also be analyzed with regard to the rules which create problems for computer programming.

It was also noted that, if we are successful and a single code is adopted, we must then establish a mechanism for making changes in the code cooperatively. It was then moved that we table further discussion on this subject until 3:00 p.m.

MSC

II. REVISION OF THE BYLAWS

GC

The group sat as a Committee of the Whole for the detailed consideration of the proposed revision of the Bylaws. The meeting recessed at 11:40 a.m. and reconvened at 1:05 p.m. The Committee also recessed at 3:00 p.m. to take up the report of the Nominating Committee and the conclusion of the discussion of the US-UK Project which had been tabled until that time.

MSC

It was moved, seconded and carried that the revision of the Bylaws presented by the Bylaws Committee be adopted with those changes made by the Committee of the Whole. The text of the revised Bylaws is attached to these Minutes and is a part of them.

III. REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported by letter that the committee had only been able to complete a partial slate. Therefore nominations were made from the floor. The following officers were elected by acclamation:

Mr. Floyd Cargill, Chairman
Mr. Ralph E. McCracken, Vice Chairman
Mr. Martin Droege, Treasurer
Mrs. Helen Perry, Secretary

IV. US-UTC PROJECT, CONT'D.

The charge to the Liaison Committee to the UTC is to develop a detailed proposal including specific detailing of the topics to be studied, the kinds of people needed to make the study (even to suggest specific individuals if they are known) and projected costs.

Mr. Roberts suggested that our Liaison establish a group of people to work with him here. The Chairman of BANA should send a letter to Mr. Poole informing him that a number of people from the US will be in England for the International Conference on "Computerized Braille Production - Today and Tomorrow" which will be held on May 30-June 1, 1979 and to suggest that perhaps the first meeting of the Liaisons could be held either immediately before or after that meeting. Mr. Roberts will give Mr. Cargill all of the information he has on the matter.

GC

BANA agreed that it would underwrite the expenses for one person to go to England to meet with his counterpart from the UTC if the person designated is unable to obtain funding from his own agency or other sources.

Mr. Richard Evensen, Chairman of BANA's Literary Braille Technical Committee, was designated as our Liaison to the Uniform Type Committee of the United Kingdom.

The meeting recessed at 4:42 p.m. and reconvened at 9:03 a.m. At this time Mr. William Gallagher of AFB joined the meeting.

V. DRAWING OF LOTS FOR TERMS OF OFFICE

In accordance with Article IV, Section 2 of the newly adopted Bylaws, lots were drawn and the following terms determined for the representatives taking office at this meeting:

One year term-AAWB, LC/NLS, ACM.

Two year term-Clovernook, AFB, NFB, ACB.

Three year term-NBA, CNIB, AEVH, APH.

VI. REPORT OF VISIT OF BANA REPRESENTATIVES TO FSU

Mr. Evensen and Mr. McCracken met with Dr. Gideon Jones and Miss Marjorie Hooper last spring. This report supplements the written report dated May 30, 1978 and sent to all members by Mr. Evensen.

Dr. Jones was present at most of the meeting. Both Dr. Jones and Miss Hooper were most cordial. Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Roberts has received copies of the various FSU Committee reports and FSU's report to BEH as was requested. We have not yet received the copy of the actual proposal which had been negotiated with BEH. Mr. Evensen will write Dr. Jones requesting the report and sending him a copy of his report to BANA.

During the meeting, there was some discussion of the importance of keeping all findings private until they have been formally accepted by BANA. It was suggested that Miss Hooper be invited to attend the spring meeting of BANA in order to present a progress report on the work at FSU.

It was agreed that in order to keep FSU properly informed of BANA's actions, the following items should be sent to them:

1. Technical Committee meeting reports
2. Bylaws
3. A report of the status of our approach to the UTC.
4. Extracts from the minutes of relevant items.

It was noted that the FSU grant will expire before the end of 1979. The spring meeting of BANA should address itself to the implications of the end of the project.

Mr. Evensen will make copies of later FSU Committee reports in his possession and circulate them to the members of BANA.

VII. REPORT OF THE LITERARY BRAILLE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Evensen reported that the committee is now complete. The committee and terms of appointment are as follows:

January 1, 1979-Dec. 31, 1982

Mr. Richard Evensen, Chairman

LC/NLS

1291 Taylor St., NW

Washington, DC 20542

800/428-3567

1/1/79-12/31/79

Mr. Kenneth R. Ingham
ASI Teleprocessing Inc.
123 Water St.
Watertown, MA 02172

Mr. E.G. Brown
Canadian National Inst. f/t Blind
1929 Bayview Ave
Toronto, Ontario M4G 3E8

1/1/79-12/31/80

Mrs. Maxine B. Dorf
LC/NLS
1291 Taylor St., NW
Washington, DC 20542

Mr. Martin F. Droege
Clovernook Printing Hse. f/t Blind
7000 Hamilton Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45231

Mr. Evensen pointed out the broad spectrum of abilities and knowledge represented on the committee since it includes not only persons with a wide knowledge of literary braille, but also persons familiar with production by press and computer and a Canadian representative.

Mr. Evensen commented, that despite our guidelines, many people write directly to the Technical Committee Chairman rather than to the Chairman of BANA. He suggested that the TC Chairman provide copies of all correspondence to the BANA Chairman, thus giving the BANA Chairman the opportunity to decide whether he wishes to respond or wished the TC Chairman to do so.

The Literary Braille Committee plans to hold at least one meeting next year for the purposes of getting organized and may schedule a second one.

During the period in which there has been no Literary Braille TC, Maxine Dorf has been answering questions addressed to her from the field. She and Mr. Evensen will work out a procedure which will provide transcribers with immediate help and questions requiring an official ruling can be referred to the TC for action.

The Literary Braille TC will discuss naming a group of people to assist the Liaison to the UTC.

A request for an update in the edition named as the official dictionary had been referred to the committee. The requester had stated that the Code named a particular copyright, however Mr. Evensen was unable to find the reference in his copy of the Code. Mr. McCracken will check the print edition, and if a particular date is mandated, the committee will make a ruling.

VIII. REPORT OF THE TEXTBOOK FORMAT BRAILLE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE Mr. McCracken, the Chairman, presented a slate of candidates for membership on the committee to the Board. The slate was approved by unanimous vote. The members of the committee and there terms of office are:

1/1/79-12/31/82

Ralph E. McCracken, Chairman
American Printing Hse. f/t Blind
Louisville, KY 40206
502/895-2405

1/1/79-12/31/79

Mrs. P.T. Bogart
466 Broadway Ave.
Toronto, Ontario M4G 2R5
416/472-0208

Ms. Annette Bettinger
American Printing Hse. f/t Blind
1839 Frankfort Ave.
Louisville, KY 40206

Mr. Norman Anderson
Maryland School for the Blind
3501 Taylor Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21236

1/1/79-12/31/80

Mrs. F.J. Mann
900 N. Lake Shore Dr., #2606
Chicago, IL 60611

Mrs. Yancey B. Smith
1920 Notre Dame Ave.
Belmont, CA 94002

Mrs. W.K. Tate, Jr.
219 Nevada Dr.
Erie, PA 16505

The committee plans at least one meeting during the coming year.

IX. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

The Treasurer reported that there had been no expenditures since the last meeting. Our monies remain in the savings and checking accounts previously reported.

X. REPORT OF THE BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

MSC Mr. Roberts, the Chairman, submitted the following budget for 1979 which was adopted:

Income (11 members @\$500).....\$5,500.00

Expenses:

Stationery and postage....		\$200.00	
UK-US project			
1 round trip air fare.....	\$400.00		
5 days @\$75.00..	375.00		775.00
Literary Braille T.C.			
2 round trip air fares....	300.00		
4 days @\$50.00	200.00		500.00
Textbook Format Braille T.C.			
2 round trip air fares....	250.00		
2 days @\$50.00	100.00		350.00
Chairman's Contingency Fund.....			500.00
 Total Expenses			<u>2,235.00</u>
Excess of Income over Expenses.....			\$3,175.00

The budget is based on the premise that most Technical Committee members will be able to obtain funding to attend committee meetings from the agency which employs them. This budget is more of an estimate than subsequent budgets will be because this is the first year that our technical committees are in place and will be holding meetings. BANA will assume financial responsibility for committee member's expenses to attend meetings when necessary.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. It was agreed to place the appointment of a committee to receive the report of the FSU Music Braille Committee, on the agenda of our spring meeting.
2. The Secretary was directed to provide copies of the Bylaws to the executive head of each member organization.

MSC

3. Delinquency of NFB

Since the National Federation of the Blind has not paid its 1978 dues, despite the fact that it had been informed of their delinquency, it was moved, seconded and carried that:

- a. Their invoice for 1979 dues will be sent in due course with those of all of the other members.
- b. A separate letter shall be sent them by registered mail in which the treasurer will notify them of their delinquency for 1978 and will include a copy of Article III, section 3 of the Bylaws.

4. Appointment of Committees MSC

- a. Budget and Audit Committee:

TREASURER'S REPORT
November, 1978

Balance brought forward (Savings Account)	\$8,780.75
Funds transferred from checking account	2,600.00
Interest.	149.17
TOTAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT 11/10/78	11,529.92
Balance in checking account	\$2,628.28
Funds transferred to savings account	2,600.00
TOTAL CHECKING ACCOUNT 11/10/78	\$28.28