



El Corazón de Tejas Central Texas Chapter of REFORMA

Meeting Notes

October 25, 2008

Cepeda Branch Library

Present: Don Bos, Bob Cárdenas, Melinda Curry, Sue King, Silvia Reveles, Gustavo Soto.

Items Discussed

- **Corazón de Tejas Chapter**– Melinda will announce our chapter meetings via the Corazón de Tejas and AISD library listservs one week and again one day before each meeting.

- **NABE Conference in Austin February 18-21** — This would be a good opportunity for our chapter or REFORMA to volunteer or have a booth with our banner and informational materials. Perhaps we could get a reduced fee for having a booth. Purpose: Good for exposure and to recruit members.

- **Camila Alire's Visit** — Plans are shaping up:

Thursday, Feb. 12 – arrival. Austin Public Library will be involved by escorting Camila. Gustavo will confirm with Trisha/Tom.

Friday, Feb. 13 - will speak at AISD Librarian In-Service, 9-10:30

3 pm - presentation for UT Librarians and iSchool students

5 pm - reception at the Benson Library w/ UT coordinating

Discussion about topic of Camila Alire's presentation to AISD librarians. (Ms. Alire is a long-time national REFORMA member.)

- **AISD Staff Development Day, Feb. 13** — Don added that he will be offering two sessions to AISD librarians on in-service day:

1. acquisitions

2. English-speaking librarians presenting storytime to Spanish-speaking children.

Cultural information including sprinkling Spanish into presentation, southwestern themes, local authors, family/culture, bilingual methodology (Steven Krashen, Cummins).

We discussed Spanish-language materials in libraries. Certain needs must be addressed to AISD in relation to dropout prevention and closing the achievement gap.

Austin Public Library -- Spanish language materials still a small amount of the total budget; book budget may be cut again. Immigrant centers have been established.

- **Día de los Niños / Día de los Libros Event at the MACC** – An add-on event to the annual Dia de los Ninos/Dia de los Libros celebration, again to be held at the St. Johns Library. (This was originally a Reforma idea). Maribel Garza wrote a proposal to the MACC about having a book fair there. It is still a very open-ended proposition. It would be a daytime event, possibly w/ APL support. A discount might be involved since it would be considered a city activity.

Don announced a November 5 meeting at the MACC where he, Maribel, Gustavo, Paula, and Elva would meet with Simon Ortiz (director) and Mary Ann Lambert (educational director) to discuss possibilities of a book fair.

▪ **Corazón de Tejas Website** – Gustavo met w/ Diana; had problems accessing website for editing. We discussed having links to social networking sites such as Facebook.

Don is interested in creating a REFORMA timeline for the website which would include a history of the organization and awards earned by various members.

▪ **Treasurer's Report** – The chapter still has a post office box: PO Box 2463, 78768. Dues can be sent there or given to Bob

We discussed a possible stipend for an iSchool student to attend the TLA conference or a national REFORMA conference. A \$300 stipend has been given only once. [Everyone agreed to reinstitute this award.](#)

National REFORMA has had only three conferences, the most recent one in El Paso being the third. It was called RNC³. Silvia went to a national conference in Arizona one year.

▪ **Announcements**

1. Don is taking 40 elementary school students, parents, and some teachers to the Tomás Rivera [Mexican American Book Award](#) ceremony at Texas State University on Thursday, October 30. "[Los Gatos Black on Halloween](#)" is the winning book. [The book was written by Marisa Montes and illustrated by Yuyi Morales.](#)

2. AISD is helping to host the Hispanic Futures Conference at MACC, Sunday, Nov. 9.