

Minutes

The following are the minutes of the annual meeting for 1990 of the League for Programming Freedom as prepared by Christian D. Hofstader.

Chris Hofstader started the meeting by welcoming the attendees and thanking everyone for coming. He then gave a brief history of the organization, followed by a synopsis of major league activities in 1990 including:

- An increase in membership from approximately 50 people to approximately 500 people.
- The League's first trade show booth at AAAI in Boston where we were able to recruit for and publicize the rally at Lotus.
- A second successful rally against Lotus Development corporation, attended by approximately 350 people.
- The League's second trade show booth at SD/90 East in Boston where many people were able to have the opportunity to meet League activists.
- Chris Hofstader and Gordon Schantz attended Fall Comdex on the League's behalf and were able to make a lot of important contacts.

After the introductory speech all in attendance were enlisted in an effort to count the votes for officers and directors. This took nearly two hours.

When the votes were finally counted Richard Stallman called the meeting to order and we proceeded to discuss League business.

Stephen Sisak, who replaced Denis Filipetti as Treasurer in August, gave the financial report. (See attached.)

Richard then opened the floor for discussion of new business (we had no old business to discuss as this was our first annual meeting).

- Methods of increasing membership were debated. Some of the ideas presented by the attendees were: direct mail, magazine advertisements/inserts, free media, lectures by League activists and trade show booths.

Direct mail and magazine advertisements were dismissed for the time being due to the very high costs involved.

The free media (magazine articles about the League etc.) is something that we will strongly try to continue to exploit. In 1990 the League had tremendous success with articles in Dr. Dobbs Journal, Communications of the ACM, PC Magazine and others. Lectures by League activists is another area that we will use to get to potential members. League activists will be made available to hopefully accept any invitation to speak. It was also noted that it would be very helpful if we could find volunteers who would enjoy speaking in their area.

Trade show booths and trade show attendance is another good way for the League to meet potential members. Trade show booths that we must pay for are quite expensive and the shows must be selected carefully. Trade show attendance on the League's behalf is encouraged for all members, especially if they were going to attend the show anyway.

- How and where to print our position papers was the next topic to discuss. Everyone bickered about this for awhile and finally it was decided that the League officers would decide at a later date after getting samples and prices.

- The last topic discussed was League meetings. There are no formal meetings of the League with the exception of the annual meeting. Anyone who would like to become active in the League can do so easily by contacting any of the officers or other activists.

After the discussion period ended Richard called for the official election of the officers and directors. The election results are in the main portion of this mailing.

The ballots are in the League archives and will be available for inspection by any League member.

After the election of the officers the meeting was adjourned.