

July 9, 1975

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held July 9, 1975, at 7:30 p.m., in the Library.

Members present: Walter Flintrup, Diana Hunter, Richard Lindberg, Shirley Merritt, John Wozniak and Norma Zatz, Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian.

In the absence of President Karl Weiner, Mrs. Hunter, Vice-President presided and called the meeting or order at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes of the meeting held June 11, 1975 were approved and accepted on motion by Mr. Flintrup, seconded by Mrs. Merritt. Motion carried.

The following motion was made by Dr. Wozniak, seconded by Mr. Flintrup and, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That the financial statements for the General Operating Fund, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings, Library Construction Fund and the North Suburban Library System CAP be accepted and the lists of bills for the General Operating Fund in the amount of \$26,369.72 and the NSLS CAP in the amount of \$2,445.72 be approved for payment.

Circulation Reports, Statistics on RBP and Library Use Statistics were examined and ordered placed on file.

Miss Radmacher informed the Board she is still waiting to hear from Mr. Matzer on a date for the budget hearings.

At this time Mr. O'Brien of Di Leonardi & O'Brien, Ltd. joined the meeting. He was asked to report on the arbitration proceedings and the Lincolnwood and Skokie Cooperative Agreement for library service.

Mr. O'Brien read a letter Mr. Di Leonardi had prepared earlier in the day for delivery at this time regarding contractual library service with the Village of Lincolnwood. Enclosed with the letter was a copy of the legal memorandum from Mr. Jurgensmeyer. Mr. O'Brien's recap of the legal issue regarding cooperation between the two villages was essentially that since the passage of the 1970 constitution and the ability of the municipalities to declare themselves a Home Rule Unit, the

limited authority of communities of legal government by statutes has been abolished. There is a specific section in the Constitution of 1970 referring to cooperation between districts, and there are several attorney general decisions supporting the idea that units of local government can cooperate with each other. In essence, Lincolnwood has the authority to enter into a contract without a referendum. Mrs. Hunter asked if the Skokie Public Library can negotiate directly or would this have to go through the Skokie Village Board? The answer was the Library can negotiate directly. There does not seem to be much doubt as to the authority and right of Skokie to contract with the Village of Lincolnwood.

Mr. Flintrup reported that at the last System Board meeting a Project Plus was approved for Lincolnwood. It was his assumption that by the vote of the System last month sixty some thousand dollars was approved and Lincolnwood could proceed immediately with their Project Plus. They have several options including a contract with Skokie Public Library. Interest in establishing some sort of library service is expanding beyond people who are members of the League of Women Voters. Mayor Proessel and one or two citizens from Lincolnwood have met with System staff. It is evident Lincolnwood is willing to cooperate in the establishment of some sort of library service and Mr. Flintrup recommended Skokie take the initiative and, without wasting time, present its proposal for contractual service.

Motion by Mr. Flintrup, seconded by Dr. Wozniak which, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: We, as a Board, solicit the Board of Trustees of the Village of Lincolnwood in relation to the Skokie Public Library contract with them relative to providing library services.

Mr. Flintrup agrees that time will be of the essence since it appeared Lincolnwood is ready to move and is probably working on it now. He suggested there should be no delay in writing and asking for a meeting to discuss contractual service to Lincolnwood. He urged that our proposal be as strong as possible. If Lincolnwood is awarded a Project Plus, they will be obligated to have a referendum at the end of a year to

perpetuate the service.

Miss Radmacher called attention to a memorandum from the North Suburban Library System regarding Access to Library Records. She thought the Board would want Mr. Di Leonardi or Mr. O'Brien to look at it for the Library's interests and see how much Skokie Public Library can list in its written statement. The Library follows in principle the confidentiality of records. Mrs. Hunter asked if it is possible to have a clear written policy to produce if someone asks for the records? Mr. O'Brien will review the paper and have Mr. Di Leonardi comment on what can be included. Mrs. Hunter asked if, prior to the next Board meeting, Di Leonardi & O'Brien can have something drafted which would address itself to the problem of confidentiality.

Regarding the arbitration, Mr. O'Brien said everything is really at a stalemate on the arbitration. Eventually it is going to hearing and arbitration. This means lengthy hearings and retaining experts on our part to determine why the glass failed. Under arbitration, the arbitrator may appoint a panel of experts or appoint two and have the two appoint a third. There is no dispute that it happened, - the question is why? It is most likely it will go to hearings.

Miss Radmacher mentioned a minor issue compared to the glass is the sidewalks. She asked Mr. O'Brien to walk the length of the sidewalk and observe it. This has been in bad condition for quite some time. Since Mr. Di Leonardi told us it is our obligation to take care of this as a protection to the patron and to the library building, should we go ahead and take care of it or will there be a settlement soon enough that we can wait? Two weeks ago the large squares of the concrete buckled. There is another area where the two large squares are butted together and one is raised one inch above the other. Mr. O'Brien asked if this is still an issue? The answer was this was one of the original items and is still pending, although the glass because of the cost has received all of the attention. Miss Radmacher's concern is the extent of repair necessary for protection until the settlement is determined by arbitration.

Mr. O'Brien retired from the meeting at 8:45 p. m.

Mr. Flintrup reported only two things he felt of importance occurred at the NSLS Board meeting. The biggest one was the Lincolnwood Project Plus awarding. The other is the fact that the System's budget was approved.

A copy of Mr. McClarren's letter to Mr. David Reich, Chief Librarian of the Chicago Public Library concerning RBP was distributed. The letter points out the problems. Mr. Reich replied and said they had not been aware of these problems and now that they are something will be done about it.

A copy of the NOR'EASTER for June, 1975 was given to the Board members.

On the computerized monitoring, a letter was received from Hammond Beeby and Associates suggesting Skokie Public Library retain Samuel R. Lewis to indoctrinate Johnson in the philosophy behind and the concept of the Skokie Public Library's heating and ventilating system and to review their plan of installation, including a post-intallation inspection, at an estimated \$1,000 to \$1,500. After much discussion it was the consensus of the Board this is Johnson's responsibility since they have been awarded the contract. Miss Radmacher was asked to communicate the Board's decision to Mr. Hammond.

On the lease-purchase of the copying machines, Miss Radmacherr reported two have been installed. Maintenance contracts for service can be discussed at the end of the warranty period.

The net proceeds from the Book Sale amounted to \$787.80. This was less than last year due, in part, to the rain. Miss Radmacher thinks it is a good idea to hold the book sale annually.

Mrs. Hunter asked about an amnesty day and Miss Radmacher explained the problems that arise from it, especially from repeating it too often.

Mrs. Zatz inquired about the books left over from the book sale and suggested having a bookshelf with books priced at the cost from the book sale where people could buy them. The people who attend the films might be interested. Miss Radmacher said nothing has ever been sold in the Library and this might have the

appearance of charging for attendance at the films. Another suggestion was that some merchants might set up a table in their store for a supply of books and let the purchaser pay what they want.

In reporting on ALA Conference, Mrs. Hunter said the Conference did everybody good. She viewed the Gaylord display on circulation, security and CLSI, and feels this Library is not ready for it yet.

Dr. Wozniak mentioned the Sunday session on legal responsibilities of trustees and was impressed with the seriousness of it. Another big topic was Intellectual Freedom in which Rabbi Weiner was active. The importance of having written policies to produce in case it is necessary to back up the professional staff was stressed. In fact, the Board is responsible, not the Librarian.

Mrs. Merritt reported the section on legal responsibility was taped and suggested securing a transcript of it.

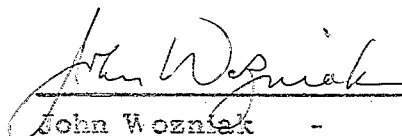
The session on private funding was very disappointing to Mrs. Hunter.

A list of personnel benefits set up by the various libraries was reported by Mr. Robert Bullen. Mrs. Hunter suggested the Board look this over.

Copies of press releases, July Calendar of Events, "Notable Books of 1974," "Printing and the Mind of Man" and Selected List of Recent Acquisitions for June, 1975 were distributed to the Board members.

In order to expedite the reviewing of the Personnel Audit, a daytime meeting will be arranged for July 22 or 23, or July 29 or 30.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p. m. on motion by Mrs. Zatz, seconded by Mrs. Merritt.

  
John Wozniak - Secretary