

May 27, 1964

Minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held May 27, 1964, at 7:30 p.m., in the Conference Room of the Library.

Present: Conroy V. Erickson, L. O. Green, Mrs. W. C. Griffin, Mrs. Daniel Petty, and Miss Mary Radmacher, Librarian. Also present: James W. Hammond, Peter Roesch, architects, and Mrs. M. Sarver.

This meeting was held for the purpose of presentation of plans for expansion of this building, as designed by Hammond and Roesch. Mr. James Hammond stated the assignment had been to determine how much land was needed of the property under consideration for purchase by the Library Board and Village Board.

Mr. Hammond explained he was basing his plans as follows: Adult Services now occupies 12,200 square feet which would be expanded to 19,100, to include open reference area, audio visual, fine arts area, more space for business and technical services, periodical room, and more shelving for books; Circulation Department increased from 1,400 square feet to 2,800; Technical Processes' area doubled; and an area for Data Processing provided. Expansion plans make provision for three Bookmobiles, one immediately adjacent for service and two in the lot. Space for the Administrative offices has been increased from 600 square feet to 1,300. The approximate area necessary for expansion is just a little bit under double the present building.

Because the present award-winning building should be disturbed as little as possible, the new plans are for separation of the Children's Department, leaving the present building mainly for the Adult Services Department. If this building can be preserved, it would be the ideal thing to do, but another structure should compliment it not compete with it. The

new building for the Children's Department, as designed, would be a square pavilion with glass on all sides. A basement will carry through for access to both buildings.

After viewing the rendering, a rough estimate of the cost was requested by the Board. Approximately \$855,000 was mentioned by the architects. The ground requirement would be between 13,000 and 14,000 square feet.

The present building was designed to serve a population of 75,000 and house 150,000 volumes. For preparation of these expansion plans the population figure quoted for 1970 was 91,800 but was increased to 100,000.

The wisdom of a two lane highway between the two buildings, as shown in the plans, was questioned and the suggestion made that the traffic pattern around the left side might be a more practical arrangement. The answer was that the two lanes were designed for passing so people could be deposited at the center of gravity and allow for other cars to pass. The architects mentioned that if it is a question of safety, the drive could be single lane to a certain point and then allowed to bulge out.

An opinion was expressed that a Lecture Room in the new pavilion seemed superfluous.

It was agreed that a larger area for first-aid should be provided in the present building and a first-aid room must be included in the smaller building.

The president recommended that Mayor Greisdorf be invited to view the rendering and be acquainted with the plans as soon as possible, at which time the architects will be present.


Mr. Hammond and Mr. Roesch retired from the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Discussion of the proposed plans followed.

The suggestion was made that a Lecture Room should be deleted from plans for a branch library because of the availability of meeting rooms in the schools in that area.

A report on the plans for the branch library will be presented by Hammond and Roesch at the June 10 Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.


Selma Petty, Secretary