

December 8, 1965

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

Members present: Conroy V. Erickson, Mrs. W. C. Griffin, L. O. Green, Mrs. Daniel Petty and Rabbi Karl Weiner, Miss Mary Radmacher, Librarian.

Also present: Mr. Herbert Hersh, observer for the League of Women Voters.

Minutes of the meeting held November 10, 1965, previously distributed, were approved on motion by Mrs. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Erickson. All ayes.

Financial statements for the General Operating Budget and Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings for the month of November, 1965 were accepted and approved on motion by Mr. Erickson, seconded by Mrs. Petty. All ayes.

Motion by Mrs. Griffin seconded by Mr. Erickson.

Motion: That two lists of bills one in the amount of two thousand one hundred seventeen dollars and ninety cents (\$2,117.90) and thirteen thousand seven hundred ninety-six dollars and fifty-eight cents (\$13,796.58) be approved for payment.

All ayes.

The Librarian called the attention of the Board to the amount charged by General Communications Inc. for their services which is \$50.00 more than the amount approved by motion of the Board. The President, in agreement with the Board, instructed the additional amount be paid.

Copies of the Circulation Report for the month of November, 1965 were distributed and the President ordered it be placed on file.

The Librarian informed the Board of the appointments of Mrs. Virginia Wold as part-time Clerical Assistant in Circulation Department, effective November 17, 1965 and Miss Eleanor Shaevsky - part-time Professional Librarian in Adult Services Department, effective November 19, 1965.

A copy of a letter sent to residents of Northeast Skokie, answering questions that had arisen in connection with the Bond Issue Referendum, signed by Mr. Green, was distributed to the Board members.

The Librarian informed the Board she had received inquiries as to future plans of the Library for expansion. It seems to be the general opinion that it should be done in smaller packages. The President stated after the holidays we should proceed with establishing a citizens committee in order to get their views. Question was asked when another referendum could be held. President Green answered it should not be done for at least six months because of the many things which will be coming up such as income taxes, etc., but mainly not until it is possible to get a consensus of opinion of the citizens. Rabbi Weiner emphasized the importance of "doing our homework" now. Mrs. Petty stated the Library Board should prevail upon every area or district to have just two representatives, no more, and let them bring to us what their thinking is. The Librarian reminded the Board how utterly essential expansion of the main library is and when the bond issue is passed it would be a year until the building could be completed and occupied. Mr. Green again stated after the holidays definite plans should be made to sit down with the people and discuss the plans. Before proceeding must have a reasonable consensus of the feeling of some of the leading citizens. Rabbi Weiner questioned whether the Board knows specifically what it wants to propose. He also stated his observation that, in discussion with people, they are willing to defer to professional counsel once they have confidence in it, but in the presentation made for the Bond Issue Referendum held November 9, 1965, the people had the feeling the figures did not add up. Mr. Green stated one thing that could be done immediately would be for the architects to take another look to see what can be done. Also, the rate of growth for the last five years should be checked. Mention was made that while predicted population figures have been given by various industrial organizations none will authorize us to quote their figures. Discussion about how large the expansion

could be and objections voiced about having the size of the building cut down from the original plans. Rabbi Weiner stated his confidence that this community will go for an exciting program if we can articulate properly. He further stated his conviction the size of the building as planned is good and should be kept, but the emphasis should be on programs not on population.

The Librarian reported on the Library System Development in Illinois. She informed the Board a decision will have to be made one of these days on whether Skokie Public Library will elect to be part of the system. Under Illinois Statutes which prevails for establishment of library system in the State, all libraries may elect to be part of the system. The proposal as set up is to establish a system in northern part of Cook and Lake County. There will be established a central book collection for the system which may be drawn upon by libraries in the system. There are state funds available for the network of systems in the amount of \$4,700,000 of which \$350,000 will be asked for forming a library system in this area. One obstacle is reciprocal borrowing privileges. This however is not mandatory for five years. There are objections to this and it would seem best to wait and see how many libraries would be interested in joining or forming a system not having reciprocal borrowing privileges and submit such a plan to the state. The Librarian stated there should be something by the time of the next Board meeting.

The Librarian recommended there be a change of holiday hours to closing the Library the entire day before Christmas and having it open from 9:00 to 5:00 the day before New Years. The following motion was made by Mr. Erickson seconded by Mrs. Griffin:

Motion: To approve the Librarian's recommendation for a change in the personnel code providing for holidays from the hours of 9:00 to 1:00 December 24 and 31 to having the Library closed all day December 24 and open 9:00 to 5:00 the day before New Years.

All ayes.

The Librarian called the Board's attention to the exhibit of paintings in the Lecture Room done by Mrs. Sojai Lee Yoo.

Two booklists were distributed to the Board: (1) Selected List of Recent Acquisitions, November, 1965 and (2) Books Make Lasting Gifts.

On motion by Mr. Erickson the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p. m.

Selma Petty Sec.
Selma Petty of Secretary