

March 12, 1975

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held March 12, 1975, at the Library, at 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Walter Flintrup, Diana Hunter, Richard Lindberg, Shirley Merritt and Richard Telingator.

Mrs. Diana Hunter, Vice President, presided.

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

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

Motion: That the financial statements for the month of February, 1975 for the General Operating Fund, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings and the Library Construction Fund be accepted and the lists of bills for the General Operating Fund in the amounts of \$196.30 and \$18,419.00 and Library Construction Fund in the amount of \$412.80 be approved for payment.

To properly record action taken at the special meeting February 23, 1975, the following motion was made by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Mr. Flintrup.

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library direct its Counsel and Architects to publish a proposal for the invitation and proposal inviting bids for the monitoring and maintenance systems, by bidding on monitoring contract, maintenance contract, and combined monitoring and maintenance contract.

Roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Lindberg, yes; Dr. Telingator, yes; Mrs. Merritt, yes; Mr. Flintrup, yes; and Mrs. Hunter, yes. Motion carried.

Hammond Beeby and Associates submitted an estimate for drawing up the specifications for the monitoring and maintenance service at a cost of a maximum of \$700. The following motion was made by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Mr. Flintrup.

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library accept the proposal made by Hammond Beeby and Associates for drawing up the proper specifications touching upon the monitoring and maintenance contract, not to exceed a maximum charge of \$700.

The importance that the specifications contain no reference to any particular system or company was stressed, and the architects will be reminded of this. Voting on the motion was as follows: Mr. Lindberg, yes; Dr. Telingator, yes; Mrs. Merritt, abstain; Mr. Flintrup, yes; Mrs. Hunter, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hunter called the Board's attention to Rabbi Weiner's letter of February 12 to Mayor Smith requesting an unspecified amount of the revenue sharing funds. A copy of Mayor Smith's reply was also distributed. In discussion concerning the amount of money to be requested and specific items for its use, points mentioned were: Increased costs cause decreased services;

Fine Arts Commission has put large demands on the library and stress the need for a piano; need for a tape recorder; and the wooden stage floor which the Library could not afford. The most important factor would be that if costs continue to increase it might be necessary to raise the taxes.

The hearing for the 1976-77 Skokie Public Library Budget scheduled for March 22, 1975 was postponed to April 5, 1975. A special meeting will be held April 2, 1975 at 5:30 for discussion of the budget and Dr. Miller's report.

The proposal from the Concrete Products Company for furnishing 100 - 2'x2' precast concrete blocks at \$7.05 each for a walkway at the cottage at 5219 Oakton Street was presented for the Board's examination and discussion. The installation is to be done by Library personnel on a fill-in basis. The manner of installation was not described and a motion for purchase of the blocks was withdrawn until this could be clarified. Motion was made to table action until a later date.

Mr. Walter Flintrup retired from the meeting.

Meeting temporarily adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

Members present at this time Diana Hunter, Richard Lindberg, Shirley Merritt, and Richard Telingator.

A correction was requested on the minutes of the February 12, 1975 meeting. On page 9, second paragraph from bottom should read, "Rabbi Weiner suggested Mrs. Hunter and Mr. Flintrup might develop a statement to have ready for the Mayor." Minutes of the February 12, 1975 meeting were approved after changes on motion by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Dr. Telingator. All ayes.

A correction in the minutes for the February 23 meeting was requested by Mr. Lindberg. On page 2 top paragraph line 2, the sentence should read, "The \$14,000 a year has to do with maintaining, correcting, and, if faulty, installing new equipment in the heating and air conditioning." Minutes of the February 23 meeting were adopted with the corrections, on motion by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Mrs. Merritt. All ayes.

Circulation Reports for the month of February, 1975 were distributed. In discussion, Mrs. Hunter made the suggestion that posters might be purchased in place of framed prints for loaning to borrowers. Cassettes have been a line item on the General Fund Budget and were included in the Building Fund but these funds have not been used because it has been almost impossible to determine the best kind to use. At the last NSLS meeting Mrs. Hunter learned that the Library of Congress in its service to the blind and handicapped use custom made cassettes. She thinks an effort should be made to get more information

on just what the Library of Congress is using. Mrs. Merritt would like a notice or poster put up concerning the availability of framed prints for checking out. Circulation Reports were ordered to be placed on file.

Library Use Statistics were discussed and ordered placed on file.

The List of Reference questions supplied the Suburban Library System Committee were distributed and the members found them very interesting.

Mrs. Hunter reporting on the North Suburban Library System reviewed for the Library Board the situation regarding the Science and Technology CAP Collection which was to be awarded to Northbrook because, according to the Committee's statistics, Northbrook appeared to have the most holdings in that field of the member libraries applying for this collection. Another consideration was Northbrook's connection with the computer service. Mrs. Hunter protested this decision and questioned the statistics. Mrs. Yi, Head of the Skokie Public Library Technical Processes Department, who was attending the meeting, was certain an error had been made and requested a copy of the list. Her thought was it could be in the method of processing. The result of the System vote was: 2 abstentions, 2 no votes, and 6 yes votes, so Northbrook received the grant of \$16,000. Mr. McClarren later informed Mrs. Hunter that according to the System's By-Laws, 7 votes are needed to pass money matters of any substance. Mrs. Yi subsequently verified the figures were incorrect and prepared a full report which was sent with a letter to Mr. Nordenberg. A copy of Mrs. Yi's letter and report was given to each member. Mrs. Hunter said at this point the whole thing is totally undecided but the \$16,000 in Federal funds was to have been spent by April 15, 1975. An extension has been granted and the funds are still available. At this time it is all back in the System's hands.

The request for statistics from Chicago about what the suburban libraries are taking out of Chicago was discussed at the System meeting. Such figures should be available in the near future.

Copies of a letter to Ralph Dunn regarding recommendations of Illinois Legislature Library Sub-Committee were distributed for the Board's information.

A copy of a letter from Frank J. Dempsey, Chairman, RLAC Executive Committee, listing salary scales for chief librarians of the larger public libraries in Illinois was given to each member.

Copies of five press releases were distributed along with a copy of "Free Activities at the Skokie Public Library" - an article to be included in the Village Newsletter.

American Library Association Conference will be held June 30 - July 5, 1975 in San Francisco. ALTA activities are scheduled for June 27, 28 and 29. The regular conference starts Monday, June 20. Board members were asked to make their reservations as early as possible.

Mr. Robert Di Leonardi, Counsel for the Board, joined the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Regarding arbitration, Mr. Di Leonardi reported he had not received any response from Mr. Levin of Friedman & Koven. He has received a response from Corrigan's lawyer who felt his end should not be tied in with our counter proposal.

Mrs. Hunter distributed copies of a letter received from the Skokie-Lincolnwood League of Women Voters requesting consideration be given to furnishing library service to Lincolnwood. The first point made was a request that Skokie become a district library. This had been previously discussed and the point made that because of Skokie being such a new library and the retirement of the bonds would still be the obligation of the Village of Skokie. This would present an unfair burden to the Skokie taxpayers. In line with this, the question was asked if a library district was formed would the people of Lincolnwood have to pay the bonds. The answer was no. It was pointed out the people of Skokie are paying 18¢ per \$100 assessed valuation and it is not known how much they are paying for the bonds. Lincolnwood should pay no less than the Skokie taxpayer.

Mr. Di Leonardi addressed a letter to Rabbi Weiner stating he had reviewed this matter with Mr. John Jurgensmeyer, attorney for the System. In 1972 when this question came up it was really the same two-fold question as to what extent could the Village of Lincolnwood, without establishment of a Library Board, enter into a contract with Skokie Public Library for library services; and, secondly could the Village of Lincolnwood pay through its general revenue assessment without special library tax. In his opinion they could do that. Section 4-7 of the Library Code permits a Village Library Board to contract with any Village for furnishing or receiving library service.

The letter also asked if Skokie would consider any expansion of service such as bookmobile service, or a store front branch. Mr. Di Leonardi said this would have to wait for Miss Radmacher's return.

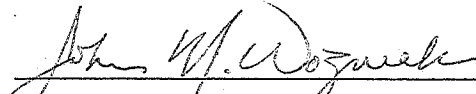
Four members of the League of Women Voters joined the meeting; Mrs. Helen Moshak, Mrs. Ruth Kadota, Mrs. Phyllis Siegel and Mrs. Flora Morris.

Mrs. Hunter introduced the members of the Skokie-Lincolnwood League of Women Voters, and said that in response to their letter the Skokie Public Library Board had discussed the situation. On the concept of a district library, Mrs. Hunter transmitted the main reason because of the outstanding bonds which are the responsibility of the Skokie taxpayers. If Skokie became a district library it could assess for only the operating budget and the Skokie taxpayers would still have to pay off the bonds. In Mr. Di Leonardi's judgment, the Skokie Public Library Board and the Village of Lincolnwood could enter into a contract for the purchase of library service and those services could be paid for by other than library assessment. This might be a more realistic way to approach it. Question asked by a Lincolnwood representative was if the service was paid from general funds would the Village have to specify this on the budget? Mr. Di Leonardi's answer was that it should be a line item only of the budget and must have a prior appropriation. He also said that the type of service to be given would be a matter of negotiation between Skokie Public Library Board and Lincolnwood.

Another question asked by the Lincolnwood representatives was if there were any limitations that Skokie has that would prohibit establishing a branch in Lincolnwood? Mrs. Hunter replied that what the citizens wanted was established when the referendum was voted upon and the branch concept was voted down. The League of Women Voters did a study and Dr. Guy Garrison conducted a survey which confirmed that the community wanted a full service main library and branches would be turned down in any section with the exception of one. Mrs. Hunter explained the Library has been approached with the idea of purchasing a school building which is an impossibility because the weight of the books require a special type of building. As far as bookmobile service is concerned, the Board and Miss Radmacher would take this into consideration. Now that Mr. Di Leonardi has given his opinion which will be verified, Skokie Public Library will be in a position

to offer some kind of contractual service. The answer to the question of how long and what costs, Mr. Di Leonardi said it would be a three-way negotiation with the Village of Skokie Board, this Library Board and Lincolnwood. He said that although he is not aware of any policy, as a practical matter one of the things this Library would want is that there would be a prior appropriation before the contract is consummated. If Lincolnwood's fiscal year begins in May, some work may have to be done with the Village so it is in the contract for fiscal 1975-76 covered by a prior appropriation. Monies involved would be by service rendered or population of the Village.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. on motion by Dr. Telingator.



John M. Wozniak, Secretary