

March 6, 1968

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held March 6, 1968 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

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

Rabbi Karl Weiner, President, presided.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved on motion by Mr. Kraft, seconded by Mrs. Griffin. All ayes.

Financial statements for the General Operating Fund and Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings for the month of February, 1968 were accepted on motion by Mr. Green, seconded by Mr. Kraft. All ayes.

Motion by Mr. Kraft, seconded by Mrs. Petty.

Motion: That the list of bills in the amounts of thirty-seven thousand three hundred ninety-five dollars and seventy-two cents (\$37,395.72) and three hundred sixty-three dollars and fifty cents (\$363.50) be approved for payment.

All ayes.

Circulation Report for the month of February, 1968 was accepted and ordered to be placed on file.

The Librarian reported that the new bookmobile has been received. Some adjustments must be made including a change in the electrical connection to correspond with the electrical codes throughout the country. The cost will be \$350.00. Another problem is that the canopy at the back door is not high enough to accommodate parking at that space. Suggestions for correction of this included having the driveway lowered or knocking out the curbing at the west side in the back and pave that area for use by the bookmobile. Mr. Sidney Meyer was mentioned as a source for getting an estimate on this work.

The Librarian reminded the Board that National Library Week will be April 22 - 26. Mrs. Petty requesting the Board's approval for mention of

Miss Mary Radmacher for Librarian of the Year, made the following motion, which was seconded by Mr. Kraft.

Motion: That Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian of the Skokie Public Library, be recommended to the Committee for the award of Librarian of the Year.

All ayes.

Miss Radmacher and Miss Lois Raasch of the Art Institute have been working together on a program for the fourth graders to be held at the Library during National Library Week. The theme will be The Chair, and Mrs. Seymour Chaplik will serve as Chairman.

the LACONI Trustees-Librarians Dinner will be held Thursday, April 25.

A list of the 1967 National Book Awards was included with the information on the Agenda for the meeting.

Mr. Kraft recommended that each year the General Operating Budget for the Library should include a certain sum of money for research. This would be used for trying something new, for example, an experiment in Sunday openings. A definite line of the budget should be provided for this item. Mr. Louis Kahn, Village Treasurer, who was present at the meeting for a short time, suggested the category be listed with contractual services. Rabbi Weiner observed that as the Library goes into new things to be done in line with the Survey Report, it will be easier to estimate the amount to include for this purpose. Mr. Kraft recommended that a sum be included for automating the circulation. Rabbi Weiner suggested that by next month it would be good to have an expression from a professional point of view whether this is something we want to do.

Motion by Mr. Green, seconded by Mrs. Griffin:

Motion: That the Board approve the recommended budget for the year 1968 - 1969 in the amount of four hundred eighty-six thousand five hundred dollars (\$486,500.00) as submitted by the Librarian.

All ayes.

The Librarian informed the Board that paintings by Mary Hammond Rodman are currently exhibited in the Lecture Room.

Rabbi Weiner stated that Mr. Jerome Robbins, President of the Skokie Art Guild, had mentioned in a conversation that the artists when exhibiting in the Skokie Public Library Lecture Room would like a notice posted informing the public of the exhibit. During discussion it was suggested to permit the artist to place a poster in the Library. Rabbi Weiner suggested having some plexiglass with movable letters. Miss Radmacher was instructed to look into this.

Booklists of Notable Books for 1967 and Selected List of Recent Acquisitions - February, 1968, were distributed to each Board member.

The Librarian informed the Board the ALA Conference will be held in Kansas City this year, June 23 - 29, 1968.

Attached to these minutes is a copy of the schedule of programs co-sponsored by the Skokie Public Library, Fine Arts Commission and Illinois Arts Council.

Rabbi Weiner gave a report on the progress with the Village and HUD concerning the property to the east and the fact that they are trying to work out an arrangement whereby the Library will get its 125 feet of land and HUD still have the full size of open space. It is the Mayor's proposal that the Village Hall give up 30 feet to the west and the Village Green slide 30 feet to the east thus releasing the land originally contracted for by the Skokie Public Library. As plans materialize, the Board will be informed.

Rabbi Weiner reported that Mr. Pfaff of Armond D. King and Sons, has been working on other property in which the Library might be interested and he will be ready to come up with something definite but needs to know if the Board is ready to negotiate. Mr. Green stated the Library might want to get an appraisal on the property. If and when this culminates, a special Board meeting will probably be called.

Miss Radmacher reported on action taken on the Survey Report discussion.

The first point mentioned by the Librarian was on securing a community director. For a professional in this field, an advertisement could be run in some of the P.R. journals. Some contacts have been made to form a council which would include special librarians as well as librarians from schools and the public library. The contact may be no more than a couple of coffee hours per year but Dr. Garrison is in favor of it. Some of the school librarians were opposed to the idea. Mr. Tom Buchta, Librarian at School District 68 will try to get his people to come into such an organization. In conclusion, the Librarian stated that three parts of the survey are under way.

The Librarian expressed her desire to have the Library Board meet with some of the School Boards. Rabbi Weiner stated that immediate plans should be made to achieve some meaning with the School Boards, especially to improve the rapport with the high schools and asked that this be put on the agenda for April.

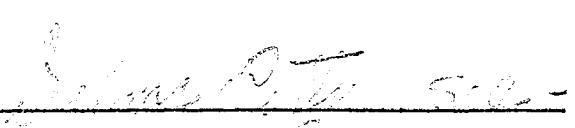
Sunday openings must be delayed until after the April 7 Fine Arts program. Dr. Garrison mentioned a six weeks trial period. The Librarian stated that it will require three people for each department open. Discussion followed. Motion by Mr. Kraft, seconded by Mrs. Griffin.

Motion: That the Library make an experiment lasting seven weeks for keeping open three hours in the afternoon April 21, April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26 and June 2, on an experimental basis and the public service offered will be determined by the personnel which can be had. Furthermore, this will be publicized as an experiment and evaluated at the end of the time period.

Voting: Mr. Green, no; Mrs. Griffin, yes; Mrs. Petty, yes; and Mr. Kraft, yes.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned on motion by Mrs. Petty seconded by Mrs. Griffin at 10:00 p.m.


Selma Petty

Secretary