

February 11, 1970

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held February 11, 1970 in the Lecture Room of the Library at 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Howard Hummer, Mrs. Harry Hunter, Donald Kraft, Richard Lindberg, Mrs. Daniel Petty and Rabbi Karl Weiner, Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian.

Also present: Mrs. Milton Estes, observer for the League of Women Voters, and Mr. Robert Di Leonardi, counsel for the Library.

Minutes of the previous meeting held January 14, 1970 were approved on motion by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Mr. Kraft, and unanimously carried.

Financial statements for the month of December, 1969, for the General Operating Budget, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings, Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures to Date, and financial report of the NSLS Coordinated Acquisitions Program on American Literature, were approved and accepted on motion by Mr. Hummer seconded by Mr. Lindberg, and carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Hummer seconded by Mr. Kraft.

Motion: That the lists of bills for the General Operating Budget in the amount of sixty dollars and seventy-five cents (\$60.75) and seven thousand two hundred two dollars and sixty-one cents (\$7,202.61); three thousand four hundred twenty-four dollars and ten cents (\$3,424.10) for the Reserve Fund; and two hundred ninety-one dollars and sixty-one cents (\$291.61) for the Coordinated Acquisitions Program on American Literature be approved for payment.

Motion carried unanimously.

Circulation Report for the month of December, 1969 was accepted and ordered to be placed on file.

The Librarian discussed resignations, transfers and return of personnel to the staff of the Skokie Public Library.

Discussion of an appropriate expression of appreciation to Mr. Walter Flintrup

for his work on the referendum was held. Mr. Hummer reported that the exorbitant price for a plaque including a facsimile of a library card, as originally planned, made it necessary for him to recommend this not be done. Various suggestions were made and Mr. Kraft made the following motion seconded by Mr. Hummer which, on roll call vote carried unanimously.

Motion: That Miss Radmacher provide Mr. Flintrup with the Library Card No. 0001 and Mr. Howard Hummer will provide the frame for having it mounted on velvet.

Rabbi Weiner reported on the organizing meeting for a Friends of the Library held January 29. Because of heating difficulties during the day, a sign had been put on the door that the Library was closed and that probably accounted for fewer people in attendance than anticipated. He thanked Mr. Kraft and Mrs. Petty for attending. The decision was made to call another meeting. Discussion was held and Mr. Hummer made the following motion which was seconded by Mr. Kraft and, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library Board continue to look with favor upon the formation of a Friends of the Library organization and we would cooperate with their request for help as far as is proper.

Reporting on the sale of the bonds, Miss Radmacher distributed a copy of a letter received from Paul Speer, bond consultant. Rabbi Weiner informed the Board that the Village ordinance providing for the sale of our bonds had to be repealed in order to avoid assessment of taxes for bonds which had not yet been sold. Mr. Di Leonardi explained his reasons for approving the action advised by our bond consultant, and stated he feels the economist's view apparently is that the bond market for municipality bonds will improve. In conversation with Mr. Speer since he wrote this letter, Mr. Di Leonardi said what he is really looking for is some sort of direction. He would like to have advice from us. One of Mr. Speer's associates will be at the Board meeting of March 11. It is important that between now and the 11th there be a meeting with ~~whomever~~ the Village Board designates and

someone from the Skokie Public Library Board. Rabbi Weiner will see that such a meeting takes place and would like someone to go with him. Motion by Mrs. Petty seconded by Mr. Hummer which, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That the Chairman of the Board go to the Village Board and have a meeting and he is to appoint any of the Board to go with him and have the Library Board's attorney accompany them to settle the matter of the sale of the bonds.

Mr. Di Leonardi's request, by letter, to Mr. William Siegel, Village Clerk, that the Village absorb the costs of the Library election in December, 1969 was read, and the Board was pleased with it.

A list of the contributors to the Library for campaign expenses for the referendum was distributed.

Miss Radmacher reported on the heating system and informed the Board that three bids were submitted as follows: Advance Heating, \$5,557.00; Economic Mechanical Industries, \$6,032.00; and C. W. Johnson, \$6,868.00. Since Advance was the lowest and a good bidder and know the system, they were awarded the contract immediately. All bidders stated they could not comply with the date of completion of February 28 because Cleaver Books would not state the unit could be supplied soon enough. Mr. Schiewe has emphasized the need to rush this order with Cleaver Books.

Illinois Library Association has asked for suggestions to be made to its Legislative Committee for new or amended library legislation. Suggestions: 1) inconsistency of the library trustee election law with the village election law; 2) more autonomy or home rule comparable to the Park District, an autonomous taxing body; and 3) increase tax rate to the \$.20 without referendum.

Mr. Hummer, reporting on the North Suburban Library System, said that no meeting was held in January. The System instituted a reciprocal borrowing system and six libraries subscribed to it, but not Skokie. Mr. Hummer said he would not make a recommendation concerning this - it is up to the librarian whether or not

we do this. Mr. Born is leaving but a replacement will be hired. Next meeting February 23 but because of it being a holiday he will not attend. Suggested everyone read the item about the sale of bonds by Deerfield Library in the NOR'EASTER carefully.

Rabbi Weiner said that reciprocal borrowing will be followed up at a later date.

The Librarian announced Mr. Arnold Brostoff of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra had called her saying he would provide a concert on April 8. Funds from the Illinois Arts Council will pay for the quartet.

The booklist issued was the List of Recent Acquisitions from January 1 - 31, 1970.

Building program - Mr. Hammond needs some direction for site planning regarding property to the west and if the Library plans to acquire the additional land offered for sale, making 75 feet instead of the 42 feet we now have. Also, the Librarian reported that in estimating prior to the bond issue, figures used were \$20.00 per square foot for unfinished space or \$30.00 finished. As planned now, there will be only the 200 seat and the 75 seat meeting room, the plumbing and lobby. The Fine Arts people had asked for class rooms. That space, if bids come in as estimated, will not be finished space. Is this going to be satisfactory as far as the Fine Arts people are concerned? Rabbi Weiner said as far as he knows it was already agreed upon.

Rabbi Weiner asked for discussion for a date for a second referendum. The Librarian reported Mr. Siegel, Village Clerk, called because he is working on a budget and needs to know how many referenda he had to plan for. Discussion followed and the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Hummer, seconded by Mrs. Petty and, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE NEED FOR A  
PUBLIC LIBRARY TAX RATE INCREASE FOR THE  
MAINTENANCE OF THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY,  
FROM .12% to .20%, AND RECOMMENDING THAT  
A SPECIAL ELECTION THEREON BE HELD ON  
MAY 26, 1970.

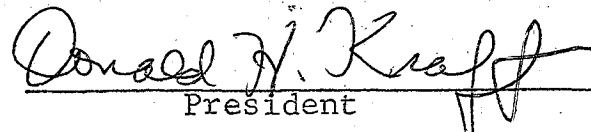
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WHEREAS, it is evident that an increase in the Village of Skokie tax levy is needed so that the Skokie Public Library will be able to meet community library needs, keep up with rising costs, attract and hold trained personnel and support traditional and new library services as they are needed; and

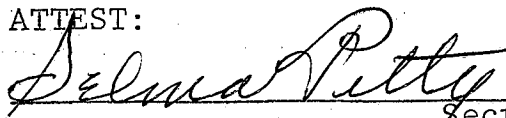
WHEREAS, the present annual tax rate levied for library purposes by the Village of Skokie is .12% of the assessed value, as equalized, of all taxable property within the Village but that such tax rate is inadequate to meet costs and should be increased to .20%; and

WHEREAS, such annual tax rate may be increased up to .20% if the electors of the Village of Skokie so determine at a special election called for that purpose, after a written petition requesting such special election is signed by 50 or more legal voters of the Village and filed with the Village Clerk; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LIBRARY DIRECTORS OF THE VILLAGE OF SKOKIE,  
~~WHEREAS~~, Such a petition should be circulated and when so signed by in excess of 50 legal voters of the Village of Skokie, filed with the Village Clerk and such a special election should be called by the corporate authorities to be held on May 26, 1970 according to the Statutes in such cases made and provided.

  
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President

ATTEST:

  
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Secretary

Rabbi Weiner said that the most important decision to make is how to meet our budget. Discussion followed and Miss Radmacher once again submitted recommendations and cost figures. Rabbi Weiner said that the importance of the decision about service curtailment would require a special Board meeting which he called for Wednesday, February 18, 1970, at 5:30 p.m. in the Lecture Room. He requested the Librarian to be prepared to submit her list of priorities at that time so an absolute decision can be made.

Mrs. Hunter inquired about progress on reciprocal borrowing with the Evanston Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Selma Petty - Sec -  
Selma Petty *of* Secretary