

March 5, 1969

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Skokie Public Library held March 5, 1969, at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Library.

Members present: Howard V. Hummer, L. O. Green, Donald Kraft, and Mrs. Daniel Petty, Miss Mary Radmacher, Librarian.

Also present: Candidates for election to the Board, Mrs. Harry Hunter and Dr. John Wozniak; Architect James W. Hammond; and Mrs. George Miller, newly appointed Director of Community Relations.

In President Weiner's absence, Vice President Kraft presided and the meeting convened at 7:40 p.m.

Minutes of the previous regular meeting, held February 12, 1969, were approved as read.

Minutes of the special executive meeting, held February 12, 1969, at 5:30 p.m. were approved as read.

Financial statements for the General Operating Budget, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings, and Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures were approved and accepted on motion by Mrs. Petty seconded by Mr. Green. All ayes.

Motion by Mr. Hummer seconded by Mrs. Petty.

Motion: That the list of bills payable in the amount of four thousand eight hundred twenty dollars and sixty-one cents (\$4,820.61) be paid.

All ayes.

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

The Librarian, reporting on personnel, introduced Mrs. George Miller, who will work in the capacity of Director of Community Relations. She also reported that Mrs. Henry Kassner and Miss Sharon Stein had resigned; and

Mrs. Edward Drost, part-time professional children's librarian is on a maternity leave of absence.

A reception for the two retiring Board members, Mrs. W. C. Griffin and Mr. L. O. Green will be held March 30, 1969. A luncheon or brunch is planned for the Board members and spouses. Following the luncheon or brunch, there will be a program and reception in the Library, open to the public, to include friends, Village officials, etc. Time of the brunch will be 12:30 and the reception from 2:30 to 4:30 at the Library. This will be publicized in advance.

In the area of public relations, Miss Radmacher informed the Board that Mrs. George Miller has joined the staff as Director of Community Relations. At present, Mrs. Miller plans to work part-time and, if necessary, can work from her home. Mr. Hummer who had been assisting the Librarian in locating someone to serve in this capacity stated his satisfaction with Mrs. Miller's qualifications.

Mr. Green was unable to attend the North Suburban Library System Board meeting February 24. Mr. Kraft submitted his resignation from the North Suburban Library System Board to Mr. Gorby, President of the NSLS Board. Miss Radmacher transmitted a message Rabbi Weiner had given her prior to the meeting requesting that, if at all possible, something be done about getting a permanent replacement for Mr. Kraft, so this Library has a representative eligible to be elected to the Board of the System. His idea was that someone could be named at this meeting so they could be in attendance March 24, the North Suburban Library System Board's election night. Mr. Hummer volunteered. Mr. Kraft agreed to the appointment and the following motion was made by Mr. Green seconded by Mrs. Petty.

Motion: That Howard V. Hummer be appointed as the representative from the Skokie Public Library to the North Suburban Library System Board.

All ayes.

The Librarian distributed copies of a letter Rabbi Weiner sent to Mr. Robert McClarren, Director of the North Suburban Library System, putting in Skokie Public Library's bid to provide reference service to the System's member libraries. Discussion followed of why this Library would like to do this and an explanation that Skokie Public Library is the most qualified in the System to handle the reference. Mr. Hummer promised to attend the meeting without fail and do what was possible to assist in that direction.

The Librarian called the Board's attention to the impressive list of activities of the Young People's and Children's Department staff, outside of the Skokie Public Library.

The Librarian referred the Board's attention to the list of Problem Areas for libraries. In discussing salaries, the question was raised about how Skokie Public Library compares with other libraries in the System. Miss Radmacher quoted Chicago Public Library's starting professional salary figure. Mr. Kraft asked if a comparable salary scale could be worked into the next year's budget. The Librarian stated that with the present tax rate it could not be fitted into the budget but she will prepare one.

Another problem area is vandalism. Recent damage to card catalogs in several libraries lately prompted a discussion of the possibility of the shelf list being destroyed. Miss Radmacher said one thing that could be done would be to microfilm or photocopy the shelf list and also the tracings on the back of the card. This could be done by Xerox or another way would be to put the shelf list on the Docustat machine, doing four cards at a time. Recommendation was made that Miss Radmacher get an estimate from Xerox about reproducing our shelf list.

Mr. James Hammond distributed copies of the building program, prepared by his firm, and briefly discussed the contents.

Reporting on the Building Program, Miss Radmacher said that she had a

most exciting piece of information. Mr. Les. Stoffel had called her and inquired about how far along we were with the building plans. He informed her that the Illinois State Library has \$600,000 of LSCA money that has to be spend or committed by June 30. Applications for Federal funds allocated through the State agency are to be accompanied by plans as well as estimates of building costs, fees, etc. Mr. James Hammond, architect, reported that the old plans from 1965 are still on file. In Miss Radmacher's discussion with Mr. James Beasley, he suggested making application for a grant and submitting those drawings if a date for a bond issue referendum is set before the middle of June. He mentioned that the present administration has already cut their funds in half for fiscal 1970, to a maximum of \$500,000 and part of this has already been promised to Harvey, pending their successful bond issue referendum. Blue Island is having a bond issue referendum this spring and, in the event it does not pass, there will be more than \$600,000 and, even though the grant regulations established a \$400,000 maximum per community, rather than lose the money the State Library would be inclined to raise the maximum, thereby making it possible for Skokie (contingent upon a successful bond issue referendum prior to June 15) to receive approximately \$600,000. Discussion followed.

Mr. Green mentioned that if the bill recently introduced to allow library buildings to be built under Public Buildings Commission is passed, there would be no need for a referendum.

Miss Radmacher asked for definite directions from the Board regarding the building program incorporating the Fine Arts concept.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m. on motion by Mr. Hummer seconded by Mr. Green.

Selma Petty

Secretary