

March 8, 1967

Minutes of the regular 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, L. O. Green, Mrs. W. C. Griffin, Donald Kraft, Mrs. Daniel Petty and Rabbi Karl Weiner, Miss Mary Radmacher, Librarian.

Also present: Members of the League of Women Voters, Misses Joseph Beaver, William Dubow, Harry Hunter and Jerome Lamet, and Mr. Ed Simon, Chairman of the Citizens Committee.

Minutes of the February 8 meeting were read and corrected as follows: The wording of the last sentence of the first paragraph on page 2 be changed to read: "Observation was made that no interest is being paid on the \$90,000 advanced to the Village for the purchase of the property by the Library." The minutes were approved after correction on motion by Rabbi Weiner, seconded by Mrs. Petty. All ayes.

The President requested deviation from the regular order of business to hear a report from the representatives from the League of Women Voters. Mrs. Joseph Beaver read the report, a copy of which is attached hereto.

When questioned about the adoption of this report by the League, it was explained that this report states the official position of the League at this time.

The President asked for time to study and discuss the report with the Library Board after which the League will be informed as to what steps the Library will take or has taken. Each member of the Board of Directors will receive a copy of the report.

The visitors retired from the meeting with the exception of Mrs. Lamet who stayed to observe.

The President resumed the regular order of business.

Financial statements for the General Operating Budget and Reserve Fund

for the purchase of Sites and Buildings for the month of February, 1966 were accepted and approved on motion by Mr. Erickson seconded by Mrs. Petty.

All ayes.

Motion by Mr. Erickson seconded by Mrs. Griffin.

Motion: That the lists of bills payable for the General Operating Fund in the amount of eleven thousand five hundred twenty-four Dollars and eighty-two cents (\$11,524.82) and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for the Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings be approved for payment.

All ayes.

Circulation Report for the month of February, 1966 was accepted and ordered to be placed on file.

The Librarian informed the Board of changes in the personnel by resignation and decease.

The Librarian reporting on the status of the order for a new bookmobile stated Mr. Paul Wyer had been to the Library and gone over the specifications with the bookmobile-librarian. Delivery date will be sometime in the fall of this year.

In further discussion of the changes in the by-laws it was recommended that Article III, Sec. 1 should read: "The officers of the Board shall be chosen at a regular annual meeting of the Board or at such time as a vacancy may occur and shall consist of a President, a Vice President and a Secretary, each of whom shall hold office for two years. In the case of a vacancy in one of the offices, the Board shall elect an officer to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term."

President Green announced it will be in order to elect a vice president. Mr. Erickson moved that Rabbi Karl Weiner be nominated for Vice President. Mrs. Griffin seconded the nomination. The vote was unanimous and the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot unanimously for the election of Rabbi Karl Weiner to the office of Vice President of the Board of Directors.

The Librarian presented for approval a contract she had received from the Department of Defence, Office of Civil Defence, of the Village of Skokie licensing them to use the Library as a fall out shelter. Motion by Mr. Erickson seconded by Mr. Kraft.

Motion: That the Library issue the fall out shelter license to the Department of Defense, Office of Civil Defense, Village of Skokie.

All ayes.

Three booklists were distributed to the Board members - Outstanding Theater for the College-bound, The New Theatre and Selected List of Recent Acquisitions for February, 1967.

The Librarian announced the dates of the Pre-Conference and the regular ALA Conference to be held in San Francisco in June, 1967.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p. m. on motion by Mr. Erickson seconded by Rabbi Weiner.

Selma Petty - Secretary

Statement of League of Women Voters of Seattle to the Library Board of Seattle

March 8, 1957

After studying the subject for some time months, the Local Government Committee reported to the general League membership at a series of three meetings in February. The following statements represent the viewpoint of the League on the various topics that were discussed. An evaluation of the library's holdings on its personnel was out of the scope of this study. We thought you would be interested in the opinions of our group.

We think that Seattle needs an enlarged main library. The need for an enlarged main library was felt to be more important than branch facilities. (The fact that a branch library could not be a duplicate main library seemed a new idea to most people.) There was an strong feeling that essential services were lacking and an enlarged main library was seen as the means of providing space in which to house services that are not provided in quarters such as recent history facilities and a film library. A strong feeling was expressed for Sunday library service.

We think library services should be accessible in other parts of the community. In view of the Chinese Committee recommendations that one or more branches in certain quarters could be financed out of current revenues, there was strong feeling that this service be instituted. Increased use of school libraries was felt to have merit with or without public library sponsorship. The bookmobiles received praise, but their shortcomings were discussed and they were not seen as a substitute for branches.

We are willing to have the tax rate increased if we should be ordered that the main library may be enlarged and branches established. There was strong feeling that a referendum should be held and that if a referendum were not held, the public should be given opportunity to express its views on the planning.

For the most part, our country's education is a lack of information about library procedures on which various matters such as borrowing privileges and requesting materials are available in the library. The majority felt there was not enough publicity about either library operations or library programs and plans. A committee was set up to study such publicity and the level of community interest in the library.

The fact that the existing legislative governing this area of over 50,000 causes the need to appoint the library director every four years received a lot of attention in the community. It is felt that a new office of the director should be sought from the attorney general. There was a strong feeling that a citizens' group could help by encouraging people to be candidates for library director in the years there is a general election. There was a strong feeling that an election in which all city - person votes participated interests, past board, library board was the most consideration. It could be made a regular and in right there were attention on those matters that their election necessarily received. The committee felt that although the existing legislation as it relates to the appointing of library director does create problems, the main problem is citizen apathy. The legislative committee encourages this apathy. Everyone felt that candidates for library director should not be political partisans.

On the subject of liaison between the public library and the schools, the committee felt that a formal relationship is necessary to all these student needs. Most felt that the primary responsibility rested with the schools and that it would be rather difficult for the public library to tell the schools how to manage the teachers. It is felt that liaison action is necessary to bring this liaison to pass. It is felt that school libraries should be more available for student use during school and after school. The fact that the public library serves the whole community and not primarily the student population needs to be made clear.

Although we were not able to discuss specific building plans because
 they are not available, the consensus was that plans for future expansion
 be limited. There was no objection to a two-story structure. A parking
 garage was not considered important and economy was deemed of considerable
 importance. Although there was no group feeling of urgency on the subject
 of downtown redevelopment, most people felt that the Library's Board of
 Directors should be concerned with possible changes in the neighborhood
 of the library and that the Village and the Library should plan together and
 not unilaterally.