

June 8, 1977

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held June 8, 1977 at 7:30 p. m. , at the Library.

Members present: Walter Flintrup, Richard Lindberg, Shirley Merritt, John Wozniak, Karl Weiner, and Norma Zatz, Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian.

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 p. m. by President Karl Weiner, with a quorum present.

Minutes of the May 11, 1977 meeting were approved as read on motion by Mr. Flintrup, seconded by Mr. Lindberg.

In discussing the financial statements, Mrs. Merritt requested that the rate of interest as well as the interest earned on investments be noted on the statements. Motion by Dr. Wozniak, seconded by Mr. Lindberg which, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That the financial statements for the General Operating Budget, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings, Library Construction Fund be accepted and the lists of bills for the General Operating Fund in the amounts of \$6,958.48 and \$9,918.46 and the NSLS Coordinated Acquisitions Program in Literature in the amount of \$1,336.11 be approved for payment.

Circulation reports for the month of May, 1977 were examined and ordered placed on file, Reference service in the Library was briefly discussed.

More shelving is needed. The old lecture room must be used for this or the area presently being used by the Planning Department of the Village. Miss Radmacher was asked to notify the Village at an early date of the necessity for evacuation of the Planning Department.

The staff would like to discontinue taking reserves with the NSLS, although this has been done since the beginning of reciprocal borrowing. Mr. Flintrup's opinion is each Board can assign priority for its own library. In discussion the following was mentioned. This Library can say it no longer takes reserves for

NSLS member libraries; make a statement that this reserve request will be passed along to the patron's own library; always put those persons at the end of the list; or say, "We cannot take the reserves," or "Perhaps you would like to reserve it at your own library, or try our shelves later." The view was expressed that there must be some equitable way to serve this Library's patrons first. Miss Radmacher can produce statistics on other NSLS libraries and the Skokie Public Library. Mr. Flintrup felt handling of reserves might be something the System should develop as a procedure, in all fairness to those having the largest collection. Mrs. Zatz objected on the ground that libraries have been giving too much responsibility to the System and, this is one area the Board should make the decision for this Library. Mr. Flintrup made the point that this Library does participate in reciprocal borrowing and has not been the loser. Rabbi Weiner asked for an investigation to find out what the pattern is of the other member libraries and then devise a system. The Board may want the staff to give information of what avenues of approach they would like to have pursued.

A gift has been received from the Louis Schutz Prestige Galleries of a framed art poster by Tito Salomoni. It has been hung with the other two Salomoni posters.

The two pieces of sculpture given to the Library by the Skokie Art Guild and placed in the Griffin Room have not been on display for a while and the Board asked that these pieces be placed somewhere in the Library for patrons to see.

A request was made to have the August Board meeting held August 3, 1977. The Board approved. The September Board meeting date was also changed to Thursday, September 8, 1977.

Miss Radmacher mentioned there are a number of things to be discussed this summer. One item is the Library's contract with Johnson Controls. Johnson Controls admits to having some serious problems. Some of their computer operations

have been transferred to Milwaukee and all instructions for turning the heat or air conditioning on or off seem to be lost. Mr. Harold Schiewe, on behalf of the Library, has contacted Mr. Ray Martin from Johnson Controls. Mr. Martin told Mr. Schiewe that before the end of the summer they hope to have their problems solved. Rabbi Weiner recommended having a meeting soon of a Board Committee, Mr. Di Leonardi and Mr. Schiewe. Mr. Lindberg reminded the Board the Library is coupled to the computer system of Johnson Controls and it cannot suddenly say the contract is over and then have no one to help. It may be the Library's present equipment cannot be hooked in with the Honeywell system. The question of a breach of contract was raised. Question was asked if it could be arranged for the Library's monthly payment to be held in escrow until the job is satisfactory. The sub-committee will look into this.

Status of the book bag sales was discussed. A press release including a photo of Mrs. Hunter presenting a book bag to Abner Mikva during the Library Legislative Day in Washington has been sent to the three local papers.

Library Use Statistics report was examined and ordered placed on file.

Mr. Flintrup was congratulated on his nomination to the System Board and complimented on his resume.

The annual reports for the fiscal year May 1, 1976 through April 30, 1977 were submitted and approved by the Board.

Miss Radmacher informed the Board \$181,685.39 will be transferred from the Skokie Public Library savings account, which includes the Operating Budget and the Reserve Fund, and deposited in a separate savings account for the Reserve Fund only.

Personnel appointments were reported to the Board.

There has been no activity by the Sculpture Fund Committee.

The report on the NSLS Board meeting was that nothing of great consequence occurred. Copies of the proposed budget will be received. This will be acted upon

by the new Board when elected.

Lincolnwood Demonstration Library is to open June 9.

We have had no response from Mr. Di Leonardi regarding the legal overdue statements because he has been in the hospital with a knee injury. He is expected to call when he returns to work.

The bookmobile has been inspected by Mr. Adcock of Nortran. The Library had been told the block was broken and must be replaced. However, it does not have a cracked block ( as it had been reported by Hutt and Stiles) but does require some maintenance work. This could be something as small as a minor valve job. Mr. Adcock suggested having some body work done on it for safety of people entering and leaving. After those repairs he felt the important thing would be to get on a regular maintenance schedule. In his opinion to junk it would be a travesty. Mr. Adcock will work out a maintenance schedule for the bookmobile and get a listing of people who can repair that type of vehicle. Hutt & Stiles said it is impossible for them to get the vehicle in their building and anything done would have to be performed on the outside. They are not equipped to handle this type of behicle. International Harvester is a possibility.

Summing it up, the bookmobile body needs a good cleaning and waxing, minor engine work and body work on the step. The Board thanked Mr. Flintrup for his work.

Nothing has developed on revenue sharing, and the news report is that it is under advisement.

Because there are no wall lights near the floor midway down, the steps on each side of the Petty Auditorium, this area is totally dark. Projectionists have been warned not to turn the lights completely out. Miss Radmacher has called Mr. Stowell regarding a remedy. If not too expensive, more lights should be added. Rabbi Weiner suggested presenting this project after the figures are received.

A list of the summer activities for children was distributed. Mrs. Merritt inquired about a certificate being awarded for completion of the program. Her

thought is something should be given for participation. As the program is set up there is nothing to complete. It is something they may come in and do or not. The point was still taken that the ones who read books and participate should be honored. Mr. Flintrup concurred with Mrs. Merritt and feels on the philosophy alone, it is a good idea. Suggestion was made to ask the librarians if they have some ideas on this.

A copy of the program for the Energy Conference to be held June 11, 1977, at Circle Campus was distributed to each member.

A list of the books to be discussed at the Adult Services Summer Book Discussions was given to each member.

The Board's attention was called to Shirley Gould's lecture on her book TEENAGERS to be held June 15.

A copy of the statement used by the Chicago Public Library for a bomb threat was submitted to the Board for its information. Rabbi Weiner approves of the idea that the librarians are not to do any looking for the bomb. Consensus was to have Mr. Di Leonardi read and interpret it.

Discussion of the ALA Conference followed.

Rabbi Weiner brought to the attention of the Board that the Intellectual Freedom Committee has participated in the production of an interesting film. He feels the Board will find it the most exciting part of this conference. This Library has ordered a copy and will be among the first to receive it. The showing in Detroit will be Sunday night at 10:00.

A LAD Program about the new bill that passed the Supreme Court regarding the liabilities of trustees has been scheduled for Saturday morning and Mrs. Zatz thinks all should plan to attend. Rabbi Weiner requested a report be made on that meeting.


The Whitehouse Conference on Libraries will be by invitation. Miss Radmacher asked if this Board has names of persons from this community whom it would be valuable to have attend. Please give her the names.

Book lists, June Calendar of Events, press releases and newspaper clippings were distributed for the Board's information.

The regular meeting was temporarily adjourned, at 9:15 p. m. , for the Board to go into executive session.

The regular meeting reconvened at 9:25 p. m. and Rabbi Weiner announced it was his pleasure to inform Miss Radmacher that a committee of the Board made a recommendation in the form of a motion to increase her salary to \$31,400 annually, indicating both the cost of living increase and the merit increase, retroactive to May. There was such unanimous approval it became an opportunity for the outpouring of the Board's expression to her of what she means to the Board and to Skokie.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p. m.

  
John Wozniak - Secretary