

September 10, 1969

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Skokie Public Library held at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room, September 10, 1969.

Members present: Mrs. Daniel Petty, Donald Kraft, Dr. John Wozniak and Rabbi Karl Weiner, Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian.

Also present: Mrs. Milton Estes, observer for the League of Women Voters and Herman Zagerinsky, observer for the North Central Home Owners Association.

President, Rabbi Karl Weiner, presided.

Minutes of the meetings held July 30, 1969, August 13 and 14, 1969 were approved as read, on motion by Mr. Kraft seconded by Dr. Wozniak. All ayes.

Financial statements for the General Operating Budget, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings, and Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures to Date were approved and ordered to be placed on file for audit, on motion by Mrs. Petty, seconded by Dr. Wozniak. All ayes.

Motion by Mr. Kraft seconded by Mrs. Petty.

Motion: That the list of bills, payable from the General Operating Fund, in the amount of seven thousand one hundred nine dollars and seventy-five cents (\$7,109.75) and two thousand dollars (\$2,000) from the Reserve Fund be approved for payment.

All ayes.

Circulation Report for the month of August, 1969 was approved, accepted and ordered placed on file.

Personnel resignations were discussed and suggestions made of contacts to try for securing a night custodian.

The Librarian informed the Board that Mrs. Mildred Allen will terminate her employment on October 1, 1969 for full retirement. Because of Mrs. Allen's length of service, a recommendation was made that a suitable reception be held honoring her. Mrs. Petty was appointed chairman and asked to select her committee.

The Library's appointed attorney, Mr. Robert Di Leonardi, joined the meeting.

Mr. Di Leonardi was asked to give an opinion on the payment of the bill from The Pettibone Company in the amount of \$900 for printing of the ballots for the last

election of Library Trustees. He stated that the Illinois statute, along this line, clearly states that the cost of election for Library Board members must be borne by the Village.

Mr. Di Leonardi, reporting on the contract with the North Suburban Library System, stated a copy of the Rules and Regulations had been sent to him by Mr. Born.

The Librarian distributed invitations for the second anniversary of the NSLS Charter Day. The question of reciprocal borrowing will be discussed again. The System was allowed five years in which to arrange for this. A statement of policies will be set up.

Copies of the statement on fuel oil bids were distributed. The Board approved of the continuance of the Library's contract being included in the Village's recommendation.

Special activities in the Skokie Public Library beginning in September, 1969, were announced. In connection with a program in investments, Mr. Kraft suggested as a counterpart the public be appraised of what is available in the Business Section.

Mr. Di Leonardi advised the Library is free to rent the property at 5219 Oakton Street if they desire. Two persons interested in renting were referred to the Library by Mr. Lewis Kahn, Village Finance Director.

Mr. Lewis Kahn, Village Finance Director, joined the meeting.

Copies of the Illinois Library Legislation introduced in the 76th General Assembly were distributed for the Board's information.

The Board was urged to attend the Illinois Library Association Annual Conference, in Peoria, Illinois, October 23-25, 1969.

Copies of the Skokie Public Library Annual Report 1968-69 were distributed.

A booklist of Selected List of Recent Acquisitions August 1 - August 30, 1969 was distributed to each member.

Rabbi Weiner stated that Mr. Panas promised he would begin to outline the dates and succession of procedures sometime the week of September 14. He also reported that Mayor Smith is very anxious to help, suggested persons to serve on the citizens committee and offered his assistance when everything is set up.

Mr. Di Leonardi outlined the actions necessary to get ready for the referendum as: first thing, as a formal legal requirement, to pass a resolution as soon as a more detailed and formal estimate of cost is received from the architect; and, secondly, must have the preliminary plans so when the resolution is passed, it will be meaningful and in accordance with the specific estimate of cost. The statutes require that there will be preliminary plans and estimate of cost to be as detailed as possible. Mr. Hammond will have this ready Monday, September 22. Mr. Di Leonardi read the resolution prepared by him, explained it, and submitted the copy to Miss Radmacher and Rabbi Weiner.

A company to handle the bonds was discussed. Mr. Lewis Kahn recommended that, in hiring someone to do this job, if a willingness to give advice is indicated, to be certain of a complete understanding that it is free of charge. Until an affirmative vote has been received, such a service is of no value; so, prior to the referendum, there should be no charge for such advice as they might give.

The architect is working out a contract so there is a degree of definition of what he has to do prior to the referendum, money for that, and what he will do after the referendum.

Mr. Di Leonardi mentioned a tax rate increase requires a petition of fifty or more legal voters within the Village.

Mr. Kraft asked about a time table with dates, etc. The attorney said this can be prepared by him and will be determined by when the resolution is passed, but mostly when the Village takes action - it will indicate dates of the election. The matter of checking that there are sufficient polling places will be taken care of by Mr. Di Leonardi.

Mr. Di Leonardi received a copy of the contract on the Village Green from Mr. Gordon Thorn. It appears the total price is in the neighborhood of \$1,070 a front foot of which the Library gets 125 feet. Following discussion regarding negotiations with the Village for the property to the east of the Library, Dr.

Wozniak moved that the President write Scott McDowell that a new attorney had been appointed.

Motion: That President Weiner is instructed and authorized to write Mr. W. Scott McDowell that our new attorney, Mr. Robert J. Di Leonardi, has been selected to perform all work in connection with the acquisition of the Village Green property, and that Mr. McDowell be requested to send Mr. Di Leonardi all pertinent documents and to bill the Library Board for his prior services on the Village Green acquisition.


Mrs. Petty seconded the motion and it carried.

The Board discussed with Mr. Kahn the invoice from The Pettibone Company for printing of the ballots for the Library Board members at the last election, April 1, 1969. Attorney Di Leonardi stated that the Library Law clearly says Library Trustees are to be elected on a separate ballot and all costs of the election are to be borne by the Village. Printing of the ballots would appear to be a cost of the election. He read the law from Section 4-31, Chapter 1. Following discussion, Mr. Kahn recommended that Mr. Di Leonardi or the Library send a letter indicating why, based on the opinion of our attorney, we cannot legally be obligated to pay this bill, and assume it will be handled in the manner in which it has always been done. The letter should be sent to Mr. William Siegal, Village Clerk.

President Weiner announced a special meeting of the Board for Thursday, September 25, at 8:00 p. m. to consider the passing of a resolution to enlarge the site of the existing library building and to establish a citizens committee to promote passage of a proposed bond referendum.

Mr. Herman Zagerinsky, observer for the North Central Home Owners Association asked to speak and informed the Board that School District 68 has planned a referendum for October 28. Also, he requested that the Library Board furnish a speaker for his organization's meeting November 11, 1969.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p. m. on motion by Mr. Kraft.


Selma Petty - Secretary