

February 14, 1968

Minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held in the Conference Room of the Library February 14, 1968 at 7:30 p. m.

Members present: L. O. Green, Donald Kraft, Mrs. Daniel Petty, and Rabbi Karl Weiner, Miss Mary Radmacher, Librarian.

Also present: Mrs. Milton Estes and Mrs. Harry Hunter, observers from the League of Women Voters and Mr. Edwin Simon.

The President of the Board, Rabbi Karl Weiner, presided.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read on motion by Mr. Kraft seconded by Mrs. Petty. All ayes.

Financial statements for the General Operating Budget and Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings were approved as submitted on motion by Mr. Green, seconded by Mr. Kraft. All ayes.

Motion by Mrs. Petty seconded by Mr. Green.

Motion: That the lists of bills in the amounts of twenty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$27.50) and twenty-four thousand sixty-nine dollars and fourteen cents (\$24,069.14) be approved for payment.

All ayes.

A copy of the list of expenses for the Festival of Arts held December 3, 1967 was distributed to each member of the Board.

Miss Radmacher briefly discussed three communiques received from the State of Illinois in reference to Exempt Status of Realty Owned by a Library Board, Obscenity, and Opinion of the Attorney General regarding the Effect of Provision for Election of Seventh Library Director.

Rabbi Weiner reporting on land acquisition stated there was nothing new. He and Mayor Smith had visited Mr. Davis, the gentleman in charge of this site at HUD. Mr. Davis said that the Village must get to work immediately on a plan for the proper use of the open space. In the course of the conversation they were able to get him to listen to the possibility of some modification that would allow

the Library to get the full amount of space needed to the east of the present building. What they proposed would depend mostly upon whether the Board of Trustees of the Village of Skokie would approve of certain concessions. If they could be worked out there still would be a chance for HUD to retain the same amount of land and the Library would get all the space originally requested. Mr. Davis of HUD said that he could not be too encouraging since the law provides that no variations be made, but he promised to discuss it with his colleagues and superiors. Since no word has been received from the Mayor the matter must be held in suspension. Rabbi Weiner pointed out to HUD that as far as the Library is concerned, the 90 feet is as good as if we had not gotten anything - it is not enough.

Miss Radmacher told the Board that within the next two years there will be at least 40,000 more volumes added to the collection and made recommendations for the interim until expansion materializes. First, additional shelving must be purchased. For some time the canopies have been used as shelves. She explained her plan to utilize some of the lounge area in the Adult Services Department for additional ranges of shelving. Second, because of the need for more space for the public services for both Adult Department and Children's Department, move the Technical processes Department out of this building if suitable accommodations can be found elsewhere.

Motion by Mrs. Petty seconded by Mr. Kraft.

Motion: That shelving be purchased and the Library be rearranged for the accommodation of this shelving in line with the Librarian's recommendations.

All ayes.

The Board agreed with her recommendation of moving the Technical Processes Department and suggested investigating rental of the vacated building at 4913 Oakton Street and the possibility of renting or purchasing the property immediately to the west of the Library. The Art Guild might be interested in

sharing the use of the building next door and thus help defray expenses. Rabbi Weiner asked that all persons attending the meeting consider this matter as completely confidential and not discuss it with anyone. The following motion was made by Mr. Kraft seconded by Mrs. Petty.

Motion: That Technical Processes Department be moved out of this building to enable expansion of the public services for both Adult Department and Children's Department and those departments occupy the space.

All ayes.

Rabbi Weiner requested discussion of Dr. Garrison's report at this time. He suggested that the recommendations should be covered, one by one, and thus establish tentatively some kind of priority. Public Relations was an area covered and this should be considered first. Dr. Garrison's recommendation was to hire a full time public relations person. This has been discussed at previous Board meetings when mention was made of the necessity of engaging a person to do full time public relations and possibly combine among his or her functions public relations in terms of interpreting the Library and taking care of the communications with the Press, etc. and at the same time enter into some of the other areas such as cooperation with other local agencies or be instrumental in assisting with other ideas that come across the library lines. At that time a library background was not considered essential but a sensitivity for the Library should be one of the qualifications. The Librarian reported she had made several calls regarding recommendations for someone suitable for the job.

Rabbi Weiner stated that first of all the Board must decide what is going to be done with the completed survey.

The recommendations made by Mr. Howard Hummer were read by Rabbi Weiner.

Rabbi Weiner stated that his idea had been that reports would be sent to the organizations who represent a block of voters and also who have been involved in the Library in one way or another and invite them to share this information

with their constituents and let us know the reaction to the Garrison report. The newspapers should be informed that the report has been received and copies sent to them. Also, it should be known that one or two copies will be available for circulation in the Library. The public's interest in studying the report should be solicited and ask them to respond to it. It must be understood that this Board welcomes any response to the report, but all communications should indicate this is a report to help develop a program and the Library Board will use these recommendations as they suit their problems. It must be understood the survey is not the Library's plan but a tool for its use.

The Librarian stated that copies will be processed for reference, for the Illinois collection and for circulation.

Rabbi Weiner asked Miss Radmacher to send Dr. Garrison a letter acknowledging receipt of the reports and thanking him for his services.

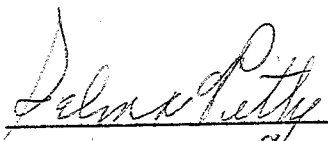
Rabbi Weiner read the recommendations made by Mr. Kraft.

A special meeting will not be held for the purpose of taking action on the survey.

The next monthly meeting will be held March 6, 1968 instead of the regular date of March 13.

A discussion on the subject of having the Library open Sunday followed. Rabbi Weiner closed the discussion due to the lateness of the hour but stated that closing the discussion at this point did not mean closing the issue.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p. m. on motion by Mrs. Petty seconded by Mr. Green.

  
Selma Petty *af* - Secretary