

October 8, 1969

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held October 8, 1969, in the Conference Room, at 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Mrs. Diana Hunter, Donald Kraft, Richard Lindberg, Mrs. Selma Petty, John Wozniak, and Rabbi Karl Weiner, Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian.

Rabbi Karl Weiner, President, presided.

Minutes of the regular meeting held September 10, 1969 were approved on motion by Dr. Wozniak, seconded by Mr. Lindberg. 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 accepted on motion by Mrs. Petty and seconded by Dr. Wozniak. All ayes.

Motion by Mr. Kraft seconded by Dr. Wozniak.

Motion: That the list of bills payable from the General Operating Budget, in the amount of nine thousand four hundred fifty-one dollars and fifty-six cents (\$9,451.56) and the Reserve Fund in the amount of seven thousand one hundred fifty-nine dollars and eight cents (\$7,159.08) be approved for payment.

All ayes.

Circulation Report for the month of September, 1969 was accepted and ordered to be placed on file. The Librarian pointed out to the Board the increased use within the Library as shown by the reference statistics.

Appointments and resignations in personnel were discussed.

Copies of letters sent to Mr. W. Scott McDowell and Mr. William Seigel during the month were distributed to each member.

The Librarian informed the Board there is an opening on the Board of the North Suburban Library System. Mr. Hummer has expressed willingness to run for the office if this is the desire of the Skokie Public Library Board. The

Board's approval was given for Mr. Hummer to seek this office and continue to represent the Skokie Public Library at the System Board meetings.

The contract with the North Suburban Library System for the Coordinated Acquisitions Program on American Literature was discussed and the Board approved it.

The request was made by Mayor Smith formally, in the presence of the Acting Village Manager, in terms of the Village using the building at 5219 Oakton Street for the Fine Arts Commission, since their former headquarters has been destroyed by fire. A similar request was received by Rabbi Weiner from the Chairman of the group. President Weiner reported he indicated the building could be used only until the Library needs to have it razed for the building program. Motion by Mrs. Hunter seconded by Mr. Kraft.

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library lend use of the property at 5219 Oakton Street, Skokie, to the Village for the Fine Arts Commission until such time as the Library needs the property for use or razing.

All ayes. It was noted that Mayor Smith stated the Village would assume the responsibility for insurance and all other expenses.

Miss Radmacher indicated the need for a place to park the bookmobile when the building program is going on. An outlet can be run in from the south end of the lot where the bookmobile presently parks at a cost of approximately \$600, but this line could not be used at a later date. The other possibility is to plug in at the rear of the house at 5219 Oakton, but this would necessitate razing the garage. There was discussion of disposing by sale of the old brick. No decision was made at this time.

The Librarian called attention to the lecture by Arthur Rissman, a visual psycho-drama, SEE IT NOW, which was a form of sensitivity to art. In addition to the regular audience, a group of three people came to this

lecture to express its disapproval in a disruptive manner. The spokesman for this group representing Motorede was from Niles. At the close of the lecture they distributed pamphlets entitled "Hate Therapy" in the lobby without permission. The Librarian asked for the Board's opinion of where to draw the line. The Library's policy is to make the room available to cultural activities, and the policy clearly states "educational and cultural groups which are non-religious, non-political and non-social." In discussion President Weiner said that the matter is complicated in that the Library must be sure of itself and, in the name of democracy, be sure of what it is suppressing. Mrs. Hunter suggested talking with Attorney Di Leonardi about what can be done about such an occurrence in the future. Although it was recommended that handling of such a situation be left to the Librarian's discretion, Miss Radmacher stated that she would not want to do anything opposed to the Board's thinking and would be guided by their instructions. Consensus of the Board was that if people who create a situation of this kind refuse to stop, then call the police, and anyone acting in Miss Radmacher's place be instructed to handle the situation in just that way.

The Skokie Fine Arts Commission has asked for a meeting with the Skokie Public Library Board Thursday evening, November 13. Mrs. Hunter suggested they attend the regular Board meeting November 12. Skokie Public Library Board of Trustees meeting could convene at 5:30 p.m. and the combined meeting could be held at 7:30 p.m. The consensus was to have the Fine Arts Commission representatives attend the regular Board meeting on Wednesday, November 12, and, if this is not satisfactory, arrange a meeting for November 13, having as many Library Board members in attendance as can be there.

The Skokie Public Library was host to visitors from Yugo-Slavia October 6 and 7. A member of the State Department accompanied them.

North Suburban Library System has alerted its member libraries to the fact that libraries may request a certain percentage of the State Income Tax from their municipalities. Recommendation was made that the Library should put in a request for its percentage of the State Income Tax with the attorney writing the letter requesting the amount collectible. Mrs. Hunter made the following motion, seconded by Dr. Wozniak.

Motion: That the Library apply to the Village of Skokie for the legal specified percentage of the Income Tax which is allowed under the State of Illinois statutes.

All ayes.

Miss Radmacher distributed the announcement of the Chicago area meeting of the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table.

Reporting on the Building Program, Miss Radmacher stated the Library's Resolution was presented to the Mayor by Rabbi Weiner, and, on October 13, it will be presented to the Village Trustees. Mayor Smith requested that the Library Board be present at that time. Mr. Kraft, Mrs. Hunter and Dr. Wozniak committed themselves to attend.

Mr. Lewis Kahn's report on the cost of the Library property to the east has been received and the balance shown is \$59,394.40 whereas it had been anticipated it would be approximately \$33,000.

Mrs. Hunter reported on the speech she had given at the Devonshire PTA, and suggested the speech be re-written to make it more deliverable. She also reported Mrs. Joseph Beaver is organizing her own group within the League of Women Voters to work for the Library referendum.

Mrs. Michaelson of Sharp Corner PTA requested a speaker for an October 14 meeting.

The Librarian announced the New Public Library Trustees Conference

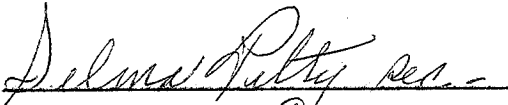
will be held October 11, 1969 at Sheraton-O'Hare, Chicago; and November 15, at Ramada Inn, Mount Vernon, Illinois.

The Illinois Library Association Annual Conference will be held in Peoria, Illinois October 23 - 25, 1969.

The Librarian announced special activities within the Library: Niles Township High School Administration and Faculty invited to an open house and continuation of the Pre-school Story Hours, Story hour for grade school children and the Happenings again this year.

Booklists distributed were: The Draft and the List of Recent Acquisitions September 1 to 30, 1969.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m. on motion by Mr. Kraft.


Selma Petty Secretary