

May 12, 1965

Minutes of the Annual Meeting and Executive Session held at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Skokie Public Library prior to the regular monthly meeting.

Present: Conroy V. Erickson, L. O. Green, Mrs. W. C. Griffin, Mrs. Daniel Petty, Louis Weingart and Rabbi Weiner, Miss Mary Radmacher, Librarian.

Also present: Mr. W. Scott McDowell, attorney, and Mrs. M. Sarver, secretary.

Mr. L. O. Green reported he had received two letters, one with a suggestion that an area be set aside in the new library for a museum and the other concerned the night lighting of the Library.

Due to the term of office having been completed by L. O. Green as President and Mrs. Daniel Petty as Secretary, Mr. Green nominated Mr. Louis Weingart Chairman Pro Tem for the meeting. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Erickson and carried unanimously.

Rabbi Karl Weiner nominated L. O. Green to serve as President of the Library Board and moved the nominations be closed. Mrs. Griffin seconded the nomination and the motion which carried unanimously.

Mrs. Griffin nominated Mrs. Daniel Petty for Secretary. Mr. Erickson seconded the nomination and Mrs. Petty was elected unanimously.

Chairman Weingart turned the meeting over to Mr. Green, the duly elected president.

Mr. Louis Weingart made the suggestion at this time that in view of the many years Mrs. Griffin had been a member of the Library Board and because of her gift of time and devotion to it some recognition should be given and recommended she be made Honorary President and Mrs. Petty Honorary Secretary since she also has served the Library for many years. After discussion the following motion was made by Mr. Weingart seconded by Mr. Erickson.

Motion: That Mrs. W. C. Griffin be made President Emeritus of the Library Board and a suitable plaque be placed on the wall of the Library.

All members voted affirmatively.

The President explained the purpose of the executive session is to decide when to hold a referendum for erection of a branch library, expansion of the main library and increase of tax levy.

Miss Radmacher was called upon to give her opinion and stated that, as a Librarian, could not recommend having more than one branch with a population of 100,000. For a community of this size one strong central library agency is much more advantageous than dividing the collection between a main library and a branch. Cost of duplication of reference materials would be prohibitive.

The President, leading the discussion, stated the first question to be resolved was - does the Board want to go ahead with erection of a branch? Miss Radmacher voiced a recommendation that purchase of the land be made but, as for building, proceed with the expansion here and, in the future, use the land if and when necessary.

There was agreement and disagreement in the discussion that followed and also whether to acquire the land through referendum or go to condemnation.

Mr. Green informed the Board that the Village has acquired by cash, contract and Open Land Grant funds, all property between the Village Hall and the Library. In the Library's contract with the Village there is a written stipulation that the Library may acquire some additional land if needed for which the Library will reimburse the Village and they in turn remit to the Government.

Attorney McDowell advised the Board at this time that the simpler the proposal for the referendum can be made the better chance it will have of passing.

Motion by Rabbi Weiner seconded by Mr. Weingart;

Motion: That the Library offer a referendum based on the proposition that all of the anticipated library building needs of the Village (including land) be provided in an expansion of the present building on this site, plus a tax increase.

Discussion revealed that expansion of the main library would be somewhat hampered by lack of land for future acquisition. Voting on the motion: Member Erickson - no; Member Griffin - no; Member Petty - no; Member Weingart - yes; Member Weiner - yes. Motion did not carry.

Motion by Mr. Erickson seconded by Mrs. Petty.

Motion: That the Library proceed with the building plans as prepared under the architect's recommendations including both the branch in the north end and expansion of the main library and the increase in the tax rate under one package.

Voting: Member Erickson - yes; Member Griffin - yes; Member Petty - yes; Member Weingart - no; Member Weiner - no. Motion carried.


Motion by Mrs. Griffin seconded by Mr. Erickson.

Motion: That the referendum be held on Tuesday, October 26, 1965.

Motion passed unanimously.

Attorney McDowell advised that two sets of the revised resolutions must go to the Village sometime after September 1, and the Board give some thought to whether it would be advisable to change the figures on cost of acquisition of land or for increased cost of building. The President stated the architect will be consulted on increased cost of building.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p. m.


Selma Petty - Secretary