

December 10, 1969

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Skokie Public Library Board of Directors, held December 10, 1969 at 7:30 p.m. in the Library.

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

Also present: Attorney Robert J. Di Leonardi.

President Weiner presided.

Minutes of the previous meeting November 12, 1969 were approved.

Mrs. Diane Hunter read a letter from the EVANSTON REVIEW.

Financial statements for the month of November, 1969 for the General Operating Budget, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings, Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures to Date and NSLS-CAP in American Literature were accepted and approved on motion by Dr. John Wozniak seconded by Mr. Howard Hummer. All ayes.

Motion by Mr. Hummer seconded by Mrs. Selma Petty:

Motion: That the list of bills from November 12 to 30, 1969 in the amount of seven hundred twelve dollars and eighty-eight cents (\$712.88), the list of bills in the amount of eleven thousand three hundred twenty-two dollars and twenty-two cents (\$11,322.22) from the General Operating Budget, and the list of bills from the Reserve Fund in the amount of five thousand one hundred thirteen dollars and nineteen cents (\$5,113.19) be approved for payment.

All ayes.

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

The Librarian informed the Board of appointments, resignations and special activities of Library personnel, and announced receipt of a gift of \$10.00 from the Woman's Club of Skokie.

Mr. Howard Hummer reporting on the North Suburban Library System concerning the reference service, the System again contacted the Chicago Public

Library, but no action will be taken at present. He further reported another opening on the Board but he was not interested in serving a short term. He also reported some dissatisfaction over the System investing money and making interest on it instead of spending it. The amount invested appears to be quite large and an investigation has been instigated.

Copies of the NOR'EASTER were distributed to each member.

Heating of the bookmobile when it is being worked in at the Library was discussed again. Motion by Mrs. Petty seconded by Mrs. Hunter.

Motion: That Miss Radmacher assume the responsibility of getting this settled with the proper people at the best possible cost.

The voting was as follows: Mr. Hummer, yes; Mrs. Hunter, yes; Mr. Lindberg, passed; Mr. Kraft, yes; Mrs. Petty, yes; and Dr. Wozniak, yes. Motion carried.

Selected List of Recent Acquisitions, November 1 to 30, 1969 was distributed to each Board member.

Rabbi Weiner said that viewing the December 9 election twenty-four hours later, it appears the Library Board has cause to feel a sense of satisfaction. The more important part of the two items was won. The fact that the Library did not win the rate increase is not a negative vote. It was a reaction against taxes. He then read a press release he had prepared. Discussion of the wording followed and the Board approved the release.

Rabbi Weiner mentioned the large number of helpers along with the Steering Committee who had given their time and effort to helping the Library with the referendum. The Library needs their continued good will and should determine what form of appreciation to send them, and for Mr. Flintrup something special with a big thank you. His recommendation was that Mr. Flintrup be made permanent chairman of the "Friends of the Library." Suggestions were to present him with a scroll; that he be given a special kind of library card - which might have stated on it "Service rendered during the 1969 election"; a facsimile of a library card on a velvet backing stating the person was a lifetime

member of the Library; or to make Mr. Flintrup the No. 1 Library card holder.

Motion by Mr. Hummer.

Motion: That a suitable commemorative plaque or item be given Walter Flintrup for his voluntary work for the 1969 referendum.

All ayes.

The Board was informed that letters of thanks had been sent by the Steering Committee to each person helping in the campaign.

Rabbi Weiner said that it must be determined whether the Board would like to see a "Friends of the Library" formed, bearing in mind the advantage of having this group backing in the community for referenda and financial support, and, if so, how does the Board consider its formation? He also said that another referendum must be held - it is just a matter of the date and then the Library will need the Friends of the Library. A motion to table this discussion was made by Mr. Lindberg seconded by Mr. Hummer. Voting was as follows: Mrs. Hunter, no; Mr. Kraft, no; Dr. Wozniak, no; Mr. Lindberg, yes; Mr. Hummer, yes; and Mrs. Petty, no. Motion was defeated.

Motion by Mr. Kraft, seconded by Mr. Lindberg.

Motion: That the Board consider with favor the formation of a group of Skokie citizens known as the "Friends of the Library."

All ayes. Suggestion was made that in sending a letter to the nucleus for this group, the body of the letter mention some specific date for these people to meet. This is based on the premise that Mr. Flintrup will chair the group when asked.

Rabbi Weiner asked for discussion on evaluation of the election results and where to curtail services. He asked the Board's opinion whether they would consider it in order to ask the Chief Librarian to look into this, and stated that the Library is now short of funds in this fiscal year and certainly will be in the next year. Motion by Mr. Lindberg seconded by Dr. Wozniak.

Motion: That the Chief Librarian be instructed to outline areas of service to be curtailed to meet the decreased fiscal funds and rising costs for future budgets on the present tax rate.

All ayes. Rabbi Weiner expressed the opinion that the Library should continue to maintain a good level of book buying. Curtailed services can be reinstated, so perhaps it would be best to get along without some of the extra programs.

The Librarian reminded the Board of one major bill to be paid - the Jerold Panas bill, and asked if they wished it paid with one check for \$10,000 or an additional check for \$6,000 to be paid with the \$4,000 voucher which had been withheld from payment. Mr. Lindberg asked whether the Library had an executed copy of the contract with the Panas Company. A copy of the contract was shown to him and he inquired whether there is a calendar of consultations on the ten weeks, stating that he felt the services were less than well performed. The attorney stated that if they failed to really perform adequate professional services the Skokie Public Library has the right to question the bills. If the contract with the firm has been made before, even though the referendum lost, the bill must be paid. The opinion was that it would not be good publicity for the Library to renege on payment. Mrs. Petty made the following motion seconded by Mr. Hummer.

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library Board pay the total billing from Jerold Panas and Associates, Inc. in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

Mr. Lindberg made the following amendment to the motion on the floor.

Amendment: That the Skokie Public Library does not pay the bill from Jerold Panas and Associates, Inc. until demand for payment is made at which time we discuss mode and amount of payment.

It was mentioned that Mr. Panas expected payment in a different manner. Rabbi Weiner said that explicit promise was made that on the 10th, at the Board's regular meeting, they would vote on payment of the bill. Mr. Di Leonardi reminded the Board the contract calls for payment within ten weeks.

The motion to amend the original motion failed for lack of a second.

Discussion on the motion to pay the Panas bill was held, following which the voting was as follows: Mr. Hummer, yes; Mrs. Hunter, yes; Mr. Kraft, yes; Mr. Lindberg, no; Mrs. Petty, yes; and Dr. Wozniak, yes. Motion carried.

At this time Mr. Lindberg made the following motion:

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library Board, through its duly authorized agent negotiate a lesser sum.

Motion was seconded by Mrs. Hunter. Mr. Di Leonardi explained the motion was out of order since the motion was made to pay the amount of the bill at \$10,000 and having decided to pay the full amount any motion to negotiate is out of order. A motion to reconsider the payment would be in order. Mrs. Hunter withdrew her second to the motion and it failed for lack of a second.

Various contracts had to be considered for signing at this time. The letter of understanding which, when signed by the Board would constitute the contract with Paul D. Speer & Associates, Inc., consultants who will be hired by the Library Board and Village Board for handling the bonds for the building expansion. Mr. Di Leonardi reviewed the letter and stated that it contains all important provisions. He recommended that the letter be signed and advised that after approval by the Library Board, the Village Board should pass on the contract; also, that this contract and the one with the architect be submitted to the Village Board along with a copy of the resolution. When asked why the architect's contract should be sent to the Village, the attorney answered that it closes the door for future chance of criticism. Motion by Mr. Kraft seconded by Dr. Wozniak.

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library Board approve the contract with Paul D. Speer & Associates, Inc. on the basis of the recommendation of the Board's attorney.

All ayes.

An agreement with the Docustat Company was discussed. It was explained the Library has been using the equipment of this company for several years without any written agreement. Now, the equipment is being replaced and Docustat has

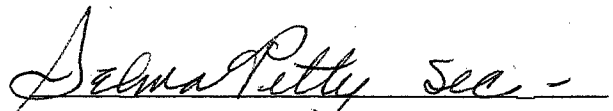

asked for a location contract being entered into. Mr. Di Leonardi has examined the agreement and approved of it. Motion by Dr. Wozniak seconded by Mrs. Hunter.

Motion: That the Library Board sign the contract with
Docustat Company.

All ayes.

The Village Hold Harmless agreement was reviewed and the Librarian informed the Board the Village has arranged for the Skokie Public Library to be covered for personal liability with their insurance carrier. She also stated that although the Village does not have fire insurance, the Library does. Mr. Di Leonardi recommended signing of the agreement. The Village is covering the house at 5219 Oakton Street for injury and death, and the Library has the building covered for fire.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m. on motion by Mr. Howard Hummer.


Selma Petty  Secretary