

June 13, 1979

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held June 13, 1979.

CALL TO ORDER

Members present: Rabbi Karl Weiner, President; Dr. John Wozniak, Secretary; Mrs. Diana Hunter, Vice President; Mrs. Shirley Merritt; Mrs. Norma Zatz and Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian. Members absent: Walter Flintrup and Richard Lindberg. Rabbi Weiner called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The minutes of the regular May and Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held May 9, 1979 and the minutes of the Special Meeting held May 23, 1979 were approved as submitted.

Rabbi Weiner set aside the regular order of business in order to hear two presentations:

JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC.

Mr. Harold Schiewe of Samuel R. Lewis Associates, Inc. reviewed the Johnson Controls TABS Control Center (Central Control Service) Proposals and the maintenance contract. Highlights of that discussion are:

- . Johnson's recommendation to add four new area temperature sensors to areas with the greatest comfort control problems, and mass sensors to the old and new buildings.
- . Johnson's proposed costs to install and monitor the new points including rewiring of computer software and all other wire and material necessary to complete the installation.
- . Johnson's price to renew monitoring service after the fifth year as the system is now and if the suggested improvements are made.
- . Johnson's price to renew the maintenance service after the fifth year as the service is now and if the suggested improvements are made.

The members discussed situations where Library patrons complained about unpleasantly cold temperatures. Mr. Schiewe explained why added controls would alleviate extremes in temperature in the Library buildings.

In answer to a question from Rabbi Weiner, Mr. Schiewe advised that the present contract carries no language to take care of conditions of cold. He felt, however, the system should have worked better under the present contract.

Mr. Schiewe discussed the in-depth statistical report he had furnished to the Library Directors relating to the Central Control Service proposals. He suggested that the Board decide: 1) if the Library wants to add the proposed upgraded service to the buildings. He believed the proposal for new services would be advantageous to the Library and recommended taking them, especially since he felt the costs were not too far out of line; and 2) if the Library wishes to continue the TABS system altogether.

Mr. Schiewe commented on a letter dated April 23, 1979 which Johnson Controls sent to Miss Radmacher, relating to the 64 service calls which had been discussed at a meeting with Miss Radmacher, Mr. Schiewe, Mr. Guderyahn, TABS Service Sales Manager and other TABS personnel. Mr. Schiewe related that of the 64 calls, 42 were due to improper Carrier Refrigeration operation and the balance of the calls were due, basically, to the type of monitoring Johnson was doing. Mr. Schiewe accepted the Johnson report as generally valid.

Discussion took place about the compressor use as it relates to savings of money and/or fuel and the additional costs of the new contract with the system change. Mr. Schiewe felt the operation would be better because of new technological changes involved, but there would be no money saved. He described the new changes and computer-related actions and observed that new technology will be outdated in a year or so, but said this is an ongoing situation. He explained that presently if one sensor fails, the whole system goes off. With the new TABS this would not happen.

The new system will also provide more consistent regulated comfort. The Board and Mr. Schiewe discussed heating throughout the building with and without the new control equipment.

Mr. Schiewe suggested thinking about the new central control contract which should start September, 1980. He discussed all the points of the 9/80 contract and suggested considering action for the coming five years insofar as alternatives are concerned. This also applies to installing the additional points. The consensus of opinion of the Board was to wait for another month and make a decision then. Mr. Schiewe urged that maintenance be called if problems occur with the heating or cooling. Rabbi Weiner, Miss Radmacher and the Directors thanked Mr. Schiewe for his thoughtful report, and he left the meeting.

CLSI

Rabbi Weiner introduced three representatives from CL Systems, Inc.; Miss Jane Burke, Mrs. Ginger Miloserny and Mr. Walter Winshall, Chairman of the Board of CLSI. Miss Radmacher reviewed their report which had been provided to her. The Board asked about the following items:

- . Maintenance free contract for the first year
- . Access to software in case of the inability of CLSI to continue.
- . Costs as related to the sophistication of the technology involved.
- . Costs of telephone lines to interconnect all the libraries within the North Suburban Library System with particular emphasis on cost effectiveness.
- . Acoustic coupling connected by telephone to the data base of the North Suburban System.
- . Library clusters.
- . Inter-Library Loan Center and independent libraries' use of the system (the latter does not use the system).
- . The Hazelton System in Lincoln Trails Library System.
- . The question of one supplier, one manufacturer and specific components.

Miss Radmacher asked about the large computer which accommodates 16 terminals and pointed out the Library could not put its card catalogue in the seven fields mentioned. She also felt patrons would not be ready to use the terminals early next year. She observed that Release 24 will be available

next year and asked for a list of the releases and what each will do.

Miss Burke pointed out that statistics about the public can be set up to the Library's choosing, i.e., age, occupation, geographical location, etc. There was considerable objection to this concept by the Board. Miss Burke explained the ramifications of the statistics and said they were flexible. Advantages and disadvantages of the system were discussed. Mrs. Miloserny asked the thoughts of the Board about the program. Rabbi Weiner replied that the Board is still considering the matter and is not ready to sign a contract at this time. The Board is interested in having the Library become computerized but needs to review and think about the subject. Mr. Winshall assured the Board he was interested in giving the Library input to assist it in its deliberations. Mrs. Hunter asked to be put on the mailing list so she would receive information about updating availability of their services. Mr. Winshall informed the Board that a demonstration of the touch terminal will be held at the American Library Association Conference on June 23. Rabbi Weiner, Miss Radmacher and all the Directors thanked the representatives for their presentation and the representatives left the meeting.

Rabbi Weiner asked the members their pleasure in considering or tabling the subject. Mrs. Hunter felt the Library circulation system is worth more for data research purposes, and added that automation will not cost more next year than now. She opted for waiting. The other members agreed. Miss Radmacher commented on a phone call from Mr. McClarren. He said the State Library is interested in getting a State-wide automated circulation system. The State has made a proposal to the Federal government for LSCA money to help subsidize this program. Miss Radmacher outlined the formula which would give 52% for the Skokie Public Library and said this is not

approved as yet but it seems that it will be. However, if the Library has signed a private contract, they will not be eligible for a percentage of the Federal grant.

Mrs. Zatz discussed the disadvantages of the 2000 category concept. The members discussed other objections. Miss Radmacher outlined her concerns brought out by the Dun & Bradstreet report on CLSI. The consensus of the Board members was that this subject should be tabled indefinitely. Mrs. Hunter recommended that the Library should talk to someone who is not vendor connected and who is an expert in the field. Rabbi Weiner returned the meeting to the regular order of business.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Motion by Mrs. Hunter, seconded by Mrs. Zatz, was unanimously adopted:

MOTION: That the financial statements for the General Operating Fund, the Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings, and the Library Construction Fund for the month of May, 1979 be accepted and that the lists of bills for the General Operating Fund in the amounts of \$29,860.43 and \$6,645.69 and the list of bills for the Library Construction Fund in the amount of \$9,567.82 and the list of bills for the North Suburban Library System (NSLS) Coordinated Acquisitions Program (CAP) in the amount of \$210.53 be approved for payment, subject to audit.

CIRCULATION REPORTS

The Circulation reports for May, 1979 were accepted and placed on file.

LIBRARY USE STATISTICS

Mrs. Hunter moved and Mrs. Zatz seconded a motion that the Library Use Statistics be accepted. It was so ordered.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Miss Radmacher pointed out that the copies provided the Directors were corrected copies. The Library has invested the entire reserve fund

at 9-7/8%. Mrs. Zatz and Dr. Wozniak seconded a motion that the reports be approved. It was so ordered.

RECEIPT OF \$18,536.73 FROM THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR PER CAPITA GRANT ON MAY 10, 1979 - noted.

COMMENTS FROM LIBRARY TRUSTEES

The proposed discontinuance of bus routes 216 and 217 was discussed. Mrs. Hunter suggested writing to the Village requesting them to increase their subsidy to RTA of the buses and asking that the Village publicize the availability of the buses. Mrs. Hunter emphasized the importance of the bus to Skokie residents.

Motion by Mrs. Hunter, seconded by Dr. Wozniak:

MOTION: That the Skokie Public Library Board of Directors send a letter to the Skokie Village Board of Trustees, with copies to the local newspapers, relating the Library's deep concern of the reports of the RTA hearings about the discontinuance of buses 216 and 217; that the Village should stimulate interest in the use of the buses and alert the public to the existence of these bus routes; and furthermore, that the Skokie Public Library recommend to the Skokie Village Board the allocation of revenue sharing funds over and above the current annual \$10,000 to subsidize these routes for a minimum of one year demonstration period.

Mrs. Zatz added the following rider:

That a copy of the letter written on June 5, 1979 by Rabbi Weiner to Mr. Hill, Chairman of the RTA Board, be included.

Rabbi weiner called the vote and it passed unanimously.

Rabbi Weiner reported that his request for revenue sharing funds would come up at a Village budget hearing.

Motion by Mrs. Zatz:

MOTION: That the Skokie Public Library undertake the printing of tribute cards to be sold to the public at \$1.00 a card with the proceeds to go to the Library Sculpture Fund.

Rabbi Weiner called for discussion of the motion. Dr. Wozniak

suggested that the card have a picture of the Skokie Public Library on it. Mrs. Zatz discussed the manner of funding of the cards. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mrs. Hunter reported on the recent meeting she attended of the Illinois Library Association. She also discussed her conversation with Jan Bergman of the Skokie Park District about the brochure Miss Bergman had prepared for the Park District, and the possibility of Miss Bergman's interest in working up a brochure for the Library.

NORTH SUBURBAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

Mr. Flintrup was absent from the Board meeting because he was attending a meeting related to the North Suburban Library System. Several items which appeared on the NSLS Legislative Notes were discussed. Miss Radmacher suggested that the Board discuss the RLAC statement of automation policy with Mr. Flintrup.

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE REPORT

Rabbi Weiner reported on the meeting. It was decided at the second meeting that the executive group should provide specific recommendations for the Festival. As a result of certain publicity relating to "Skokie image," Rabbi Weiner sent a prospectus (copy attached hereto) to the committee members. The understanding of the committee was that it would continue with the project and would try to encourage the development of a number of different programs.

SCULPTURE

Mrs. Zatz reported that the sculpture would be ready between August 15 and September 15. Mr. Elliott Balter has invited the Board to see his work as he progresses on it.

CIRCULATION STATISTICS SURVEY

The survey done by the Arlington Heights Library was distributed.

PARKING

Miss Radmacher reported that the permit parking seems to be working out very well for the Library employees. She discussed the willingness of the staff to work with the necessary time schedule. She observed that the Village is doing a good job of ticketing parking offenders, and that although the public is obviously having difficulty with the parking situation, there have not been many complaints. Rabbi Weiner commented that the parking problem will be intensified next winter.


The Board discussed the Proposed Library Parking Report. Miss Radmacher asked if the Board was ready to make any decisions on the proposals and said that the Village is waiting for recommendations on the alternate proposals. The opinion of the Board was to ask the Village for a letter stating that trucks will have to have ingress through the parking lot east of the Library, and turn around at the south end of the Library. Present and possible future problems with the truck drivers were discussed.

BOOKMOBILE

In Mr. Flintrup's absence the subject was tabled.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM BORDE, BERKE, DI LEONARDI & COLE, LTD. - noted.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Skokie Public Library Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, July 11, 1979 at 7:30 p.m.


John M. Wozniak - Secretary

PROSPECTUS ON THE SKOKIE PROGRAM

Skokie was thrust into the limelight, both nationally and internationally. The name still draws recognition and curiosity. It is, therefore, our opportunity to invest this name with a meaning which reflects the best of the dynamics of an American community of today and tomorrow. Our own village could derive from an appropriate program of heightening our self-knowledge, a sense of local pride and of communal purpose. The media have given to our name such a power of recognition that they might be willing now to pick up on their previous "success" in a follow-up of news-worthy exposition of our self-affirmation.

Americans, whether they are of "old stock", or of more recent immigrant parentage, or immigrants themselves, have one thing in common: we do not want to be of different rank as individuals and in our identity as Americans. In this post-"melting pot" era the notion is no longer accepted that there is one "authentic", "native", "Anglo-Saxon" model of Americans and that all must move towards conformity with it. The words "ethnics" and "minority" have taken on a political meaning in relation to Affirmative Action, and to political representation. They are no longer acceptable in terms of a patronizing acknowledgment of deviant cultural communities who have not yet become successfully "Americanized".

No program for Skokie must begin with any such assumption as that some heritage groups are going to be willing and happy about being singled out as exotic and picturesque. Any program for Skokie must start out with the assumption that our community represents an up-to-date model of the spectrum of heritages of

Americans; of Americans who as individuals reject any modification of their status and position in the market place, and who - at the same time - care to identify with their roots. The message of Skokie is the classical message of American pluralism translated into the current reality in which pluralism is no longer experienced primarily in terms of religious denominations, but rather in terms of heritages as value systems, as historical and geographical memories and sentimental associations, and in terms of ancestral physical traits.

The program which we may wish to create should have the purpose of encouraging neighbors to learn from each other about the great and existing variety of human possibilities for cultural and spiritual experience and self-expression. It should heighten our self-awareness as a pluralistic community. It should become an affirmation, and re-affirmation for our time, of the authenticity of the American promise of unity in diversity.