

June 7, 1973

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library, held June 7, 1973, at 6:00 p.m. in the Library.

Members present: Terry Engel, Howard Hummer, Diana Hunter, John Wozniak and Rabbi Karl Weiner, Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian.

Also present: Charles Hug, attorney; Mrs. Wendy Posavac, observer for the League of Women Voters; and Larry Saltzman, Skokie resident.

Rabbi Karl Weiner, president, presided.

Mrs. Diana Hunter, the Skokie Public Library Board's appointed representative to the North Suburban Library System Board, and an officer of the North Suburban Library System Board, requested discussion of the System's proposed budget to give her guidance when voting for items on the NSLS budget. She explained, in order to meet budget figures, it was proposed to eliminate the Coordinated Acquisitions Program and the total reimbursement for the year for the reciprocal borrowing imbalance be set at a figure of \$50,000. There was general approval for those changes but concern about the reference service. The cost of this service has become so expensive the idea is now to have an in-service education of reference people by holding training seminars. Miss Margaret Keefe, reference librarian would be retained in the capacity of traveling librarian to train reference librarians within the System. The reference service is of little benefit to Skokie, Evanston and Arlington Heights. Evanston's reimbursement for housing the inter-library loan service for the System was thought to be a little unfair.

The System has been paying 50¢ per imbalance for books to participating libraries in the reciprocal borrowing program. The cost of this has doubled every year and there will not be enough funds as it increases. It was suggested to settle on \$50,000 and at the end of the year divide the total number of books into the \$50,000 and base reimbursement on that figure.

If the System is a cooperative System of the member libraries then it would seem more equitable for the libraries to share a proportion of what the System needs

or takes in.

Miss Radmacher explained the proposed changes in the NSLS services had been discussed at an RLAC meeting, especially the increased cost for films from 50¢ to \$2.50 or \$3.00. The System operates on State funds of 50¢ per capita and \$18 per square mile. At the present there is a bill to increase the Systems' income from 50¢ to 70¢ per capital and \$18 to \$25 per square mile.

Rabbi Weiner asked what the System was going to do for Skokie Public Library, and whether the original idea had been lost. What is happening with the tax money - where does it go so that the libraries must be charged for the services that were originally financed by the State. What would the system do if the libraries would say they did not want their services? Miss Radmacher explained the Systems funding, operating expenses and building fund, and said interlibrary loan service is quicker with System handling of it and added when SAVS was inaugurated our patrons got the benefit of that, but if that service charge increases, the cost would be prohibitive, especially to nursing homes.

As to the reference service, Margaret Keefe would be retained as the consultant. Miss Radmacher said this library is getting more and more reference questions from small libraries. If Skokie Public Library is invited to house the reference service, it would be better for the System to send their personnel to do the work and pay rent for the space (heat, light, etc.).

Rabbi Weiner said there is no question that we accept the idea of a System which is set up with a certain amount of money from the State. That money goes into two channels - building and salaries. If all of these salaries are spent on services from which Skokie does not benefit at all, they are administrative or reference. This library is left in the situation where it would have to pay the exact cost for any service of benefit to it and not get any benefit from the State input. This is unfair and this library cannot afford to be the "big brother."

Mr. Hummer stated erection of a building was voted in some time ago and money has been set aside so this is irrevocable. No matter what happens this library is not budgeted to pay for services. He made the following motion:

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library Board suggest to our representative to the System that Skokie Public Library Board is opposed to anything involving any cost to the Skokie Public Library.

Mr. Engel seconded the motion. In discussion Mrs. Hunter asked for specific directives. The Board's agreement was to establish a secondary policy on Reciprocal Borrowing and save the System \$50,000, suspend CAP, keep SAVS and yet not pass on the cost per patron. Although cancellation of the reference services appeared to be recommended, Mr. Hummer withdrew any opinion on it. If necessary, remove the imbalance payment of \$50,000 on RBP and apply this toward the film program. Interlibrary loan service must be kept. Under the above instructions the voting on the motion was: Mr. Engel, yes; Mr. Hummer, yes; and Mrs. Hunter, yes.

Motion carried.

Minutes for the meetings held May 9, regular and annual, and May 17 were approved on motion by Mr. Hummer, seconded by Mr. Engel. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hunter requested that the records show her vote on the Resolution that the Library Board enter into an agreement with the Village of Skokie for the use by the Village of Skokie's Planning Department of the former Technical Processes Department of the Library for a period of one year, adopted at the special meeting May 17, be changed to abstained, making four affirmative votes and one abstention.

Motion by Mr. Hummer, seconded by Mrs. Hunter which, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That the financial statements for the General Operating Fund, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings, Library Construction Fund, and North Suburban Library System Coordinated Acquisitions Program on Literature be accepted and the lists of bills for the General Operating Fund in the amounts of \$16,147.01 and \$102.50; Library Construction Fund in the amount of \$230.30; and NSLS CAP in the amount of \$205.23 be approved for payment.

Circulation Reports for May were accepted and ordered placed on file.

A letter of appreciation from Mrs. Shirley G. Coward, President, Thomas A. Edison PTA was read. A thank-you letter from Temple Judea was read.

Copies of the audit report for the year 1971-72 were distributed to the members.

Mr. Larry Saltzman, Skokie resident, asked to speak at the Board meeting re a concert last winter in the Skokie Public Library by a Washington University choir. Confusion resulted and Mr. Saltzman was quite disappointed. Miss Radmacher explained there was an element of time involved. Rabbi Weiner expressed gratitude that Mr. Saltzman attended the meeting and suggested if his group have such plans for the coming year to make his request by letter so there are records and to allow sufficient time to make arrangements. Mr. Saltzman retired from the meeting.

Rabbi Weiner referred to the special meeting held May 17 and the resolution adopted at that meeting indicating the Skokie Public Library Board would extend use of the former Technical Services Room to the Planning Department of the Village if agreement could be reached on a contract written by this Board and mutually agreed upon with the Village. A draft of this lease was read by Mr. Hug, a copy of which is attached.

Discussion followed wherein the Board requested that water be included in the payment of utilities and that it be specifically understood certain locks must be put on by the Village at its expense to prevent people going from that room into the Library. Question asked if the Library is assured of being reimbursed for any and all expense which will be incurred because of the Village's occupancy of this area? It was recommended that bills for any expense other than utilities, go directly to the Village for payment. ~~Mrs. Hunter expressed her belief this was a bad precedent, especially~~ Corrected to: Mrs. Hunter expressed her belief that action should not be taken at this time due to the fact that the NSLS reference service is undecided and the alternative will be settled within two weeks. Miss Radmacher said one possibility for the reference service would be the Data Processing Room.

Mr. Engel made the following motion:

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library Board approve the lease with the Village of Skokie which has been drafted by the Board's attorney with the changes discussed vis-a-vis locks, water, etc. and any additional expenses which might be incurred because of the execution of this agreement and that the President and Secretary of the Board be authorized to sign said agreement.

Mr. Engel recommended the Village be informed it is expressly understood the Library is contemplating entering into an agreement with the System at which time we may

have to suspend the service in less time. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hummer and the voting was as follows: Mr. Hummer, yes; Mr. Engel, yes; Mrs. Hunter abstained. Motion carried.

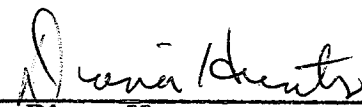
Miss Radmacher asked for discussion on how the Library Board wants to charge the Village for the space which is 67-1/2 feet long and 25-1/2 wide, and is approximately 7 o/o of the space in the existing building. The Board agreed the cost to the Village will be 8 o/o of the utilities cost and all other costs, also, they will incur the cost for preparing their section of the Library including cost of the locks and other things to be done so the space becomes self-contained.

The Village requested permission to (1) put their name on the door, and (2) carpet the area. There is some shelving which had been used to block off the periodical section and, if agreeable to this Board, the Planning Department will use it for room dividers. The Board agreed to both requests.

The Traffic Department of the Village said they will be unable to ticket parking violators unless the Village adopts an ordinance which the Library requests. They also advised they do not have any free standing signs. Mr. Harvey Schwartz said enforcement is a problem because of this being private property. Mrs. Hunter recommended drawing the no parking regulation to the attention of patrons by putting a sign on the Circulation desk stating parking is not permitted. The Board recommended Miss Radmacher contact Mr. Brady and try to effect a trade of some free standing signs in lieu of the gift of the old bookmobile to the Village.

Miss Radmacher informed the Board the bulk mailing permit is under way.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

  
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Diana Hunter      -      Secretary