

April 10, 1963

The regular meeting of the Skokie Public Library Board of Trustees was held Wednesday evening, April 10, 1963, in the Conference Room of the Library. The following members were in attendance: Conroy V. Erickson, L. O. Green, Mrs. Daniel Petty, Louis Weingart, and Miss Mary Radmacher, Librarian. Also present: Mrs. M. Sarver for the purpose of recording the minutes.

The president, Mr. Green, presided.

The minutes of the March 13, 1963 meeting, which had previously been distributed, were approved as submitted.

The financial report of the general fund was examined. Mr. Louis Weingart expressed a wish to know how much interest had been earned to date on the investment in treasury bills. Miss Radmacher advised that the total amount for the fiscal year would show on the annual financial statement for the general fund. However, on the construction fund, a compiled statement showing interest earned from September 12, 1958, through August 27, 1962, had been prepared in September, 1962, and a copy given to each member at the Board meeting that month. This report can be brought up to date at any time. Mr. Conroy V. Erickson moved, and Mrs. Daniel Petty seconded the motion that the financial report of the general fund be accepted. All ayes.

The list of bills from the general fund, in the amount of \$8,503.53, as attached, was approved for payment upon motion by Mrs. Petty and seconded by Mr. Weingart. All ayes.

The financial report of the construction fund was accepted and placed on file upon motion by Mrs. Petty and seconded by Mr. Erickson. All ayes.

At this time Mr. Green pointed out that the reflecting pool should be completed with planters and/or fountain, as originally designed, as soon as possible, since many guests are expected to visit the Library this summer. He also suggested that the landscaper might be asked for suggestions and, perhaps, complete the job on the pool. Miss Radmacher was given approval by Mr. Green and the Board to have the draperies throughout the Library cleaned.

The circulation report was approved and ordered filed.

Miss Radmacher stated she had been contacted by Mr. Marquis from the Village Hall with the request for a copy of the budget to be submitted to them within three weeks.

The president postponed action and discussion on the budget and salaries until later in the meeting.

The plans for National Library Week were presented. Mr. Green stated he had contacted Mr. Louis B. Raffel and asked him to do six news stories. His fee will be \$25.00 per story. The news items will appear in the local and Chicago papers telling of the different visits, programs and news of

National Library Week in Skokie. Miss Radmacher will work with him and give him the necessary information. Also, included with the material for this meeting, was a photocopy of an article on Peggy Anne Sullivan. Mr. Raffel will do a story on her and on Dr. Goldhor; one on the illustrators who will be speaking to the children; and something on the school visitations. Mr. Green instructed Miss Radmacher to arrange for the papers to take pictures.

Miss Radmacher acquainted the Board with the names of the illustrators who will be on the program. They are: John Hawkinson, Seymour Fleishman, Tom Dunnington, Stanford Williamson, and Jim Collins. The schedule for the classes for all the schools has been completed.

A representative from the Skokie Valley Community Hospital, scheduled to open October 7, visited Miss Radmacher a week ago asking for library service for the new hospital. The request was made for the Library to supply only the books and a book truck - no personnel will be needed. Their space will be limited to storing books. The representative stated that the hospital will be responsible for the books and their return. This 150-bed hospital will require about 500 books. The book truck will be wheeled through the corridors for the patients to make their selections. Mrs. Petty suggested that paper books be supplied for their use, and the selection rotated. Mr. Weingart recommended that an agreement in writing, which would be sufficiently binding, should be made, in the event of a change in personnel or administration.

Miss Radmacher recommended for appointment Miss Alice Johnson, an Evanston Township High School librarian, in the capacity of Coordinator of Public Services. She would be qualified to make selections for starting a good record collection. Miss Johnson will be available the first of September. Her duties and services could be varied. She could serve in a capacity of liaison between the schools and public library. Her job should include organizing discussion groups for both adults and teen-agers. She would consider only a full-time job at a salary not under \$9,500 per year. Mr. Green and the Board were favorably inclined toward the hiring of Miss Johnson.

The price of the collections made by Western Union has increased from \$.55 to \$.85 per stop, Miss Radmacher advised the Board. Her opinion was that we probably should not continue to use their service at this price, and suggested the Library might hire an employee to do the job. One recommendation was to hire an applicant who is sixty-five years old and retired. Mrs. Griffin suggested some of the older Explorer Scout Troops might be able to do the job. A person hired for this job could also be trained to check patrons at the front door.

Inspection of the newly installed light fixture will be made by the Board before giving their approval.

A copy of the personnel code was given to each member of the Board.

A copy of each of the book lists in circulation at this time was included with the agenda. The Board especially complimented the Adult Services staff on the book list "This Believing World" prepared by them.

The First Honor Award in the first Library Building Award program designed to encourage excellence in the architectural design and planning of libraries, given to the Skokie Public Library, will be presented Monday, April 15. Mr. Erickson suggested asking ALA to allow this Board to handle the local publicity and, when Miss Radmacher stated that Jerry Blaz from the Life had called April 9, recommended that all of the local newspaper men be invited to the presentation luncheon. Mr. Green concurred and requested Miss Radmacher to call and extend an invitation to all local newspaper men and Mayor Greisdorf to attend the presentation of the award at 11:30 a. m. Monday, April 15, in the Prudential Building, Chicago. Board members will plan to attend.

Miss Radmacher reminded the Board that Dr. Parker is scheduled to attend the next meeting.

Mr. Green reported on his meeting with the Tax Committee of the Skokie Homeowner's Council. Ten persons were present and they examined the budget for the Library item by item and were in agreement that the salaries are rather low and should be raised. On the problem of school children they said they would use their influence to get school libraries opened in the evening. Some discussion was held on the inadequacy of the Bookmobile for the amount of people to be served and area to be covered for library needs. The members present stated their willingness to work with the Library Board if a bond issue is planned to secure money to build and equip branch libraries. The Council recommended that nothing should be done about deleting library service to children who do not live within Skokie. In fact, they were glad these children had not been banned as this may help to get some new libraries open. The Council stated the following: (1) they were well aware that the minute you start talking branch libraries it will appear imperative to put one in every section of town; and (2) if the school libraries were open for longer hours it would take the pressure off the public library. They inquired whether the Library Board had considered making some arrangement with the school whereby school libraries could serve as branch libraries. Mr. Green told the Council it had been discussed with some school boards; it would be explored further; and the Library Board would be willing to work with any School Board on this plan. Mr. Green felt it had been a very successful meeting and he was pleased with the attitude and response of the Council.

Mr. Armond King was mentioned by Mr. Green as the real estate man to be contacted with the request that he look around for suitable sites for branch libraries.

Miss Radmacher reported that Dr. Carnovsky does not have a student at present who would be capable and have sufficient initiative to do the job required for the survey for the Library. His enrollment for the next quarter has nothing to offer, but he may have someone by fall. Miss Radmacher stated that fall is too late to start work on this.

Miss Radmacher told the Board that she had one again talked with Mr. John Denning of the Skokie Valley Industrial Association. He, too, feels a branch in both the east and west sides of the north end of Skokie is necessary.

The projected population figure for Skokie in 1970 is 91,800.

Information on the Spring Trustees-Librarians Dinner (annual) was given to each member. Miss Radmacher will plan to call each member prior to that date for their reservation.

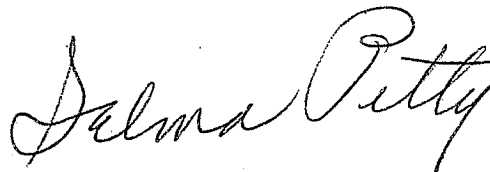
Miss Radmacher called the attention of the Board to House Bill 225 authorizing library boards to accumulate reserve funds for purchase, construction, etc. of buildings for library purposes. Mr. Green directed Miss Radmacher to have a copy of the bill sent to the Library for his examination.

The budget for 1964-1965, as submitted to the Board at the previous meeting was discussed. Mr. Weingart moved and Mrs. Petty seconded the motion that the budget, in the amount of \$359,600, for 1964-1965 be approved as submitted. All ayes.

Recommendations for increases in salaries for present personnel will be postponed until the May meeting.

Mr. Green requested that a motion for adjournment be made at 9:15 p.m. Motion was made by Mr. Weingart and seconded by Mr. Erickson. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Selma Petty". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Selma Petty, Secretary