

December 12, 1973

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held December 12, 1973, at 7:30 p. m., in the Library.

Members present: Howard V. Hummer, Diana Hunter, Richard Lindberg, Shirley Merritt, Richard Telingator, John Wozniak and Rabbi Karl Weiner, also Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian.

Also present: Robert J. Di Leonardi, Counsel for the Board, and Judy Trent, Observer for the League of Women Voters.

President Weiner called the meeting to order at 7:30 p. m.

Mr. Lindberg requested a correction in the minutes for the November 14, 1973 meeting as follows: Page 2, eighth line sentence should read, "It was agreed the Library would attempt to hold Corrigan responsible for damages, etc."; second paragraph on page 2 fourth line, delete the sentence, "The point was made that Libby Owens Ford is on the spot because of the possibility of an error in glazing." Dr. Wozniak moved the minutes of the November 14, 1973 meeting be approved as corrected, Mr. Hummer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. Hummer made the following motion which was seconded by Mr. Lindberg and, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That the financial statements for the General Operating Budget, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings, Library Construction Fund and the North Suburban Library System Coordinated Acquisitions Program on Literature be accepted and the lists of bills for the General Operating Budget in the amounts of \$181.10 and \$20,677.19; and the Library Construction Fund in the amount of \$1,987.50 be approved for payment.

Circulation Reports for the month of November, 1973 were distributed. Miss Radmacher called the Board's attention to the new format for reporting Reciprocal Borrowing statistics and the listing of imbalances. After discussion the following motion was made by Dr. Wozniak, seconded by Mr. Lindberg which, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That at the appropriate time the North Suburban Library System be billed for the sum necessary to compensate Skokie Public Library for the imbalance in the Reciprocal Borrowing Program.

Circulation Reports were ordered to be placed on file.

Miss Radmacher reported to the Board changes in personnel in regard to appointments and resignations.

Regarding the building program, Mr. Di Leonardi stated at the last Board meeting Libby Owens Ford, the contractor, architect, and National Hamilton were to be at the Library the next morning. Miss Radmacher reported they were and exchanged the four lights using attic stock to put in the new ones and have stored the bulk of the pieces in the Library mechanical room. Mr. Hammond has been pressing Mr. Matthews for his answer. They have only partial reports at this time. Glass consultations and testing are being done independently of LOF and, hopefully, there will be a report by the next Board meeting.

Also outstanding is the hardware on the toilet room doors. Manufacturer has decided there was an error in their product. They are sending a replacement to Corrigan and Corrigan is obligated to put in the replacement. There are other hardware problems, and, hopefully, by next time there will be a complete report.

As far as the sidewalks are concerned, the architects will receive an estimate of a replacement by a terrazzo company. This is Corrigan's responsibility and he has done nothing other than pour a little concrete in surface cracks but nothing to fill the hollow space underneath.

Mr. Di Leonardi recommended the Board defer any action on acceptance of the building until a decision concerning the glass has been made.

Mrs. Hunter reporting on the North Suburban Library System said a meeting had been held at the Morton Grove Library and there was an attempt to collect local library problems. The idea was to have an exchange of ideas. A later meeting held at the Niles Public Library presented a compilation of the individual items. Mr. Robert McClarren compiled a list of priorities for a hearing with the State Legislators to be held in Elgin.

Mrs. Hunter also reported Dr. Asheim had given her the name of a very capable young lady and suggested contacting her by letter outlining the study to be conducted

concerning general benefits, policies, salaries, personnel procedure, etc.

Mrs. Hunter reported the Village Green Committee held another meeting to decide on the landscape firm. This is still under consideration and no decision has been made.

Mrs. Hunter reported she had been asked by the ALTA President to serve on the ALTA Speakers Bureau but had to decline.

Rabbi Weiner stated Skokie Public Library will be represented on the Freedom to Read Committee on which he will be serving.

Mrs. Hunter announced the Skokie Public Library will receive a gift of five paintings from Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Fellin who have quite an extensive art collection. Their collection is too large for their present home and they have decided to donate five major paintings with an appraised value of \$4,000 to the Skokie Public Library with the stipulation the Library would accept all five paintings. They have requested that the Library's attorney draw up a letter stating the appraised value of the paintings. After discussion the following motion was made by Mrs. Hunter, seconded by Dr. Wozniak which, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library Board graciously accept the kind offer of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Fellin of their paintings.

A letter sent to Mr. Anderson requesting the Library's share of the Township Revenue Sharing Funds was read.

Mrs. Hunter and Mr. Lindberg addressed themselves to the issue of revenue sharing and felt attendance by library trustees at Village and Township meetings when this issue is discussed is of utmost importance. It was suggested that the Village of Skokie and Niles Township should be advised of libraries throughout the State that have received revenue sharing funds.

In the future the request for funds should state because of increase in salaries for personnel and cost of books we are faced with raising the tax levy. Other communities that have received revenue sharing should be listed. Suggestion was made that the letter be sent to the Village and if we do not receive a reply then a copy of the letter should be sent to the newspaper so the public is aware the Library made such a request. Mr. Lindberg stated the best way is to be present near the end of the meeting for the

Citizens Comments. Rabbi Weiner asked for a volunteer and Mr. Lindberg offered to make the plea. Following discussion of the cost of operation of the Library, the following motion was made by Mrs. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Hummer and, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That the Skokie Public Library make application to the Village and the Township for Revenue Sharing Funds at least equal to the amount requested in 1973, stating the percentage of increase in costs.

Reporting on the System Reference Service, Miss Radmacher notified Mr. McClarren of the change to \$5.00 per square foot charge. She expressed the need for the Skokie Public Library to draw up a contract. A copy of the System's contract with Chicago Public Library was enclosed with the papers distributed to the Board. Discussion ensued concerning the Reference Service's need for a photocopying machine, and the Board recommended Miss Radmacher work this out with the System. Miss Radmacher said the contract mentions janitorial service which Skokie Public Library never spelled out. She suggested the word "janitorial" not be mentioned in the contract, but also said it is important to decide just what the custodians will do. Rabbi Weiner said since it is one room and would be much more inconvenient if they came in with a service of their own, it should be stated "they shall keep the area clean and neat to the satisfaction of our Librarian," or may say, "such janitorial service as library deems necessary."

Statement from the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science regarding the Commission's position on Federal Funding was distributed for the Board's information.

Announcement of Legislative Hearings on public libraries' fiscal problems to be held at the Gail Borden Library in Elgin, January 15, 1974, was given to the Board. The System has asked that libraries submit names of witnesses to appear or send written testimony regarding problems to be heard. They would like trustees and people from the community who might wish to appear. Mr. Hummer said he will be glad to appear.

Miss Radmacher informed the Board of Oakton Community College's request for use of our Library for six dramatic performances in the spring which the Library would grant since these performances will be open to the public free of charge. In addition

they have asked for the use of the auditorium from January to May 15, Monday through Friday mornings. This is in conflict with our intent for the use of the Library space, and if this were done it would not be possible for us to have some programs which have been going on. They want the use six days a week for four months. Rabbi Weiner said the issue is using our facility as a classroom. Dr. Wozniak would be reluctant to approve this because Oakton College serves more than Skokie and the Board's primary function is for Skokie people. Mr. Hummer made the following motion which was seconded by Dr. Wozniak and, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: The Skokie Public Library Board not accept the request of the Oakton Community College for the use of the Library meeting rooms for a period of January 14 - May 15, 1974.

Discussion of the proposed Policies for Use of Meeting Rooms was held. The wording will be done by Mr. Di Leonardi and Miss Radmacher and presented to the Board for approval.

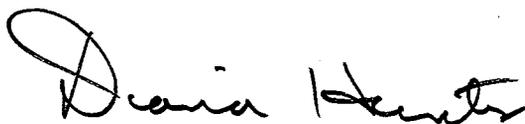
An invitation was received from the League of Women Voters to attend a meeting to be held January 30 at 7:30 p. m. in the Skokie Public Library for a presentation of a Study on Mental Health.

Miss Radmacher referred to the proposed Book Sale and the necessity to make plans. A date of the Saturday before Memorial Day, May 25, was tentatively decided upon. In case of rain it will be held two weeks later, June 8. Discussion followed with recommendations for the promotion of the festival. Mrs. Hunter said she will contact the Free Street Theatre in Chicago who may put on a performance.

National Library Week will be held April 21 - 27, 1974.

ALA Mid Winter Conference will be held at the Palmer House, January 20-26, 1974.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p. m. on motion by Mr. Hummer.


Diana Hunter - Secretary