

April 12, 1995

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Skokie Public Library held Wednesday, April 12, 1995.

At 7:35 p.m. Marlene Williams, Clerk of the Village of Skokie, swore in re-elected Library trustee Zelda R. Rich and newly elected Library trustee Marcy Goodman. Also present in the Board Room to observe the ceremony was Skokie resident Robert "Red" Leifer.

Ms. Williams and Mr. Leifer left the Board Room after the ceremony.

#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Diana Hunter, President.

Members present: Diana Hunter, President; Zelda Rich, Secretary; Marcy Goodman; John Graham; and Carolyn A. Anthony, Director.

Susan Schreck Greer arrived at 8:30 p.m.

Members absent: Eva Weiner, Vice President; and Leo Friedman.

Observer present: Barbara A. Kozlowski, Associate Director for Public Services.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 8, 1995

Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rich, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 8, 1995 as written, subject to additions and/or corrections.

There being no additions or corrections, the motion to approve the minutes as written was unanimous and the minutes were placed on file.

#### CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

##### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rich:

MOTION: THAT THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE GENERAL OPERATING FUND, RESERVE FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF SITES AND BUILDINGS, REPORT ON THE FINE ARTS ACQUISITION FUND, LIBRARY NOTE FUND AND THE YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGETARY STATUS BE ACCEPTED; AND THAT THE LIST OF BILLS FROM THE GENERAL OPERATING FUND BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT, SUBJECT TO AUDIT.

The roll call vote for approval of the financial statements and the list of bills was unanimous.

#### END OF YEAR TRANSFER OF FUNDS

The Board reviewed the Director's memorandum recommending the transfer of \$100,000. from the General Operating Fund to the Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings to cover the cost of demolition of the two houses (5219 and 5237 Oakton) and for parking lot construction.

The Director also recommended that any remaining balance in the General Operating Fund at the end of the fiscal year be transferred to the Working Cash Fund to ensure funds are available to cover regular expenses, requiring a minimum balance of \$500,000.

After discussion Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rich:

**MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR.**

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

#### ADOPTION OF COLA AND SALARY SCALE 1995-96

The Board reviewed the Director's memorandum regarding salary scale comparisons which indicate our scale is quite comparable to other larger suburban public libraries, although individual categories differ somewhat among libraries.

From the review Mrs. Anthony said she sees no need for a change in salary structure, however, the internal salary chart with delineated steps has been problematic. For example, when a staff member receives a 3% step increase with a performance review in March, a 3.5% COLA at the beginning of the fiscal year, then is promoted in June, s/he would expect an additional 3% increase. The Library budget can not allow for such generous compounding of salary increases and, in the coming years, fiscal constraints may render such adjustments even more difficult.

3.0% COLA for the Fiscal Year 1995/96 Salary Scale

FT/Supportive		Minimum	Maximum	FT/Professional		Minimum	Maximum	FT/Maintenance		Minimum	Maximum
	S1	13,012	19,682		P1	22,257	33,667		M1	20,188	30,536
	S2	14,313	21,650		P2	24,483	37,033		M2	22,207	33,589
	S3	15,745	23,815		P3	26,931	40,737		M3	28,202	42,660
	S4	17,319	26,196		P4	29,625	44,809				
	S5	19,051	28,816		P5	32,587	49,291				
	S6	20,956	31,698		P6	35,846	54,219				
	S7	23,051	34,868		P7	39,430	59,641				
	S8	25,357	38,354		P8	43,373	65,606				
PT/Supportive				PT/Professional				PT/Maintenance			
	S1/Trainee	5.14	5.63								
	S1	5.98	9.04		P1	10.28	15.56		M1	9.32	14.08
	S2	6.57	9.94		P2	11.31	17.11		M2	10.24	15.50
	S3	7.23	10.94		P3	12.45	18.82				
	S4	7.96	12.03								
	S5	8.75	13.23								
	S6	9.62	14.56								

Therefore, it is recommended we drop the detailed steps and retain an open range for each grade level, which will allow greater flexibility in salary adjustment with promotions and will also allow the Board to be responsive to the fiscal climate in specifying annual performance-based salary increases.

After discussion Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Goodman:

**MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE DROPPING THE CURRENT DETAILED CLASSIFICATION SALARY SCALE STEPS AND ADOPT THE RANGES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR. (copy attached)**

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

Performance standards are being developed in order to objectively assess relative merit, leading to differentiated performance-based salary adjustment at some point in the future.

It is the recommendation of the Director there be a 3% cost-of-living adjustment for all staff for fiscal year 1995-96 and that the performance-based increase remain at 3%.

After discussion Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rich:

**MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE A 3% COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR ALL STAFF EFFECTIVE WITH THE NEW FISCAL YEAR AND THAT THE PERFORMANCE-BASED INCREASES REMAIN AT 3%.**

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

#### BUDGET 1995-96

The proposed budget reflects a decrease in health insurance rates and the employer's cost of IMRF, which decreased from 10.49% to 9.63%.

After being funded at a constant level for many years Library Cable Network has an increase to cover some equipment purchases. The other item added is for FICA and IMRF which used to be paid by the Village of Arlington Heights, but have been passed on to the Library and hence to LCN members.

Mrs. Hunter said it is of great concern to her there are no demographics or feedback on how many people the Library channel reaches. We have no way of knowing what the benefits are from our investment in LCN.

Mrs. Anthony agreed that reliable figures on viewership are not available. However, we do get comments when there are technical problems. The programs are all shoots of in-library programs and therefore extend the audience which might be only 40 or so in the Library. Most importantly, by programming we are saving the use of our channel, real estate which may become even more valuable in providing video information.

Capital expenditures, in addition to the parking lot construction, may include a new steam boiler and purchase or lease of new monitoring equipment. Additional computers, shelving for audiovisual materials and replacement staff seating are also anticipated.

After discussion Mrs. Rich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Graham:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE 1995-96 BUDGET AS PRESENTED BY THE DIRECTOR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,420,000.  
(copy attached)

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

**LIBRARY INSURANCE MANAGEMENT AND RISK CONTROL COMBINATION  
(LIMRiCC) - 1995 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION GROUP ACCOUNT (UCGA)  
REIMBURSEMENT RATES**

The Board reviewed the memorandum from Tammi Zellinger dated March 29, 1995 listing the rates upon which 1995 payments should be made.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

CIRCULATION REPORT  
LIBRARY USE STATISTICS  
REPORT(S) FROM DEPARTMENT HEAD(S)  
CORRESPONDENCE  
PERSONNEL

Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rich:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES PLACE ON FILE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

1. CIRCULATION REPORT
2. LIBRARY USE STATISTICS
3. REPORT(S) FROM DEPARTMENT HEAD(S) (1)
4. CORRESPONDENCE - Letter from Carolyn A. Anthony to Thomas L. Thompson, Economic Development Coordinator, Village of Skokie

**SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY OPERATING FUND BUDGET FOR FY 1995-96**

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>2</b>		<b>FY 1995-96</b>
<b>3</b>	Salaries	\$2,640,000
<b>4</b>	Professional Services	\$32,500
<b>5</b>	Audit	\$1,900
<b>6</b>	Binding	\$2,000
<b>7</b>	Maintenance of Equipment	\$20,000
<b>8</b>	Maintenance of Buildings & Grounds	\$108,000
<b>9</b>	Maintenance of Auto Equipment	\$7,500
<b>10</b>	Insurance (Health, Dental & Life)	\$171,000
<b>11</b>	Insurance	\$53,500
<b>12</b>	Utilities	\$84,000
<b>13</b>	Conference, Membership, Workshops	\$46,000
<b>14</b>	Postage	\$16,000
<b>15</b>	Printing and Publicity	\$28,000
<b>16</b>	Data Processing	\$12,000
<b>17</b>	Reception & Entertainment	\$5,500
<b>18</b>	Programming	\$21,000
<b>19</b>	Photocopier Leasing	\$14,500
<b>20</b>	ILL and Access Fees	\$1,500
<b>21</b>	JCPL Operating & Capital	\$240,000
<b>22</b>	Cable	\$27,000
<b>23</b>	Books	\$467,000
<b>24</b>	Periodicals	\$90,000
<b>25</b>	Nonprint Materials	\$77,500
<b>26</b>	Microforms	\$42,500
<b>27</b>	Small Equipment	\$11,000
<b>28</b>	Library Supplies	\$48,000
<b>29</b>	Janitorial Supplies	\$18,000
<b>30</b>	Office Expense and Transportation	\$2,500
<b>31</b>	Furniture and Equipment	\$17,500
<b>32</b>	Advertisement of Vacant Position	\$2,000
<b>33</b>	Contingency	\$48,600
<b>34</b>	Employers' FICA and IMRF	\$425,000
<b>35</b>	<b>OPERATING FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,781,500</b>
<b>36</b>	Capital	\$350,000
<b>37</b>	Debt Services - Repayment	\$208,000
<b>38</b>	New Debt Services-3 yrs Repayment Plan	\$80,500
<b>39</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,420,000</b>

## 5. PERSONNEL

Appointment: Laura Hallagan, part-time Circulation Clerk, Circulation Services Department, effective March 21, 1995

Promotions: Circulation Services Department - Catherine Maassen from part-time Circulation Clerk to full-time Senior Circulation Clerk, effective April 3, 1995; Jonette Perjons from full-time Page II to full-time Operator for Main Telephone Console, effective April 3, 1995

Reclassified: Judy Rinkor, full-time Interlibrary Loan Assistant from S-5 to S-6, effective March 6, 1995

Status Change: Hope Apple, from Substitute to part-time Reference Librarian, Adult Services Department, effective April 10, 1995

The motion to approve the Consent Agenda items passed unanimously.

### DEMOLITION BIDS

We have not yet received information from the Village regarding demolition bids submitted to the Village today.

After discussion of the time table for demolition and parking lot construction Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rich:

**MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR TO ACCEPT A DEMOLITION BID NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000. AND THAT IN THE EVENT BIDS EXCEED THAT AMOUNT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD WILL BE CALLED.**

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

### BID NOTICE FOR PARKING LOT EXPANSION

Advertisements for bids for construction of the parking lot should be in the newspapers April 13, with a bid opening April 27. The project has involved Village Engineering, Traffic Engineering, the Purchasing Office and Public Works, all of whom have been helpful and professional throughout these preparations.

### HVAC CONTRACT RENEWAL

The Board reviewed the Custom Maintenance Agreement proposal from Chicago Centrifugal, Division of North Town Refrigeration Corporation, in the amount \$28,080. The Agreement is effective for one year from May 1, 1995 to May 1, 1996.

This cost represents an increase of 5% over the present year and is payable in monthly installments of \$2,340.

We have been pleased with the maintenance service that has been provided to the Library's heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment this past year and Mrs. Anthony recommends renewing the contract.

After discussion Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rich:

**MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE DIRECTOR TO RENEW THE CONTRACT OF CHICAGO CENTRIFUGAL FOR MAINTENANCE SERVICE TO THE LIBRARY'S HVAC EQUIPMENT FOR ONE YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,080.**

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

#### FREEDOM TO READ

The Freedom to Read statement was adopted by the Board of Library Trustees in February, 1990, for inclusion in the Library's Collection Development Policy. As we are in the process of revising the Collection Development Policy, we have found the Freedom to Read statement was revised January, 1991, by the ALA Council. The revisions eliminated sexist language. (Deleted words have a line through them and new words appear in bold on the copy attached.)

Mrs. Rich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Graham:

**MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES GIVE THEIR FULL SUPPORT TO THE REVISED FREEDOM TO READ STATEMENT FOR INCLUSION IN THE LIBRARY'S COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY.**

The motion passed unanimously.

Susan Schreck Greer arrived at 8:30 p.m.

#### COMPUTER / VIDEO PROJECTOR

The demonstration which was scheduled for the Board meeting has been postponed.

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Usage--Circulation in March was nearly 91,000, down 1% from March, 1994. The decrease may be attributed to a drop of more than 10% in reciprocal borrowing, a pattern since the new Evanston Public Library opened last October. Although circulation of books is down slightly



## **F. THE FREEDOM TO READ**

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove books from sale, to censor textbooks, to label "controversial" books, to distribute lists of "objectionable" books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as citizens devoted to the use of books and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating them, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

We are deeply concerned about these attempts at suppression. Most such attempts rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary citizen, by exercising his critical judgment, will accept the good and reject the bad. The censors, public and private, assume that they should determine what is good and what is bad for their fellow-citizens.

We trust Americans to recognize propaganda, and to reject it. We do not believe they need the help of censors to assist them in this task. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be "protected" against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

We are aware, of course, that books are not alone in being subjected to efforts at suppression. We are aware that these efforts are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, films, radio and television. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of uneasy change and pervading fear. Especially when so many of our apprehensions are directed against an ideology, the expression of a dissident idea becomes a thing feared in itself, and we tend to move against it as against a hostile deed, with suppression.

And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with stress.

Now as always in our history, books are among our greatest instruments of freedom. They are almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. They are the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. They are essential to the extended discussion which serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures towards conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings.

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free men people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

*We therefore affirm these propositions:*

1. It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those which are unorthodox or unpopular with the majority.

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until his that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept which challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

2. Publishers, librarians and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation contained in the books they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what books should be published or circulated.

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one man can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

3. It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to determine the acceptability of a book on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.

A book should be judged as a book. No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free men people can flourish which draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

4. There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.

To some, much of modern literature is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters taste differs, and taste cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised which will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

5. It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept with any book the prejudgment of a label characterizing the book or author as subversive or dangerous.

The idea of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for the citizen. It presupposes that each individual must be directed in making up his their minds about the ideas he they examines. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

6. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large.

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society each individual is free to determine for himself themselves what he they wishes to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive.

7. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, ~~bookmen~~ they can demonstrate that the answer to a bad book is a good one, the answer to a bad idea is a good one.

The freedom to read is of little consequence when expended on the trivial; it is frustrated when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for his that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of their freedom and integrity, and the enlargement of their service to society, requires of all ~~bookmen~~ publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all citizens the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of books. We do so because we believe that they are good, possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

*This statement was originally issued in May 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers. Adopted June 25, 1953. Revised January 28, 1972, January 16, 1991, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee.*

(underlined added 3/95)

Adopted by the Skokie Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees 2/21/90

in both Adult and Youth Services, audiovisual materials use continues to climb, accounting for 22% of Adult circulation and 17% of Youth circulation. Gate count for the month was 56,597.

One Million--We will have circulated 1,000,000 books this fiscal year by April 20. We plan a small celebration of this landmark and hope to attract some media attention for the lucky user who checks out the 1,000,000th item.

Radio Interview--Mrs. Anthony was interviewed earlier this week by Barry Keefe of WTMX 101.9 FM for his Insight program which was aired Sunday, April 9, beginning at 7 a.m. and repeated several times throughout the day. The occasion is National Library Week. He indicated a willingness to make the interview an annual event. Lydia Stux, Manager, Public Information and Programs, arranged for the interview.

Genealogy Resources Brochure Honored--The Library Public Relations Council (LPRC) has selected our publication "Genealogy: Resources at the Skokie Public Library" for its "Share the Wealth" packet of top promotional material. The brochure was compiled by Jane Hagedorn with artwork by Teri Room.

Arts Grant for Gaia Theater Residency--The Library was awarded a \$1,200. grant from the Skokie Fine Arts Commission and the Illinois Arts Council toward the National Library Week artist-in-residency program for 4th graders with Gaia Theater. In addition, Gaia Theater received a \$500. grant directly from the Fel-Pro Mecklenberger Foundation. Performances were Sunday, April 9 at 4 p.m. and Monday evening April 10 at 7 p.m. The reception Sunday underwritten by NBD Skokie Bank was a success.

Salvage Operations--After a company specializing in home demolition auctions advised that it was not worthwhile to hold an auction of goods at 5219 and 5237 Oakton, we posted a list of potentially salvageable items for staff and word-of-mouth distribution. We expect to realize a few hundred dollars from the sale of appliances and building components, including a hardwood floor.

Bookmobile--After running faithfully all winter, the Bookmobile experienced mechanical difficulty at the end of March, resulting in four days off the road. The problem was diagnosed as the fuel pump and the Bookmobile was restored to good working order.

Demographic Projection Through 2005--A demographic study and enrollment projection through 2005 prepared by the Grier Partnership for District 219 shows that there has been an upward trend in local elementary enrollment since 1982, with stronger growth since 1992. Births have also generally been on an upward trend since 1980. The greatest increase, however, is due to migration. District 219's class of 1995 grew from just over 600 pupils in first grade, twelve years ago, to nearly 1,000 pupils by 11th grade. There was a slight drop off in 12th grade due to early college admissions and drop-outs. About 30% of pupils in Niles Township elementary schools are of Asian racial origin. Of the total adult population in Niles Township, 33% are between the ages of 35-54 and of Asian adults in Niles Township, 53% are 35-54. The report notes that the age structure of Niles Township "virtually guarantees further in-migration."

According to the 1990 Census, more than one third of owner-occupied homes in that year (10,400 out of 29,300) were owned by householders over age 65. Their conclusion is that the schools will grow moderately and gradually for some time. Specific projections call for growth in District 219 from just under 4,000 pupils in 1994 to about 5,100 pupils by 2,004.

Amendment to Property Tax Code--House Bill 1898 sponsored by Representative Biggins and co-sponsored by ILA proposes to treat a city, village, incorporated town or township library and its corporate authority as separate levy under the extension limitation under the Tax Cap law. This would not be beneficial to the Skokie Public Library.

During discussion Mrs. Hunter said she is concerned that ILA would support such a bill. Presently serving on the Illinois Library Association Public Policy Committee, Mrs. Hunter will speak to them regarding their action.

Periodicals--We have experienced more than 100 claims since our present jobber was bought out by a larger corporation last summer. We are contacting publishers directly to try to obtain missing periodical issues and are also talking with other jobbers.

During discussion Mrs. Hunter asked Mrs. Anthony to talk with NSLS to see how widespread a problem this has become - if other libraries are experiencing the same difficulties.

## VESTIBULE

The Board reviewed the April 12 letter from legal counsel Heidi A. Katz with regard to resolving the vestibule floor design issues. In her letter she states that Bernard Babka indicated to her over the telephone April 11, that Hammond Beeby and Babka, Inc. is willing to pay one-third of the cost of reinstallation of the floor.

After discussion Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Greer:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPT MR. BABKA'S OFFER FOR HAMMOND BEEBY AND BABKA, INC. TO CONTRIBUTE ONE-THIRD OF THE COST OF REINSTALLATION OF THE VESTIBULE FLOORING.

During lengthy discussion Mr. Graham asked that Mrs. Anthony determine whether Mr. Babka would agree to the modifications suggested of additional hidden lock downs and edge banding. It should also be determined by legal counsel who will, in the end, bear final responsibility if the problems remain unresolved after reinstallation is completed.

Mrs. Hunter recommended asking the Botanic Gardens who put in their grated vestibule floor.

The vestibule floor will be placed on the agenda for May.

## LIBRARY CABLE NETWORK

The Board noted the Library Cable Network April 1995 TCI Cable Guide.

## NORTH SUBURBAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

Mrs. Rich reported on the meeting of the North Suburban Library System (NSLS) Board of Directors and the wide range of opinions regarding proposed reorganization of their Board.

After lengthy discussion regarding proposed changes in NSLS election procedure it was the consensus of the Skokie Public Library Board of Trustees that the System retain its present method of electing their Board at the May meeting by those representatives attending the meeting, and that there be no mailed ballots or proxy votes.

Mr. Graham made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Greer:

**MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ADVISE DR. RONALD RODGERS, PRESIDENT OF THE NSLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THAT IT IS THE POSITION OF THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE NORTH SUBURBAN LIBRARY SYSTEM TO RETAIN ITS PRESENT VOTING PRACTICES AND BOARD CONFIGURATION.**

The motion was unanimously approved.

A letter will be addressed to the NSLS Board President, with a copy going to System Director Sarah A. Long and the NSLS Board of Directors.

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES

Mrs. Weiner's report on her attendance at the Public Library Association (PLA) Conference in Chicago was noted.

Mrs. Hunter said she is discussing exhibit possibilities with Citibank and also pursuing the possibility of having the Skokie Public Library featured on a Bob Sirott "coffee" telecast on the Fox Channel (32).

Mrs. Rich left the Board Room at 9:20 p.m.

Director Anthony reminded the Board of radio personality Aaron Freeman's program Thursday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Library Petty Auditorium. He will share some of his *Adventures in Cyberspace*.

Mrs. Anthony also said that the North Shore Chapter of the Chicago Computer Society will be meeting in the Library and plans to provide us with some "volunteer" time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

  
Zelda R. Rich, Secretary