

December 14, 2005

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Skokie Public Library held in the Skokie Public Library Board Room, Wednesday, December 14, 2005.

CALL TO ORDER

John Graham, President, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Members present: John Graham, President; Diana Hunter, Vice President/President Emerita; Zelda Rich, Secretary; Eva Weiner; John M. Wozniak; Dayle Zelenka; and Carolyn A. Anthony, Director.

Member absent: Susan Greer.

Staff present: Barbara A. Kozlowski, Associate Director of Public Services.

Guests present: Members of the Gandhi Memorial Trust Foundation: Mira and Satish Chander, 8500 Trumbull, Skokie, IL; Usha and Omprakash Kamaria, 7845 North Kolmar, Skokie, IL; Pratap Sampat, 7519 Kenton, Skokie, IL; Pramod Shah, 5444 Suffield Court, Skokie, IL; Dinesh Sampat, 905 Queensburg Court, Naperville, IL.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 9, 2005

Mr. Zelenka made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hunter, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 9, 2005, subject to additions and/or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved and placed on file.

REVIEW OF CLOSED SESSIONS MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Wozniak, seconded by Mr. Zelenka:

MOTION: THAT SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF MARCH 10, 2004; JUNE 9, 2004; OCTOBER 13, 2004; JANUARY 12, 2005; MARCH 9, 2005; AND SEPTEMBER 14, 2005 REMAIN CLOSED FOR ANOTHER YEAR.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Graham asked the Board to move the regular order of business and go directly to Adoption of Gandhi Memorial Trust Resolution. The Board agreed.

ADOPTION OF GANDHI MEMORIAL TRUST RESOLUTION

Mr. Graham welcomed members of the Gandhi Memorial Trust Foundation.

Mrs. Anthony explained that this fall, the Library had an extraordinarily successful partnership with the Gandhi Memorial Trust Foundation to present five programs and an exhibit as part of the "Our World, Our Heritage, As Seen Through the Eyes of the Champions of Peace" from September 11-October 10, 2005.

The planning committee from the Gandhi Memorial Trust arranged for Rajmohan Gandhi, Grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, to speak at the Library; introduced a new roundtable community forum type of program; arranged for a multiethnic dance performance program; an AV talk on Mahatma Gandhi's life; and mounted a large exhibit on 20th Century Peace Leaders. These programs were all extraordinarily successful and had a combined attendance of 710 people (excluding exhibit which cannot be counted). These events helped us to solidify a relationship with South Asian residents and attracted many first-time visitors to the Library. Skokie Public Library also received extraordinary media coverage for these events in Chicago, suburban and metro ethnic media outlets.

While the Library has had many partnerships with other ethnic communities for individual or periodic programs, the scale of this collaborative effort is unprecedented for the Skokie Public Library. Mrs. Anthony asked the Board to adopt the Resolution she distributed to recognize the Gandhi Memorial Trust Foundation and to thank individual leaders.

Mrs. Hunter read the Resolution aloud.

A motion was made by Dr. Wozniak, seconded by Mrs. Rich:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ADOPT THE RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO THE GANDHI
MEMORIAL TRUST FOUNDATION AS PRESENTED (COPY
ATTACHED).

The motion passed unanimously.

Members of the Gandhi Memorial Trust Foundation (GMTF) thanked the Skokie Public Library Board for the Resolution. The members of the GMTF commented that they hope the Library will join hands with them and other organizations for this kind of activity in the coming years. The GMTF members also thanked Mrs. Anthony for her efforts in spreading the word about their organization and her work in coordinating the fall activities.

Resolution of the Board of Trustees of Skokie Public Library

WHEREAS, the Gandhi Memorial Trust Foundation developed a month-long celebration of World Peace and Unity in the Skokie community entitled *Our World, Our Heritage, As Seen Through the Eyes of the Champions of Peace* from September 11-October 10, 2005; and

WHEREAS, major portions of the celebration including five programs and an exhibit were held at the Skokie Public Library; and

WHEREAS, the past good works of the members of the Gandhi Memorial Trust Foundation opened the line of communication to Professor Rajmohan Gandhi and resulted in him agreeing to speak at the Skokie Public Library; and

WHEREAS, the speech by Professor Gandhi and the question and answer session coordinated by members of the Foundation proved to be one of the most exciting and well-received events the Library has ever hosted; and

WHEREAS, the art exhibit created by the Foundation inspired many visitors to the Library to reflect on peace and the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi; and

WHEREAS, the two roundtable discussions encouraged open community dialogue and the sharing of real-world applications for nonviolence as well as creative suggestions on how to bring about positive social change; and

WHEREAS, the cultural showcase featured the beauty and elegance of South Asian and Korean performers and celebrated the meaning of peace and unity through dance; and

WHEREAS, the audiovisual presentation by Dr. Sriram Sonty shared the historic and timeless legacy of Mohandas K. Gandhi; and

WHEREAS, all of these events planned by members of the Gandhi Memorial Trust Foundation enriched the lives of hundreds of residents of Skokie and the surrounding area, many of whom visited the Skokie Public Library for the first time during these events

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Skokie Public Library, formally thanks the members of the Gandhi Memorial Trust Foundation for their hard work and dedication and expresses sincere appreciation to Pratap Sampat, Omprakash Kamaria, Usha Kamaria, Dinesh Sampat, Sriram Sonty and Ashok Eashwaran for their leadership in developing the month-long celebration of World Peace and Unity.

John J. Graham
President
Board of Library Trustees
Skokie Public Library

Carolyn A. Anthony
Director
Skokie Public Library

December 14, 2005

A photo was taken of the GMTF members with the Library Board. The GMTF members left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA (Financial Statements, Circulation Report, Library Use Statistics, Report(s) from Department Heads, Gifts)

Mrs. Rich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Wozniak:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, SUBJECT TO AUDIT, AND THAT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BE PLACED ON FILE:

1. CIRCULATION REPORT
2. LIBRARY USE STATISTICS
3. REPORT(S) FROM DEPARTMENT HEAD(S)
4. GIFTS: \$20. IN MEMORY OF PHYLLIS APELIAN FROM WOMAN'S CLUB OF SKOKIE/LINCOLNWOOD FOR THE PURCHASE OF A BOOK; \$35. FROM DR. WILLIAM H. WEHRMACHER FOR TREATS FOR STAFF; \$75. FROM ANONYMOUS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A BOOK IN HONOR OF MARY RADMACHER'S 90TH BIRTHDAY; \$100. FROM SKOKIE AREA CHAPTER 3470 AARP IN APPRECIATION; \$200. FROM DAYLE ZELENKA FOR THE PURCHASE OF CHINESE LANGUAGE MATERIALS; \$250. FROM RICHARD AND JOANNE LEVY IN APPRECIATION.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Hunter commented that she is impressed with the Youth Services report.

BILLS

A motion was made by Mrs. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Zelenka:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE BILLS, SUBJECT TO AUDIT.

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

USAGE-----Circulation in November was about 134,200 for a decrease of more than 3% from November last year. Adult book circulation was down by nearly 2,000 items. Staff will watch to see if there is a trend developing. Bookmobile circulation was also down significantly as was interlibrary loan lending. Reciprocal borrowing accounted for more than 15% of circulation. The Gate Count was down by nearly 5%. It is hard to know how to account for these declines, but perhaps the mild weather in November was a factor. Database access statistics show that 395 individuals logged on in 1,297 sessions in November as compared to 339 individuals logging 1,095 sessions in November, 2004.

LOAN REPAYMENT-----The Library completed repayment to the Village of the short-term loan of \$950,000. November 29. The interest on the loan was \$4,665.20. The fall collection is coming in pretty well. The Library is only short about \$130,000. of expected revenues.

2005 LEVY-----Because the increase in the 2005 levy in the aggregate (Library and Village together) exceeded the threshold of 5%, a black-bordered ad appeared in the Skokie Review November 24, 2005. Mrs. Anthony did not receive any comment or question from the newspaper notice, nor from the hearing at the Village Board meeting December 5. Final approval of the levy is expected by the Village Board December 19.

URBAN LIBRARIES COUNCIL CONFERENCE-----The Urban Libraries Council had a conference in Chicago December 2-3 "Partners for Successful Cities: Building Vibrant Neighborhoods". Members were encouraged to send teams including library directors, trustees and mayors or county executives to the conference. The panel sessions were particularly interesting because of the opportunity to hear from the mayors' perspective what factors are significant to community building. It was clear that the mayors have the big picture of safety and economic vitality in mind. A vibrant arts, cultural and educational life contributes to economic vitality and the general well-being of the city. The library was depicted as an important part of cultural life. Many speakers referenced the importance of the library being a player, working collaboratively with other agencies and the business community for the overall success of the city. Skokie's Mayor Van Dusen was a panelist for the session on "Culture Catalysts: Keys to Successful Culture-Based Strategies". He was very complimentary of the Skokie Public Library and its role in the community, particularly with respect to serving the diverse ethnic populations. Other interesting presentations were given by the President of the Joyce Foundation, Vice President of the MacArthur Foundation, President of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and a Professor of Child Psychiatry at Harvard University. Board President John Graham and Board member Diana Hunter also attended the Saturday session.

BARNES & NOBLE BENEFIT----The Library's first benefit day at Barnes & Noble yielded \$210. for the Youth Services Department. Some staff worked hard for the event and were disappointed with the return, but may try again in the spring.

PATRIOT ACT RENEWAL----The latest word from Washington is that the House/Senate Conference Committee has come up with a newly revised version of the extension of the PATRIOT Act, sections of which were designated to sunset at the end of 2005. One improvement is a recommendation for the term of extension at four years as proposed by the Senate. The House version had proposed a review in ten years and the original Conference Committee recommendation was for a seven year renewal term. It is less clear that significant changes will be made to limit any potential abuse of the Act or to safeguard the civil rights of individuals. Illinois Senator Richard Durbin has been a leader in calling for limitations such as a requirement that a clear relationship to terrorism be shown before a court would allow access to library and other business records and also that some limits be set on the perpetual secrecy of the transactions. Voting by the full House and Senate on the matter is expected next week.

STAFF DAY----Staff Day will be held next Friday, December 16. The Library will be closed that day, as approved by the Board, so that all staff may participate. There will be a major focus on intellectual freedom for all staff as well as a visit to the Skokie Heritage Museum. Staff will be able to choose among other continuing education sessions. We will recognize longevity of staff service and enjoy the fellowship of a holiday luncheon. Board members are welcome to attend any sessions.

COMMUNITY----Mrs. Anthony attended a meeting of the Oakton Area Planning Council, a fund-raiser for the Women's Board of Rush North Shore Medical Center, the Chamber holiday party and participated in the Chamber membership drive. Mrs. Anthony will be serving as a Vice President on the Chamber Executive Committee in 2006, but without the expectation that she will serve as President the following year.

DIRECTORS & OFFICERS LIABILITY COVERAGE

Mrs. Anthony said the Library has received a quote for renewal of Directors and Officers Insurance for 2006 from Great American Insurance Company at a cost of \$5,931. While the cost is comparable to prior years, the amount of retention (like a deductible) is now \$5,000. meaning that the Library would pay the first \$5,000. of any claim.

The Board will recall that the provider the Library used previously, St. Paul Insurance Company, is no longer writing D&O coverage. Mrs. Anthony distributed a chart that compares specific details of coverage and exclusions for the Great American proposal and prior coverage with St. Paul's.

Mrs. Anthony asked Boyle, Flagg & Seaman about infringement of copyright or trademark which was specifically mentioned under Personal Injury (p.3) as covered by St. Paul's and is not mentioned by Great American. Because the Library has staff who publish articles and because the Library makes much material under copyright accessible to users, it is an area in which the Library could have some exposure. Staff at Boyle, Flagg & Seaman checked with Great American on this point which is called a silent exclusion. According to Tom English of BFS, Great American will defend but they will not pay if you lose. Mr. English recommends approval of the policy and checking with Library legal counsel.

A motion was made by Mrs. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Zelenka:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE QUOTE FROM GREAT AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY FOR DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS LIABILITY COVERAGE FOR 2006 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,931.00.

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

PROPOSED NSLS POLICY FOR RECIPROCAL BORROWING

Mrs. Anthony said the Board of the North Suburban Library System has approved a statement of Goals and Policies for the Reciprocal Borrowing Program (attached). The document refers only to intrasystem reciprocal borrowing and does not pertain to borrowing with Chicago Public Library or other Illinois library systems.

The old Basic Tenets for a Revised Reciprocal Borrowing Program (1991, 92) still referred to payment for imbalances, a practice which was discontinued years ago. A committee of several NSLS public library directors, of which Mrs. Anthony was one, developed this document of new Goals and Policies for Reciprocal Borrowing.

The NSLS Board has requested endorsement of the policy by all member public libraries. Mrs. Anthony recommends approval of the document as presented.

A motion was made by Dr. Wozniak, seconded by Mrs. Weiner:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE NORTH SUBURBAN LIBRARY SYSTEM (NSLS) RECIPROCAL BORROWING PROGRAM: GOALS AND POLICIES (11/28/05) AS PRESENTED (COPY ATTACHED).

The motion passed unanimously.

ECOMMERCE SOFTWARE

Mrs. Anthony proposes that the Library purchase Ecommerce software from Innovative Interfaces in order to be able to accept credit card payment for fines and fees. Other libraries have implemented this technology and have found that it is well-accepted by the public for library use.

Purchase of the Ecommerce software from Innovative would cost \$10,500., of which \$4,000. would be reimbursed to the Library from the Library Express grant for a net cost of \$6,500. Library Express is the service to be introduced in February that will deliver a reserved item to a user's home on request for a convenience fee of \$4.00.

While implementation of Ecommerce is not necessary for Library Express (charges could simply be put on the user's Library account), it will be an additional convenience to those who opt to use Library Express. Mrs. Anthony anticipates use also by parents who may choose to pay their kids' fines remotely and others who find it convenient to handle their Library obligations online. More people each month renew materials online than by telephone and it has become common for people to "check my library account" online.

There is also the question of whether the Library would begin to accept credit cards for transactions within the Library. There does not appear to be an urgent need to do so at this time. Staff could see how the remote use goes before deciding whether to also offer credit card use in-house.

Mrs. Anthony has talked with Elizabeth Riesche at Cole-Taylor Bank about the steps in getting a VeriSign account and establishing the banking end of credit card acceptance. She indicated that Cole Taylor uses NOVA, one of the major VeriSign providers. The Library could expect rates of ca. 2.5% for Internet transactions and just under 2% for in-house transactions. The exact amount is negotiable and varies depending on the number of transactions and the dollar volume.

At some point, the Board would need to decide as a policy matter whether such transaction fees would be passed on to the user. Mrs. Anthony recommends that initially we track the results and costs so we know more about what we are dealing with. There is

NORTH SUBURBAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

North Suburban Library System (NSLS) Reciprocal Borrowing Program: Goals and Policies (11/28/05)

The North Suburban Library System (NSLS) Reciprocal Borrowing Program permits public library cardholders in the NSLS service area to visit other NSLS public libraries and check out materials with their home library cards. As the cornerstone for resource sharing among libraries, reciprocal borrowing benefits library users by expanding the range and depth of the collections that are readily available to them. In recognition of this, participation in the **Reciprocal Borrowing Program** has long been a requirement of System membership for public libraries.

To ensure that this vital service continues to operate as smoothly and equitably as possible, the public libraries in NSLS and the NSLS Board of Directors have adopted this statement of Goals and Policies (which replaces the NSLS **Basic Tenets for a Revised Reciprocal Borrowing Program** as approved 6/24/1991 and amended 5/18/1992).

I. Program Goals

Member libraries agree that the following goals are essential components of a successful **Reciprocal Borrowing Program**. Such a program shall:

1. Increase access to library resources for member library cardholders*, resulting in greater use of and support for libraries by the public.
2. Expand the use of library resources and enhance customer service by providing cardholders the convenience of using the collections of several member libraries as they travel within or through the NSLS service area to work or for other activities.
3. Expand the availability and use of unique collections in NSLS public libraries.
4. Recognize and reinforce the responsibility that member libraries have to build collections that adequately serve the needs of their respective local cardholders.
5. Enable each member library to retain local control over its lending policies.
6. Make it possible for each member library to protect its local cardholders' access to new and developing collections and to afford libraries that are heavy net lenders in terms of reciprocal borrowing a means to rectify or reduce such imbalances.

II. Policies Governing Program Participation

Member libraries agree that the following policies reflect, and establish an optimal balance between, the program goals articulated above. These policies shall define and govern program participation:

1. Participation in the **Reciprocal Borrowing Program** shall continue to be a requirement of System membership for public libraries.
2. With the following exceptions, participants are expected to make their collections broadly available to reciprocal borrowers from other NSLS public libraries:
 - a. Limits may be placed on reciprocal borrowers' access to new and developing collections.
 - b. Net lender libraries (in terms of reciprocal borrowing with other NSLS libraries as a group) may place limits on the number of items loaned to reciprocal borrowers if the net imbalance, on average, exceeds 10% for any consecutive twelve-month period.
3. Any limits imposed on reciprocal borrowers shall be reviewed by the limiting library's Board of Trustees at least annually to determine whether the conditions justifying such restrictions still pertain and the limits imposed remain fair and reasonable.
4. Each participant shall promptly inform other participating libraries about any changes to policies and procedures that will affect the use of and access to its collections by reciprocal borrowers.
5. Reciprocal borrowers shall abide by the lending policies and regulations of the individual libraries where materials are borrowed. The cardholder is personally and financially responsible to the lending library for all such materials.

III. NSLS Responsibilities

The North Suburban Library System shall continue supporting the **NSLS Reciprocal Borrowing Program** by:

1. Providing delivery service for the return of materials to the respective lending libraries;
2. Compiling reciprocal borrowing statistics and posting them on the NSLS website; and
3. Providing for and coordinating periodic reviews of the Program and this document.

IV. Intersystem Reciprocal Borrowing

This document neither addresses nor applies to Intersystem reciprocal borrowing, the lending of materials to cardholders from libraries outside of NSLS. This service is

governed by the **Illinois Intersystem Reciprocal Borrowing Covenant**, which was approved and adopted by the NSLS Board of Directors in January, 1981.

V. Program and Document Review

The NSLS Reciprocal Borrowing Program as well as this document shall be reviewed by Program participants at least every 5 years.

* A cardholder is a resident of a library's service area possessing a current library card from that library. Individuals who have purchased non-resident cards from any NSLS public library shall be afforded reciprocal borrowing privileges at other NSLS libraries in accordance with applicable state law.

<http://www.nsls.info/rbp/RBPGuide110705.pdf>

Adopted by the Skokie Public Library
Board of Trustees, December 14, 2005

allowance in the Library Express grant for the cost of doing business so we could get reimbursement for some of the expense during the first months of use.

At this time, Mrs. Anthony is requesting Board approval of the purchase of Ecommerce software from Innovative Interfaces at the cost of \$10,500.

Discussion followed. Some members voiced concern regarding how this would be determined to be a viable service; how many patrons would need to participate monthly; and after Hurricane Katrina how could the government fund this while withholding funds from the basic needs of life?

A motion was made by Dr. Wozniak, seconded by Mr. Zelenka:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ADOPT THE PURCHASE OF ECOMMERCE SOFTWARE FROM INNOVATIVE INTERFACES AT THE COST OF \$10,500.

The roll was called: Mrs. Hunter—abstain; Mrs. Rich—abstain; Mr. Zelenka—yes; Dr. Wozniak—yes; Mrs. Weiner—yes; Mr. Graham—abstain. The motion failed. This item may be re-visited at the January meeting by any member who voted 'yes'.

SOFTWARE UPGRADE PROPOSALS TO OUR VOICE MAIL AND PHONE SYSTEMS; PLUS ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT COSTS

Mrs. Kozlowski said that the Library currently has a Northern Telecom Meridian 1 Option 11 telephone system and a Meridian Mail voice mail system, installed and serviced by Nortech Telecommunications. Staff have been satisfied with the product and service.

Meridian Voice Mail will be End of Life February 2007, and the Library's existing telephone system software (Release 24) will be End of Life October 2007.

Nortech has given us a proposal to upgrade and install:

- Voice Mail to Call Pilot for \$14,200.00
 - (Based on Nortel Marketing Program which expires 12/30/05)
- Our Telephone System Software to Succession 4.0 \$10,200.00
\$24,400.00
- Note: Next year (based on today's pricing without the marketing program) the cost to upgrade to Call Pilot will be \$31,000.00)

1. Other options for the software. Mrs. Kozlowski contacted Call One, Prime Communications, Shared Technologies, ATS Communications, 3 Points and SBC for quotes on this software. SBC and Shared Technologies were interested in submitting a proposal. Both are Elite Advantage Partners with Nortel (the highest level of requirements met, as set by Nortel). Nortech is a Premium Advantage Partner which is the next level down.

Shared Technologies quote for the system upgrade is \$22,291.00 and the quote from SBC is \$21,663.07.

2. Mrs. Kozlowski asked for a proposal from Call One for a completely new Phone System (AVAYA).
3. Mrs. Kozlowski checked on the option of VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol). She spoke with Steve Clark at North Park University at the suggestion of Mr. Zelenka. She also discussed this with Library LAN Manager Mark Kadzie. Mrs. Kozlowski also spoke to several other knowledgeable people and did some research on the subject. The consensus is that it does not offer any advantage to the Library at this time in terms of the features or functionality we need nor does it offer any cost savings.
4. What the new software will provide:
 1. Call Pilot will provide: 1) Unified messaging (for up to 20 staff). This will allow staff to access voice mail from their PC or email from their phone and 2) Administration of the system can be done from any browser-based PC. This is done now from a dedicated PC in the Mechanical Room.
 2. When upgraded the Library would be VOIP enabled though more would be necessary to actually deploy VOIP.
 3. All other features and functions of the phone and voice mail will remain the same. No need for staff to learn or do anything different. Upgrade would be done during our off hours Friday night.

Quotes received for yearly maintenance are:

- Nortech \$10,905.00
- Shared Technologies \$3,840.00 for year 1
\$4,560.00 for years 2-5
- SBC \$8,013.00

Mrs. Kozlowski recommended Shared Technologies.

Discussion followed. The Board questioned if the three proposals were identical. Mrs. Kozlowski and Mrs. Anthony said they were.

Mrs. Hunter made a motion, seconded by Dr. Wozniak:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPT THE QUOTES FROM SHARED TECHNOLOGIES FOR AN UPGRADE TO THE LIBRARY'S PHONE AND VOICE MAIL SYSTEM FOR A COST OF \$22,291.09 AND FOR A MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR YEAR 1 FOR A COST OF \$3,840.00 AND FOR YEARS 2-5 FOR A COST OF \$4,560.00 PER YEAR. AN SEB MODEM FOR \$2,200.00 WAS APPROVED IF NEEDED.

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

Mrs. Kozlowski left the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

DONATION TO JEFFERSON PARISH LIBRARIES

Mrs. Anthony said in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, there was a lot of discussion on the Directors' Listserv about how to help libraries that had been hard hit by the storm. NSLS decided to participate in ALA's "Adopt a Library" program in which pairings were made with specific libraries so that help could be directed to a particular place and focused on known needs.

NSLS was assigned the Jefferson Parish Library, a system headquartered in Metairie, just west of New Orleans. Jefferson Parish had a population of 455,456 before the hurricane. Of the fifteen public libraries in Jefferson Parish, four were totally destroyed; three lost most of their collections; two were struggling to save parts of their collections; five libraries had minor damage and one was unharmed.

NSLS public libraries have been helping in various ways. Waukegan Public Library offered an older bookmobile and transport was arranged so that the vehicle could be shipped to Louisiana to serve as a temporary library. Because the greatest need is for books, audiovisual materials and computers, monetary donations are being encouraged. Zion-Benton Public Library sent \$463.22 from a recent booksale. Friends of the Fox Lake District Library sent \$1,000. from booksale proceeds. Gail Borden Public Library has pledged a portion of their "Dinos on Parade" auction. Some libraries have put out public collection boxes. Others have had staff fundraisers such as a denim day for which staff pay \$5-\$10. to wear denim to work on a given day.

Department Heads discouraged a staff collection, feeling that staff were tapped out by individual contributions to humanitarian relief immediately after the storm, United Way and Skokie Assist-A-Family. Mrs. Anthony asked the Board to consider how the Skokie Public Library might contribute to the collection effort. In the event that the Board might be interested in donating some proceeds from used book sales, those sales in recent months have generated:

November	\$806.65
October	\$855.75
September	\$670.50

After brief discussion, Mrs. Rich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Wozniak:

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES DONATE \$2,000. FROM FALL BOOK SALE PROCEEDS TO THE JEFFERSON PARISH LIBRARIES IN THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE KATRINA.

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

INTERIM REPORT ON GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Mrs. Hunter left the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

The Board accepted the Interim Report on Goals and Objectives as presented.

REPORT FROM ART COMMITTEE RE POSSIBLE DONATION

Mrs. Rich reported that it was the consensus of the Art Committee to not accept either piece of artwork offered by Inesse Alexandrov.

Mrs. Hunter returned to the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Mrs. Anthony will write the letter to Mrs. Alexandrov and Mr. Graham will sign the letter.

"BRIGHT IDEAS: COME ON IN", FROM ALSCONNECT, THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY SERVICES TO CHILDREN, DECEMBER 2005

Dr. Wozniak would like Ms. Watkins to be commended for her article. The Board agreed.

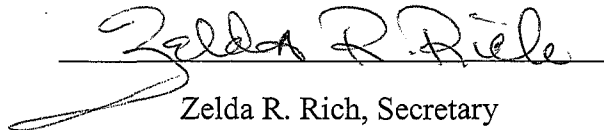
COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES

Dr. Wozniak wished all "Happy Holidays".

Mrs. Hunter reported that seniors from New Trier and Glenbrook are hiring private persons to help with college applications; something previously done by guidance counselors. Mrs. Hunter asked if college catalogs, kinds of scholarships available, etc. might be provided by the Library. Mrs. Anthony will speak with Maryann Mondrus about promoting this section more effectively.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:10 p.m. a motion was made Mrs. Rich, seconded by Dr. Wozniak to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.


Zelda R. Rich, Secretary