

March 25, 1964

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held March 25, 1964, postponed from March 11, 1964, in the Conference Room of the Library.

Members present: Conroy V. Erickson, L. O. Green, Mrs. W. C. Griffin, Mrs. Daniel Petty, Rabbi Karl Weiner, and Miss Mary Radmacher, Librarian.

Also present: Mrs. M. Sarver for the recording of the minutes.

The president, L. O. Green, presided.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting, held February 12, and the special meeting, held March 4, copies of which had been distributed to the members, were approved as read.

Financial statements for the General Fund, Reserve Fund for Sites and Buildings, and Construction Fund were reviewed. Motion by Mrs. W. C. Griffin, seconded by Rabbi Weiner.

Motion: That the financial statements for the General Fund, Reserve Fund for Sites and Buildings, and Construction Fund be accepted.

All members present voted affirmatively. Mr. Green stated that an inter-fund loan could be made in the event the General Fund was depleted before the end of the fiscal year.

List of bills to be paid was presented to the Board for approval. Motion by Mr. C. V. Erickson, seconded by Mrs. Daniel Petty.

Motion: That the list of bills, in the amount of five thousand twenty-eight dollars and nineteen cents (\$5,028.19) be approved for payment.

All present voted affirmatively.

The Circulation Report was approved and ordered to be placed on file.

Rabbi Weiner reported on a request to him, by a student, for a

discussion of an assignment given to the students by one of the teachers in the area on "What is wrong with the library." The Board questioned the wisdom of such an assignment.

The president recommended that a miscellaneous labor item, due Marion Klatch, short part-time employee, be paid by a regular voucher check with the regular monthly invoices.

Mr. Green reported that Mr. LaFayette Reid, assistant state librarian, had informed him of the legality of giving library service under the Federal Services Act funds to the Twin Oaks area. The librarian reported that Scott McDowell had given her the same information. None of the Skokie taxpayers money will be spent to supply this service.

The librarian reported National Library Week plans were nearly completed. Acceptances have been received from practically every school. The program will include students from Loyola University, under the supervision of Miss Catherine Geary, Martha King, Polly Goodwin, Charlemae Rollins and Gail Brook Burket. A lovely film "Hailstones and Halibut Bones," narrated by Celeste Holme, will be used.

The librarian reported that the Skokie Art Guild is presenting the Library with a painting. A discussion followed of adequate space for displaying these presentations, with the suggestion that, if an addition to this Library is built, a room for an art display should be included. The selection of the paintings or art pieces should be done by someone on the outside, even if it is necessary to pay for the service. The Board was in full agreement that an honorary committee on the arts should be appointed.

The president reported he had received a call a few weeks ago from Mayor Greisdorf who would like to make provision for some kind of a memorial to the late President Kennedy by having the school children contribute for a bust of him or a similar piece of statuary. Mr. Green talked with Mayor Greisdorf about this and the thought is to place the piece of statuary in the

reflecting pool of the Library, if the Board would consent to this. The Village would arrange with the sculptor and raise all the necessary money. The consensus of the Board was that this would be good and Mr. Green was instructed to advise the group that the Library would be interested in having this done.

The librarian reported on the meeting arranged by Mr. Wesley Gibbs, Superintendent of School District 68. His reason for holding the meeting was his interest in the property north of Old Orchard Junior High. His School Board would like to have the Village, Park District, or Library purchase it, either jointly or individually. Mr. Gibbs made the request that Mr. Green send a letter to Mayor Greisdorf urging the Village of Skokie to postpone a decision on zoning the property, thus giving the above mentioned group an opportunity to study acquisition of the property. Urgency of immediate action is because there will be a Village Board meeting on April 7 at which a decision must be made on the zoning of that property. The members of the Library Board agreed that Mr. Gibbs' request should be honored.

A letter received from Hammond & Roesch was reviewed. The proposal was considered reasonable and accepted on motion by Mrs. Petty and seconded by Mr. Erickson.

Motion: That a letter of acceptance and commitment be sent to Hammond & Roesch for preparation of preliminary plans for expansion of this building.

All members present voted affirmatively. The president recommended that money for this purpose be drawn from the Reserve Fund for Sites and Buildings.

The librarian asked for suggestions for applications to foundations for grants for the Skokie Public Library. Additional funds from other sources is becoming necessary due to the fact that operating expenses for this Library are exceeding the income received through tax levies, fees collected, etc. A point was mentioned that lawyers should be alerted to reminding their clients that monies can be willed to the Library. An ideal way is to establish a trust fund. The board requested the librarian to explore this possibility. Also,

Also, applications can be made for grants of Federal funds for construction.

There will be a meeting of the Schools Library Committee April 13 at the Madison School, at which the Library Board should be represented.

Mr. Green and Miss Radmacher will attend and the president urged any other Board members to attend, if at all possible.

Copies of the recommended budget for 1965-1966 were distributed to the members. In response to the president's question as to whether this budget would take the full tax levy, the librarian stated it will be necessary to have an increased tax levy in order to meet the expenses of running the Library and the Board will have to seriously consider another referendum to get the 2 milles or \$.002 figure. The budget submitted is less than the previous year because, according to the assessed valuation, the Library will collect only \$293,410 on tax levy, \$15,000 in fines and fees, and possibly \$3,000 to \$3.500 interest on investments. The president stated his preference would be to include this in the referendum for building.

Motion by Mr. Erickson and seconded by Mrs. Petty.

Motion: To support and approve the preliminary budget as set up for 1965-1966 in the amount of three hundred forty-nine thousand dollars (\$349,000).

All affirmative votes. Mr. Green instructed the librarian to advise the Village that the budget will be sent to them as approved by the Library Board.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p. m.

  
Selma Petty, Secretary