

December 11, 1974

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library, held December 11, 1974 at 7:30 p.m., in the Library.

Members present: Walter Flintrup, Diana Hunter, Richard Lindberg, Shirley Merritt, John Wozniak and Rabbi Karl Weiner, Miss Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian.

Also present: Mr. Seymour Einstein, Chairman of the Fine Arts Commission, James Hammond and Carl Hoglund of Hammond Beeby and Associates, and Robert Di Leonardi, Counsel for the Board.

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

Mr. Seymour Einstein, Chairman of the Fine Arts Commission, was introduced and was granted the time he requested to address the Board. His concern is for the necessity of having a concert piano in the Library, especially since the Commission has placed many of their sponsored programs in the Library. At those times it was necessary to rent a piano, and rental fees are expensive. The Village has been generous to the Commission the same as the Library has in enabling them to use its premises. During the past year the Commission has paid over \$1,000 for use of a piano and \$950 the previous year. He proposed to this Board to consider including in its budget rental of a piano with the option to purchase same. The Fine Arts Commission would pay rental for the use of the piano which could be applied to the financing of the piano. Mr. Einstein considered the approximate outlay for a piano to range from \$3,000 for a used piano up to \$9,000. Prices were discussed for a 6'4" Steinway Grand and Miss Radmacher reported that in October of this year a price was quoted to her of \$6,175. for a 6'3" Baldwin Grand piano, with a Library discount. The retail price was \$6,775. The company was familiar with the room and felt that size piano would be appropriate for the space. Rabbi Weiner mentioned the first class pianists might not find this size adequate. Finding money for the piano is difficult. Toward that end the Library is thinking of applying to two foundations for a grant for purchase of

the piano. However, one will not take applications until June and the other in April, but it will take until July or August to know whether the Library will get that money. Mr. Einstein asked if, in the event the foundations would not give the Library this grant, would it be feasible for the Library Board to budget for it, taking into consideration that the money would be returned over the years in rentals that would have been paid by the Commission to someone else.

Mr. Flintrup asked if the Village might not object to the Fine Arts paying rent to the Library and reduce its appropriation in that amount. He suggested getting an opinion on this from the Village and offered to write Mr. Matzer requesting an answer. Mr. Flintrup also asked if a piano the Library plans to purchase will be acceptable to someone like Jeffrey Siegel, and if not, the Library would collect no rent. Mr. Einstein said the caliber of artist would not be in the category of \$3,000 per night.

Mr. Einstein retired from the meeting.

In discussion, Mr. Flintrup reported the old Chicago Instrument Company will definitely mail an application to the Library in January. Applications are considered and awarded the middle of April. The foundation is funded through the stock in the old Chicago Musical Company and with the market being what it is, the new company's money is severely decreased, so the awards will be decreased.

Mrs. Hunter suggested this should be the Library's Bicentennial project. Letters should be sent to major local industries stating our intention to give great publicity to it and inviting them to be one of our donors. Also, an application should be made to the Village and Township for revenue sharing in the exact amount of the piano for the purpose of adding to our Library as a cultural center for the Bicentennial year. In the approach to the Village, it could be stated the Fine Arts budget could be reduced by \$1,000 for many years to come through the purchase of a piano for the Library. This letter must reach the Village before they consider budget recommendations.

The next meeting of the Board will be January 8, 1975 at 5:30 p.m. for a special meeting to discuss Dr. Ronald Miller's personnel audit.

At this time, Mr. Tom Tracey and Lee Grulke, representatives from the Honeywell Company were introduced for presentation of their program for monitoring the Library's mechanical equipment. This B O S S program provides for automatically turning on and off the air conditioning and heating when temperatures indicate the need. It is also a system to "monitor" the controls, valves, etc., for the entire heating, ventilating and air conditioning system. The sprinkler system could be included if desirable to do so. Mr. Grulke stated this system can reduce the present consumption of energy and could save 773,000 KW hours, or a yearly saving of \$5,200. Questions asked if the contract would be for maintenance as well as for monitoring.

Mr. Tom Tracey presented the mechanical program which includes maintenance, greasing, oiling, and temperature control.

It was explained that with B O S S control system, it would eliminate the need for a sophisticated man to control the systems. A copy of their presentation is attached hereto which includes net cost over a five year period.

The representatives from Honeywell retired from the meeting.

Discussion followed of whether it would be necessary to advertise for bids to purchase such a service. Mr. Di Leonardi will advise accordingly.

In Executive Session discussion took place regarding the arbitration proceedings and the glass situation (second floor windows).

Mrs. Hunter reported on her meeting with the League of Women Voters Library Committee in Lincolnwood. Mr. McClarren from the North Suburban Library System had talked with the committee previously and informed them of Project Plus programs. She expressed concern about the idea of the Skokie Public Library converting to a district

library in order to administer a Project Plus for Lincolnwood. Offering Lincolnwood library service on a contractual basis would be much better from Skokie's point of view than the conversion process. She asked Mr. Di Leonardi to investigate this contractual service. Miss Radmacher recommended using Mr. Jurgensmeyer, the North Suburban Library System attorney in conjunction with discussing this particular question with Mr. Di Leonardi.

Minutes of the November 13, 1974 meeting were approved on motion by Mrs. Hunter, seconded by Dr. Wozniak. Motion carried.

Financial statements were examined and the following motion was made by Mr. Lindberg, seconded by Dr. Wozniak which, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Motion: That the financial statements for the General Operating Fund, Reserve Fund for the Purchase of Sites and Buildings and Library Construction Fund for the month of November, 1974 be accepted and the lists of bills for the General Operating Fund in the amounts of \$33,073.51 and \$322.30, and the Library Construction Fund in the amount of \$742.50 be approved for payment.

Circulation Reports and Library Use Statistics were examined and ordered placed on file.

Mrs. Hunter said at the last System meeting in November, it was reported that since the Chicago Public Library has a new Director, the System has requested statistics be furnished to have an accounting of how many loans Chicago is making to suburbanites.

Miss Radmacher informed the Board of changes in personnel during the month.

Reporting on NSLS, Mrs. Hunter reminded the Board of the occasion when Mr. Hummer testified for this Library at the Library Development Committee's hearings in Elgin. A report has been compiled with recommendations but no position was taken on it. To solve this, there will be meetings all over the State. The meetings scheduled for this System will be held Monday, January 6, 8 p.m., at Arlington Heights, and Tuesday, January 7, 2 p.m., at Des Plaines. Hopefully

libraries will express their opinions. This is an important thing in library financing and it is important that, as a community something be done on it.

Miss Radmacher reported trying to contact Mr. Siegel, Village Clerk, to get a definite date for filing petitions for the April election, at which time five trustees will be up for election. Procedure for filing petitions was discussed.

Miss Radmacher reported on the Affirmative Action Seminar she attended which was conducted by ALA. She suggested having a special meeting on the Affirmative Action program to acquaint Board members with the total implication.

Miss Radmacher advised the Board a new minimum wage law of \$2.00 per hour has been passed and recommended that since employees now earning \$1.90 must be increased 10¢ per hour, every person be given a 10¢ per hour increase at this time which would be a very good gesture and would create a generally warm feeling. After discussion, consensus was that the Librarian should post a notice that the minimum wage law requires a minimum of \$2.00 per hour and the Library can do nothing about it but conform. Increases for the balance of staff will be taken care of in the next budget.

Meeting adjourned on motion by Dr. Wozniak at 11:10 p.m.

  
John M. Wozniak Secretary