

April 6, 2006

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Skokie Public Library held in the Skokie Public Library Board Room, Wednesday, April 6, 2006.

CALL TO ORDER

John Graham, President, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

Members present: John Graham, President; Diana Hunter, Vice President/President Emerita; Zelda Rich, Secretary (arrived at 7:38 p.m.); Susan Greer (arrived at 7:49 p.m.); Eva Weiner; John M. Wozniak; Dayle Zelenka; and Carolyn A. Anthony, Director.

Visitor present: Uri Toch, 9240 Kolmar, Skokie, IL 60076.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2006

Mr. Zelenka made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hunter, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 8, 2006, subject to additions and/or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved and placed on file.

CONSENT AGENDA (Financial Statements; Circulation Report; Library Use Statistics; Report(s) from Department Head(s); Gifts)

Mrs. Hunter 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: IN MEMORY OF ELAINE SINKER: \$100. FROM ANGELA AND JOHN GRAHAM; \$50. FROM WILLIAM AND CAROLYN ANTHONY; \$25. FROM RICHARD AND DEBRA PARKER; \$20. FROM IRENE AND ROGER TAM; \$20. FROM JANET SWIG; \$15. FROM JOHN AND DONNA SOLORZANO; IN MEMORY OF LOUIS B. SUTTON, JR.: \$25. FROM ALEXIS SARKISIAN.

The motion passed unanimously.

LIST OF BILLS

A motion was made by Dr. Wozniak, 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.

LIBRARY'S CASH POSITION

Mrs. Anthony distributed the balance sheet for the current year to date. With just one month left in the Fiscal Year, revenues are 7% short of projections for an outstanding cash balance of \$718,449. Interest revenue has improved considerably this year. The big shortfall is in the Spring Collection which is short to date over \$700,000. The Spring levy was also slow last year, at \$565,267. short of projections at this same point in the year.

Because the levy was increased and expenses contained, the Library is running in the black by nearly \$600,000. in spite of the short Spring collection. The auditors will charge the Salary line about \$100,000. for work done the last week of April which will not be paid until May. Nevertheless, there will still be a balance of \$100,000. in the Salary line. Altogether, Mrs. Anthony projects that the budget will be underexpended by about \$500,000. How much of a cash surplus is realized will depend on the balance of the Spring property tax collection.

The Library has adequate funds for payment of the bond debt and has repaid the Reserve Fund for money borrowed internally during its cash shortage.

Should there be a cash balance in the Operating Fund on April 30, Mrs. Anthony recommends that it be transferred to the Working Cash Fund to improve the Library's liquidity.

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

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACCEPT THE LIBRARY'S CASH POSITION.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Rich entered the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

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

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE DIRECTOR THAT

SHOULD THERE BE A CASH BALANCE IN THE OPERATING
FUND ON APRIL 30, 2006, THAT THE BALANCE BE
TRANSFERRED TO THE WORKING CASH FUND.

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous. Mrs. Rich abstained from voting.

WAGE AND SALARY ADJUSTMENT

Mrs. Anthony stated that several years ago, the Board adopted the practice of basing the annual wage increase for staff on the increase in the cost of labor rather than the consumer price index. Mrs. Anthony distributed a chart from the U.S. Department of Labor showing an increase in the Employment Cost Index (Wages and Salaries) for civilian workers of 2.6% in 2005. Mrs. Anthony recommends that the Board adopt a 2.6% Cost of Labor adjustment for all staff, effective May 1, 2006. The cost of this increase will be about \$123,000.

As in prior years, the pay scale will be adjusted across the Board to reflect this change. The proposed new pay scale was distributed. For reference, a beginning MLS Librarian (P3) would earn \$38,898. (compared to \$37,912. this year) and a starting Circulation Clerk (S4) would earn \$25,014. (compared to \$24,380. this year) under the proposed new scale.

Most staff have another opportunity for an adjustment in pay each year at the time of the annual performance evaluation. (Twenty-two staff members are at top of scale and are therefore not eligible for this increase in the coming year.) In the past three years, the Board has approved an increase of 2% at the time of the performance review. The Board has considered the economic times and the increasing cost of employee benefits in determining a level for this adjustment. Mrs. Anthony doesn't know yet about an increase in health insurance costs for the NSLS FY, beginning in July. Nor does she have a figure for the IMRF contribution rate for 2007. However, given that the IMRF contribution rate for employers has increased from 5.18% in 2004 to 9.04% in FY 2006, the Library is bearing a significantly increased cost for employee retirement benefits. Mrs. Anthony recommends that the increase at the time of the performance review again be 2% for Fiscal Year 2007, resulting in a total increase of 4.6% for most staff.

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

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVE A 2.6% COST OF LABOR ADJUSTMENT FOR ALL

STAFF FOR FY 2007 EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2006, AS
RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR.

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

Mr. Graham would like parity to be kept between the beginning step and the high end of each grade on the salary scale.

Mr. Zelenka would like to review a copy of the Compensation Philosophy for his information.

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

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVE A 2% INCREASE AT THE TIME OF AN EMPLOYEE'S
PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AS
RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR.

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Mrs. Anthony said that currently, the Library pays 90% of single Bronze level coverage for employee health insurance and 80% of single Silver level coverage. The Library's contribution for non-single health insurance coverage has been 65%, regardless of whether the coverage is bronze or silver level. The 65% applies to any non-single coverage, including spouse, child(ren) or family coverage. Eighteen employees currently elect some type of family coverage.

Mrs. Anthony is proposing that the Library increase its contribution for non-single coverage from 65% to 70%. Mrs. Anthony distributed a chart showing that the cost of this increased contribution by the Library would be about \$12,000. per year. As indicated on the chart, the exact amount of the cost to the Library may vary depending on the number of employees participating and the amount of the premiums as of August 1 (open enrollment date).

Some staff have inquired about the possibility of an increase in the Library's contribution rate for non-single coverage and Mrs. Anthony recommends this 5% increase as an affordable adjustment for FY 2007.

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

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVE AN INCREASE IN THE LIBRARY'S CONTRIBUTION

RATE FOR NON-SINGLE COVERAGE FROM 65% TO 70% FOR FY 2007.

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

OPERATING BUDGET

Mrs. Anthony distributed the proposed Operating Budget for the Library for FY 2007, along with an outline of budget considerations and a table of projected revenues and expenditures. Given the increase of 9% in the 2005 tax levy which will fund FY 2007, and assuming a continuation of corporate tax appeals, the Library can expect to collect 7% more in property taxes in FY 2007 than in FY 2006.

The amount allotted to the Capital line has been maximized and the intent is to end the Fiscal Year under budget again, allowing the Library to further improve its working cash position. Any shortfall in revenues will be absorbed by the Capital line.

Budget considerations for each line are as follows:

- **Salaries** – Since we will be underexpended by 4% this year, the modest increase in the salary line will allow for a cost of labor adjustment of 2.6% as well as 2% step increases for staff who are not at top of scale. Twenty-two staff will receive only the cost of labor increase.
- **Professional Services** – While we have not fully expended this line last year or this year, we will be headed into a new planning cycle in the coming Fiscal Year and may want to conduct a survey and/or use an outside consultant to facilitate planning or conduct focus groups.
- **Audit** – This is a charge levied by the Village since the Library audit is a component of the Village audit. We have not been advised of an increase in this amount.
- **Binding** – This charge is primarily for some of the foreign books which need reinforcement to withstand circulation. Very few periodicals are bound.
- **Maintenance of Equipment** – This line has decreased in recent years. Much of the computer equipment, printers and AV equipment does not pay to repair any more as it is more cost effective to simply purchase a newer model with more up-to-date technology.
- **Maintenance of Building & Grounds** – Many of these costs keep increasing. This past year, we had major expense for the in-ground sprinkling system.

- **Maintenance of Auto Equipment** – We increased the budget in the current year anticipating possible major work on the Bookmobile which has not been needed to date, but a replacement generator could be necessary in the near future. We also plan to spend \$10,000. to have the Bookmobile repainted and rewrapped.
- **Insurance (Health, Dental & Life)** – Last year, there was no increase in premiums. There continues to be a healthy balance in the NSLS account (\$1,163,485. as of 12/31/05), but we have not been advised as yet re an increase for 2006-2007. Given that any increase would occur in July, it would be in effect for 10 months of the Fiscal Year. There should be sufficient funds in the line to allow for a 5% increase in the Library contribution to dependent coverage.
- **Insurance** – Insurance increases were modest this year and we actually had a decrease in our assessment by the Illinois Risk Fund (based on positive workers' compensation experience). The budget will not be fully expended this year so we are projecting no increase in the budgeted amount for FY '07.
- **Utilities** – Energy prices have been volatile so predictions are hard here. We will be slightly overexpended in this line this year and the winter was not too cold so Mrs. Anthony is allowing for an increase in this line in FY '07.
- **Conference, Memberships, Workshops** – Last year the Library underspent in this line and this year are over due to the PLA National Conference in March. While there will not be a PLA Conference in FY '07, both the ALA Annual Conference and Midwinter are out of town and there are an increasing number of other conferences that staff take part in. There is so much change in the library field at the present time that conferences and continuing education are essential.
- **Postage** – Because the Library has been underspent in this line, Mrs. Anthony is not projecting an increase for next year although postal rates are increasing significantly. The first class rate is up .02 per item, but bulk rate is up .035 per item which will result in a \$3,000. increase for the year in mailing of the Update. A compensating factor is that we are sending more overdue notices via email.
- **Printing & Publicity** – This line was increased significantly this year in anticipation of added expense due to marketing initiatives. Some of these have not occurred as yet, but Mrs. Anthony will maintain the projected level of expense for the new Fiscal Year.
- **Data Processing** – This line covers charges from the Village for payroll processing.

- **Reception & Entertainment** – This line covers a variety of expenses from refreshments for a meeting at SPL attended by staff from other libraries to the Staff Day lunch.
- **Programming** – This line is not projected to increase for FY '07.
- **Copier Lease** – The Risograph printing machine will be paid off in June, '06 for savings of more than \$4,000. this year. The public copiers were replaced in 2005 so are under lease on a set schedule.
- **ILL and Access Fees** – This line is so small that it is not worth a break-out on the budget. Mrs. Anthony recommends deleting the line and folding the expense in with Binding.
- **Technology/Network** – The increase in this line is projected to cover new software and renewals, maintenance of the network and our library automation system, OCLC connection costs, RFID supplies, consulting for major network projects and replacement of a growing number of computers and printers.
- **Cable (LCN)** – After no increase in assessment for the Fiscal Year, the LCN Executive Committee approved an increase of .02 per capita for FY '07.
- **Books** – Mrs. Anthony is projecting a 3% increase in the Book budget, needed to keep up with the increasing cost of books and to maintain circulation levels.
- **Periodicals** – This line has decreased slightly. In general, the increasing cost of some periodicals is balanced by a shift to leasing others in electronic format.
- **Nonprint Materials** – The suggested increase in this line is 7% to accommodate growing collections and the popularity of these resources.
- **Electronic Resources** – The suggested increase in this line will allow for some new acquisitions.
- **Small Equipment** – The increase in this line will restore expense to the FY '05 level.
- **Library Supplies** – Mrs. Anthony has been tracking expense by department and containing costs this year. The increase is for replacement cases for the DVDs and CDs. The new cases will enable self check-out of these AV formats and will be easier for staff to remove in assisted check-outs.
- **Janitorial Supplies** – This line has had modest increases to cover increasing costs.

- **Office Expense and Transportation** – Mileage reimbursement has moderated after a spike for increased gasoline costs. No increase in this line is needed.
- **Furniture and Equipment** – Mrs. Anthony anticipates expense in the new year for two directory signboards and possibly an exterior sign. The Library will be ordering some additional shelving and a computer-connected microfilm reader/scanner.
- **Advertisement of Vacant Positions** – Turnover has again been very low this year. If the situation were to change, expense in this line could increase significantly.
- **Employer's FICA and IMRF** – The IMRF employer contribution rate in 2006 increased to 9.04% from the 2005 rate of 7.81%. The rate for 2007 is not yet known. The FICA rate has not changed. The increase is small because we will have a balance of 10% or more in this line in FY '06.
- **Contingency** – This line has been increased a modest amount. There are additional funds for a larger contingency, if needed in the Capital line.
- **Capital** – The allocation to this line has been maximized. Anticipated expenses from the Capital line this year include a new server for our library automation system at \$26,000-\$28,000., upgrade or replacement of a self-check to handle AV transactions at \$18,000.-\$20,000. and possibly the opportunity to finish the west parking lot. Even with these expenses and an allowance for a short levy collection, at least \$700,000. should be available from this line to carry over into the Reserve Fund for Sites and Buildings.

Mr. Zelenka thanked Mrs. Anthony for her comments for each line of the budget.

Mrs. Greer arrived at 7:49 p.m.

Mrs. Hunter asked when was the last time we examined the fee we charge for a Skokie Public Library borrower's card for a non-resident. Mrs. Anthony will investigate.

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

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ADOPT THE FY 2006-2007 BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,711,430.00. AS PROPOSED BY THE DIRECTOR (COPY ATTACHED).

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous. The motion passed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET FOR FY 2006-2007

	A	B
1	ACCOUNT NAME	BUDGET / FY 2006-2007
2	Salaries	\$ 5,000,000
3	Professional Services	\$ 50,000
4	Audit	\$ 4,200
5	Binding & ILL	\$ 2,000
6	Maintenance of Equipment	\$ 45,000
7	Maintenance of Buildings & Grounds	\$ 140,000
8	Maintenance of Auto Equipment	\$ 20,000
9	Insurance (Health, Dental & Life)	\$ 415,000
10	Insurance	\$ 110,000
11	Utilities	\$ 135,000
12	Conference, Membership, Workshop,etc	\$ 80,000
13	Postage	\$ 25,000
14	Printing and Publicity	\$ 50,000
15	Data Processing	\$ 2,800
16	Reception & Entertainment	\$ 13,000
17	Programming	\$ 44,000
18	Copier Lease	\$ 41,000
19	Technology/Network	\$ 350,000
20	Cable (LCN)	\$ 35,000
21	Books	\$ 684,000
22	Periodicals	\$ 85,000
23	Nonprint Materials	\$ 138,000
24	Electronic Resources	\$ 181,500
25	Small Equipment	\$ 14,500
26	Library Supplies	\$ 100,000
27	Janitorial Supplies	\$ 28,000
28	Office Expense and Transportation	\$ 2,400
29	Furniture and Equipment	\$ 25,000
30	Advertisement of Vacant Position	\$ 3,500
31	Employers' FICA and IMRF	\$ 785,000
32	Contingency	\$ 35,000
33	OPERATING FUND TOTAL	\$ 8,643,900
34	Capital	\$ 1,067,530
35	2001 Bond Debt Repayment	\$ 1,450,000
36	TOTAL	\$ 11,161,430

USAGE----Circulation in March was up nearly 5% over the same month last year, with big gains in Adult video circulation, Youth books and the Bookmobile. Most significant was an increase of 28% in the number of people coming into the building in March. A typical month has a gate count of about 65,000 while last month 87,776 people came through the Library gates. Use of LINKin, our resource sharing project with Arlington Heights and Gale Borden, is quite strong with 237 items loaned to patrons of those libraries and 186 items borrowed from the other libraries for Skokie patrons.

RUTH SINKER: MOVER & SHAKER----Youth Information Assistant Ruth Sinker was recognized by Library Journal as a Mover and Shaker in the category of Marketing for 2006. The special supplement featuring the award-winners has the subheading "The People Shaping the Future of Libraries". Ruth was recognized for her development of "Web Connections" an interactive tour of the Library's Web site, which she took to all the schools. As a result of her effort, the database Live Homework Help is the #1 electronic resource accessed by patrons at the Skokie Public Library. Tutor.com, the vendor of Live Homework Help was so impressed with Ruth's success that they asked her to present "Web Connections" at the ALA Annual Conference in 2005. Mrs. Anthony distributed a copy of the Library Journal article.

BAKER & TAYLOR AWARD----Cara Ransom, a local 17 year old patron, tied for first place in a contest sponsored by book jobber Baker & Taylor. Cara, who submitted a winning conclusion to a story by author Laurie Halse Anderson, received autographed copies of four of Ms. Anderson's books and her winning story will be posted for the rest of the year on Baker & Taylor's Web site and also Ms. Anderson's Web site. Maryann Mondrus had publicized the contest on SPL's teen page on the Web as well as with a flyer in the Teen Corner.

VILLAGE GRANT----The Library received a \$500. grant from the Skokie Fine Arts Commission towards its 2006 Summer Concert Series. Planning is underway for several of the popular concerts in the courtyard again this year.

NLS MEMBERSHIP BANQUET----Pat Groh, Frances Roehm and Mrs. Anthony attended the NLS Membership Banquet to see Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky honored as the "Legislator of the Year". She was nominated by SPL for her active community involvement, having an aide at the Library two evenings per month to assist people with obtaining federal services such as Medicare and Veterans' benefits and to work through problems with immigration. She has also been a strong supporter of civil liberties and library funding at the federal level.

PLA CONFERENCE----Eight staff members and Mrs. Anthony attended the 11th Annual PLA Conference in Boston this past month. Although the preconference Mrs. Anthony attended on “Staffing and Organizing for Constant Change” was too basic to be very helpful, there were many wonderful sessions and the exhibits were bigger than ever. Mrs. Anthony enjoyed presentations by playwright Anna Deavere Smith, radio journalist Linda Ellerbee and Elie Wiesel. Mrs. Anthony attended sessions on being a culturally responsive library, “what our customers are trying to tell us” and developments at Google. As a member of the PLA Board, Mrs. Anthony spent a lot of time in the exhibits, thanking exhibitors for supporting the conference and also seeing what’s new. Mrs. Anthony met with a couple of our vendors to talk about the Library’s needs and future direction. The conference was compact enough that SPL staff encountered each other repeatedly and a few of them had dinner together at Legal Seafood. The PLA Conference gets bigger each time it is held because of its success and growing reputation as an excellent source for keeping up with what is new in public library service.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK----Skokie Public Library is in the midst of celebrating National Library Week, with sponsorship by Cole Taylor Bank. The week got off to a great start Sunday with a presentation by humorist Aaron Freeman, followed by a Young Steinway Concert. There is something going on every day this week, with author appearances, the Spellbinder Magic Show, and a play.

Mrs. Hunter mentioned the upcoming survey and is interested in the gate count. She further said that perhaps staff could learn where patrons are from and why they are coming to the Library. Discussion followed re the two bookmarks distributed tonight “Learn at Skokie Public Library” and “Relax at Skokie Public Library”. Mrs. Anthony will ask Tracy Shields-O’Reilly to attend the May meeting to talk about marketing committee ideas for reaching out to Skokie’s newer immigrant community.

HVAC ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

The Library renews its annual agreement for HVAC maintenance on a schedule coinciding with its fiscal year. Last year the Library competitively bid the maintenance and North Town Mechanical Services, who has served for some years as maintenance vendor, was the low bidder. Mrs. Anthony asked North Town for a renewal maintenance proposal this year and they presented a quote representing a 3.9% increase from last year. For FY 2006, the Library paid \$49,980. or \$4,165. per month for HVAC maintenance. The new proposal is for \$51,948. or \$4,329. per month.

Note that the Andover system is not part of the maintenance agreement. North Town uses the Andover system to monitor equipment and can make changes as needed in programming. They do not and have not agreed to make repairs or modifications of the Andover system as part of their maintenance agreement. John Domenz is looking for an agent to separately maintain the Andover building management system, in coordination with North Town.

Mrs. Anthony recommends approval of the proposal from North Town Mechanical for building maintenance services in the amount of \$51,948. for Fiscal Year 2007.

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

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM NORTHTOWN MECHANICAL OF \$51,948. FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE LIBRARY'S HEATING, VENTILATING AND AIR CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT FROM MAY 1, 2006-APRIL 30, 2007.

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous. The motion passed.

INNOVATIVE INTERFACES MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

The Library selected the Innovative Interfaces software for its integrated automation system in the fall of 2000 and brought the system up in March, 2001. The first year was under warranty and the following four years were at a constant maintenance price as negotiated initially with the contract.

Mrs. Anthony distributed the proposed new maintenance agreement for May 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007 in the amount of \$41,997. This amount represents a 2.5% increase from \$39,415. for system maintenance last year. Included is a charge of \$75. per month from October, 2006 – April 2007 for Online Patron Registration, software which we added in October, 2005.

Mrs. Anthony recommends approval of the Innovative Maintenance Agreement as proposed for the period May 1, 2006-April 30, 2007 in the amount of \$41,997. for the year.

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

MOTION: THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE INNOVATIVE INTERFACES MAINTENANCE

AGREEMENT AS PROPOSED FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2006-
APRIL 30, 2007 FOR \$41,997.

Mrs. Greer asked if there was some way to renegotiate with Innovative to see if the new modules that were added could come without a maintenance fee. Mrs. Anthony explained that the Library does try to negotiate and was given consideration with the Inn-Reach shared catalog.

The roll was called: Mrs. Hunter—yes; Mrs. Rich—yes; Mrs. Greer—no; Mr. Zelenka—yes; Dr. Wozniak—yes; Mrs. Weiner—yes; Mr. Graham—yes. The motion passed.

COMPUTER PURCHASE

Mrs. Anthony distributed the price quotation for the purchase of 80 Dell computers @ \$1,089.40 for a total of \$87,152.00. LAN Manager Mark Kadzie has researched this purchase and found this price, through the Western States Consortium, to be lower than the price obtained through the State of Illinois. With either of these consortia, bidding was already done to obtain the lowest possible government/education discount so no further competitive pricing is needed.

These computers would replace most of the staff computers which are now about five years old. There is money in the Technology Budget Line for this purchase and Mrs. Anthony recommends Board approval.

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

MOTION: **THAT THE SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPROVE THE QUOTE FROM WESTERN STATES CONSORTIUM
FOR PURCHASE OF 80 DELL COMPUTERS @ \$1,089.40 FOR A
TOTAL OF \$87,152.00**

The roll call vote for approval was unanimous. The motion passed.

COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES

Mrs. Hunter said she suggested in December that the Library publicize its donation to the Jefferson Parish Libraries that were hit hard by Hurricane Katrina. She has seen mention of the Waukegan Library bookmobile donation and the Gail Borden cash donation but not Skokie's donation. She feels the Skokie Public Library really missed out on a good PR opportunity.

Mr. Zelenka reported he was appointed to a three year term on Illinois Library Association's Public Policy Committee.

Dr. Wozniak asked about landscape bids for the west side. Mr. Graham replied that two landscape designers have been interviewed and when there are firm proposals the designers will be brought to a future board meeting.

Mr. Graham asked if the Village installing wi-fi in the downtown Skokie area will have an impact on the Library. Mrs. Anthony said it will pose no problem for the Library.

The Board commented how much they enjoyed reading the "Garlic Clove".

Mrs. Anthony reported that Bob Doyle's (Director, Illinois Library Association) mother passed away on April 3.

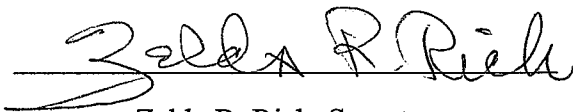
COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Mr. Toch said he appreciates Skokie Public Library posting Board meeting minutes on its Web site. He learned recently that Skokie Public Library does not have reciprocal borrowing with Chicago Public Library and commented that reciprocal borrowing with Chicago could be a good thing.

The Board thanked Mr. Toch for his comments.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:37 p.m. a motion was made by Dr. Wozniak, seconded by Mrs. Rich to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.



Zelda R. Rich, Secretary