

June 14, 1978

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Skokie Public Library held at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

Members present: Walter Flintrup, Diana Hunter, Shirley Merritt, Karl Weiner, John Wozniak and Norma Zatz, also Mary Radmacher, Chief Librarian.

A light supper was served and a gift presented to Maryruth Sarver, the Library bookkeeper and secretary for Board meetings, who resigned after sixteen years of service.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by President Weiner, with a quorum present.

The following correction on the May 10, 1978 minutes was requested: Change the word confess to profess on page seven (7) line six (6) of the motion. The minutes were approved as corrected on motion by Mr. Flintrup, seconded by Dr. Wozniak. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Flintrup, 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 the Library Construction Fund for the month of May, 1978 be accepted and the lists of bills for the General Operating Fund in the amounts of \$19,721.53 and \$8,497.62 be approved for payment.
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Circulation Reports for the month of May were examined and ordered placed on file.

The Bookmobile is back from Mobile Maintenance, is running, and will be going out to stops again. Some time this summer it might be possible to have it painted. Repairs had been made which were not satisfactory and the Bookmobile had to be returned for corrections. Mrs. Zatz suggested getting publicity out to say it is running again.

Regarding the fact that recordings circulation was down, Miss Radmacher informed the Board that about one-half of the Library's Beethoven records are missing and explained how records can be switched or put in with other albums and stolen. Security would not protect the Library from such thefts. Mrs. Hunter mentioned the psychological effect of a dummy concept.

Report on the status of the book bag sale was examined and ordered placed on file.

Library Use Statistics report was examined and the May festivities with the Kimono exhibit and the Tea Ceremony were mentioned.

Correspondence received during the month included a letter from Johnson Controls expressing that company's apologies for turning the lights out in the Library on June 1, 1978 at 10:45 a.m.; letter from Abbott Laboratories requesting the return of the paintings exhibited in this Library on loan from Abbott Laboratories; letter from the Chicago Board of Rabbis commending the Skokie Public Library for the very effective and meaningful exhibit on the Holocaust; and a letter of thanks from the Internal Revenue Service for the cooperation with the 1978 VITA program.

Changes in personnel were discussed.

When Mrs. Zatz questioned whether in her absence next month, she could vote for her choice of security system by putting an envelope in the mail, Mrs. Hunter stated she could not vote by mail, but can indicate her interest in a letter which Miss Radmacher can read.

Mrs. Hunter reported on the Illinois Library Trustees Association Board meeting and the Library Legislative Day. There was discussion about the state of the Library and Library bills not doing well.

Mrs. Hunter also attended a meeting of Cook County Municipal Governments where a speech was given about the Governor's budget.

Dr. Wozniak asked about the boards which are inserted in the pavement outside the Library. These are there because the sidewalk is broken. Miss Radmacher said last summer the Board talked about new sidewalks in those areas. Some blocks were replaced - others were not. At that time it was recognized that the heating coils at the entrance needed repair. Winter set in and no more concrete work would be done then. This spring more of the concrete cracked, buckled and broke, making the walk a hazard without the boards.

Mrs. Hunter read a news clipping about architectural awards, and suggested an exhibit might be put in the Library by the firm which won two awards, Brim-Braun Associates of Skokie. Mrs. Hunter suggested asking them if they wanted to put an exhibit in this Library.

Mr. Flintrup reported on the North Suburban Library System White House Conference which he and Rabbi Weiner attended. There were about 130 to 140 people in attendance, of which 2/3's were supposed to be non-library connected people, and the balance representing the library-connected world. From that meeting the number will narrow down to 39 to attend the meeting to be held in Springfield and the number will narrow from there for the Washington Whitehouse Conference. Keynote speaker was Professor Arthur Harkins of the Univeristy of Minnesota. Group discussions followed his presentation. Areas covered were services we would like and how to accommodate patrons. It was impressive that the non-library people were as well-informed and as interested in the Library as they were. Rabbi Weiner thought part of the theme was how to reach out to the unusual who do not have cards, and what means can be used to reach the people who are not aware of what they can get out of the Library. He made the following points: the Library is the place for cultural growth and education and it should be the center and major resource for information;

how to define all that belongs in the library and elsewhere; a recognition of the need for the Library to be aware of all other resources for information; and, expanding the skill of some of the librarians to have that awareness. There was all along an expression of the concern of Proposition 13, the financial issue. These were some of the central issues he remembered.

Mr. Flintrup was struck by the contrast of the way the people in attendance talked about service they got from their libraries and what the Skokie Public Library gives. We are head and shoulders above the rest of the System.

One of the things that struck him was the fact that so many people come to the library and even if they have a fairly good grasp of the services of the institution, are still hesitant to go to the desk and ask questions.

Mrs. Hunter mentioned tape recordings as a means of informing the public on the library. Several ideas were advanced and discussed.

Rabbi Weiner suggested a sign saying "Ask me a question" and one saying, "I will be back shortly," when desk is unattended, and signs to say, "We are here to help you."

The Board also discussed having the desks marked for the service given there.

Mrs. Merritt was in favor of the signs recommended by Mrs. Zatz - those with a Logo stating - ask me about...and location and direction signs.

Miss Radmacher said groups are encouraged to come to the Library but

this does not seem to appeal. She would like organizations to come at least once a year. She also said when patrons come to register, they are offered a tour of the Library.

Rabbi Weiner asked Miss Radmacher what happened to the name tags and was told the idea is pending.

Mr. Flintrup reported on the System Board meeting. Newly appointed library trustees were invited to attend and 90+ people attended. It was a routine meeting - resumes' have gone out for new Board members to be elected this month. A new seat has been created and there are now thirteen (13) members instead of twelve (12). Four (4) seats are open and six (6) or seven (7) new people are applying. Mr. Flintrup submitted his resume' and will run.

The condition of the floor in the Ethel Griffin room was shown to the Board - damage caused by leak in the roof. This area is under the juncture of the new and old building. The roof on the old building is in need of being replaced. Miss Radmacher reported she called Mr. James Hammond and told him the problem. Mr. Hammond suggested Mr. Stowell as he was the one who did the remedial work. Miss Radmacher consulted Mr. Stowell who recommended a roof consultant. We have his schedule of fees for recommendations and writing specifications. We do not want a roofer to write the specifications. Included here tonight is the material from Mr. McCormick, a resume' and schedule of fees. The roof is a job that should be done in the summer. The Board must make a decision. Mr. Schiewe said that in the roof of the addition there are bubbles in the roof and cracks in the flashing at the expansion joint which runs east and west across the building. You could punch a hole in the bubbles with your finger. At this time you can get only a two year

guarantee on a roof. Mrs. Hunter said since we have always had trouble with the roof, we need someone technically to come in and look at the situation and solve it. Rabbi Weiner asked for alternative suggestions, if any. There were none and this seems to be the only alternative.

Motion by Mrs. Hunter:

MOTION:	That the Skokie Public Library hire Mr. E. J. McCormick and Associates to analyze the Library roofing problem and submit a solution and specifications for repair in a workmanship manner.
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Mrs. Merritt asked if the Library would ask him to inspect the roof after the work is done. Rabbi Weiner said the contract is separate and can decide on that later, the consultation report and recommendation is what we are concerned with now. Mrs. Merritt said we should monitor and see that the work is done correctly and completely and she thinks certain facts should be clarified. There was a discussion regarding Mr. McCormick being asked to supervise the work. Rabbi Weiner appointed a committee of three (3) to be empowered to sign the final agreement. The committee is Walter Flintrup, Shirley Merritt and John Wozniak. The committee was asked to examine the problem; provide the answer; investigate how to write the specifications; and a fourth question, does this include inspection of the work in progress?

Traffic for the handicapped was listed on the agenda for discussion. Last month Mr. Flintrup called the attention of the Board to this problem. Miss Radmacher talked with Ed Chrapla of the Village Traffic Department who sent Bill Jacobson to look over our set-up. They could not come up with anything. The drive is used as a thoroughfare for drivers from Oakton to Galitz. The width of that driveway is to accommodate a fire lane. If a sign is put up we can ticket people who do not follow instructions.

Discussion followed and it was agreed that we wait until such time as the Library can use the west side of the building to provide special space for "handicapped" parking.

Mr. Flintrup spoke again to the issue of parking. Where do we fit into the Village's scheme when the new structure goes in and space is going to be reserved for our personnel? He suggests we ask the Village to consider Skokie Public Library patrons and employees. Mrs. Hunter suggested a personal meeting with the Village Board - a combined meeting will be arranged. Rabbi Weiner will invite Mayor Smith and his Board to meet with our Board, to discuss parking, traffic and the landscaping of the Village Green. The Library Board would like to provide input on all this planning.

Regarding lights for the parking area, Mr. Bud Hohs called and said the present lights on the Village Green are coming down. One has been ordered to go up at the south end of the Village Green and it should light the Library driveway.

The broken window has not been replaced yet.

Miss Radmacher distributed staff recommendations on a security system.

The Illinois Arts Council has awarded the Skokie Public Library a grant in the amount of Three thousand (\$3,000) dollars for the acquisition of "Swans" by Elliott Balter. It was the opinion of the Board a letter be sent to Mr. Balter as soon as possible from the Board. Mrs. Hunter thinks raising the balance of the money might be a project for the Skokie Spirit. Mrs. Zatz reminded the Board of Mrs. Hunter's

idea of soliciting contributions and using a barometer in the Library lobby to indicate the amount collected and stated she thought this was an excellent idea, and in conjunction with the idea of the Skokie Spirit spearheading the solicitation.

Rabbi Weiner referred to the difference between the grant and the amount of the sculpture and mentioned we might have a luncheon as in the past to tell businessmen what we have and perhaps they could add to our grant. A luncheon committee of Walter Flintrup, Diana Hunter and Norma Zatz was appointed.

The following motion was made by Mrs. Hunter, seconded by Mrs. Zatz, which, on roll call vote, carried unanimously.

MOTION:	That the Skokie Public Library accept with gratitude the Illinois Arts Council grant of Three thousand (\$3,000) dollars toward the acquisition of a sculpture entitled "Swans" by Elliott Balter.
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Miss Radmacher will take care of sending out the form requested by the Illinois Arts Council.

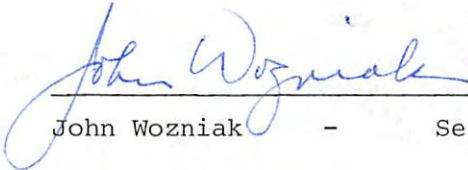
In regard to the scheduled Nazi March in Skokie June 25, Board members were polled for their opinions in response to Chief Chamberlain's request to use the Library auditorium that day. Permission was granted.

The following lists, etc., were distributed to the Board members:

"One for the Books," letter to the editor from Marta Stearns; Communique from Rev. Robert Lee Stroops; June Calendar of Events; Exhibits list; Letter to our Senior Friends in the Community; Skokie Great Books Newsletter, June, 1978; Young People and Children's Department Summer-Fun Program; fourteen (14) press releases; "Selected List of Recent Acquisitions, April, 1978" and "Selected List of Recent Acquisitions, May, 1978."

The Board was reminded of the ALA Annual Conference, to be held in Chicago, June 25 - July 1, 1978.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.



John Wozniak - Secretary