

Personnel and Public Relations Committee

Minutes

June 9, 1983

Committee met in administrative offices of Central Library and was called to order at 7:15 p.m. Present were John Mueller and Reba Jackson, Chair. Also present was Shirley Moore, ex officio, and Robert Dumas.

In its first item of business, the Committee discussed and confirmed the language governing sick leave granted on account of illness of family members.

Mr. Dumas noted the increasing difficulties that arise in staffing during vacations as more staff members become eligible for three or four week vacations. The problem is already acute in Extension where we will have to permit overtime for Mrs. Shroyer, the half-time assistant, to help cover schedule during Mrs. McGregor's and Mr. Roberts' vacations. Increasing the hours of half-time employees will also be required in other departments as the same problem occurs.

A consideration of the policy regarding the acquisition of religious periodicals was then discussed. Mr. Dumas advised that he had recently received a letter suggesting that as a matter of constitutional law the Library - if it acquired any religious periodicals - must also acquire others on the same basis. The letter cited a court order in which the Charlotte and Macklenburg County Public Library consented to acquiring the American Atheist. Without addressing the specific question of whether there is a demand locally for the American Atheist or whether otherwise it meets the standards prescribed by the book selection policy, it can generally be asserted that a considerable problem would arise if the Library were required to add every magazine that every denomination wished to have on public display. All religious magazines currently taken by the Library are subscribed for because they have been indexed in the Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature. This standard is presently implied, but Mr. Dumas recommended that the policy be amended to make the point explicit as a possible defense against being required to add religious periodicals upon demand. This proposal was agreed to and Mr. Dumas was instructed to prepare amendments to the Policy for Board consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

