BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

AGENDA

DECEMBER 20, 1984

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 SHARON ALPI, PRESIDENT
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
 - A. REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 15, 1984
- III. CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT
- IV. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:
 - A. FINANCE AND PROPERTIES

 1. Approval of Bills
 - B. PERSONNEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS
 1. Amendment to Policy Code
 - V. OLD BUSINESS
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

MEMBERS EXPECTED TO BE PRESENT:

Mrs. Alpi

Mr. Grieve

Mrs. Jackson

Mr. Marshall

Mrs. Moore

Mrs. Rossiter (tentative)

Mr. Seidman

Mr. Susler

DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting - December 20, 1984

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Decatur Public Library was held December 20, 1984 in the board room of the main library.

Members Present:

Mrs. Alpi Mr. Grieve Mrs. Jackson Mr. Marshall Mrs. Moore Mr. Seidman

Mr. Susler

Members Absent:

Mr. Mueller Mrs. Rossiter

Others Present:

Mr. Dumas
Mr. Scholtz
Miss Schwegman
Scott Simons
(Herald & Review)

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by the President, Sharon Alpi.

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 15, 1984 were approved as printed and mailed.

In his monthly report to the Board, Mr. Dumas stated circulation was down in November in all areas of the Library except Extension and Audio-Visual. A-V was saved by the continued good response to the video collection. We are working hard to turn the decrease in circulation around, Mr. Dumas informed.

Further reporting, Mr. Dumas announced, as we all know, that the new computer system has been installed, and the installation went better than we had any expectations it would. Some minor problems were encountered by the service personnel, but they feel that these for the most part have been corrected. We have already begun the program called "item purge" which will rid the record of those volumes held by libraries other than the Decatur Library. This program was expected to take 75 to 76 hours and we are well on the way of having completed it at this time. I would expect it to be completed by this Saturday, Mr. Dumas informed. After that they will proceed with another program called "title purge" which will be to eliminate the bibliographic information on those items held by other libraries from our data base. We have to be off-line for the item purge, but we can do the title purge on-line, without any great effect on the response time. We expect to be up and running and on-line probably in another week or ten days, as things have been going rather well, Mr. Dumas concluded.

Mr. Marshall asked if there had been any test to see that the program is functioning properly, and Mr. Dumas answered when the machine was first installed they ran diagnostics on it and the item purge seems to be going all right, but the real test will be when we go on line and start going through all of the circulation functions. Mr. Marshall asked about the staffing of the computer, how our staff will be involved, and what assignments have been made. Mr. Dumas replied the machine is under the general jurisdiction of the Circulation Department and Miss Anderson is responsible for it. She and two others of her staff, including the assistant department head, have been trained by Diane Ingersoll of CLSI in the operation of the machine and most of the rest of the staff have been brought in for a briefing. Continuing, Mr. Dumas stated we are not going to make any changes in the way we are doing things immediately until the staff becomes more comfortable with the operation, and then we will have those three people train other people on the staff to make them feel more secure with the machine.

Mr. Marshall stated he felt it appropriate during the transition period to be sensitive to what the feelings of the Staff are in terms of how it is going and whether or not they are getting the support they need from CLSI, because that can be intimidating for sure. Continuing, Mr. Marshall noted he felt there is some concern among Staff as to the nature of their jobs and the scope of their responsibilities, and that he felt this should be watched very closely. I also think, Mr. Marshall stated, when things settle down it would be appropriate to take another look at some of the job descriptions and classifications of circulation staff, especially of the department head, to see if changes in responsibility have occurred which warrant revision. Mr. Marshall noted that RPL had used a Millikin student periodically to run reports in the evening, and that such an option might be considered by DPL as a back-up of the circulation staff. Mr. Marshall suggested also that the arrival of the new computer be reported to the insurance person at the City. Mrs. Alpi commented she shared some of Mr. Marshall's concerns about the staffing of the new program.

As Chairman of the Finance and Properties Committee, Mr. Marshall moved the approval of library bills through November 30, 1984, Mrs. Moore seconded the motion, and after brief discussion, the motion was approved by a roll-call vote.

As Chairman of the Personnel and Public Relations Committee, Mrs. Jackson moved that the <u>Code of Library Policy</u> be modified in Article V, "Materials Selection and Collection Development" by the addition of the following subsection (f) to Paragraph D, Section 11 (page 60), to wit:

(f) Acquisition of children's audio materials presents a special problem because of the lack of review sources examining such material; therefore, such materials that are deemed useful or desirable may be acquired providing the artists have an established reputation in the area of children's recordings and providing the producer's expertise in the field is attested to by his backlist and historical performance.

Mr. Grieve seconded the motion. Mr. Susler asked if the change in policy is adequate guidance for the selection committee. Mr. Dumas answered that Mr. Scholtz and Mr. Seidl had recommended the change and that he felt it is as good as we can do. Our children's audio circulation has gone down about 50% the last year because we have been unable to keep the collection fresh. We have just been duplicating what we already have in the collection, Mr. Dumas advised, but this change in policy will give us greater selection leeway. Mr. Susler requested the "and providing the producer's expertise in the field is attested to by his backlist and historical performance." be changed to or providing... The motion as amended was approved.

Under Old Business, Mrs. Moore reported a meeting to discuss DPL's concerns on reciprocal borrowing had been held at the Rolling Prairie Library. The President of their Board and Mr. Plotzke listened to our concerns and took them back to the Committee. At the last RPL board meeting, the Chairman of this Committee talked to me and said they did appreciate our input, Mrs. Moore continued. They will finish meeting with other libraries involved, and try to come up with some ideas and recommendations. But before these are finalized by the RPL Board, Mrs. Moore stated, they will ask to meet with us again to see what our reactions will be to their recommendations, and they may revise them at that point. He assured me they will listen to what we have to say. I think they now realize what a complex problem exists, Mrs. Moore concluded.

At this point Mrs. Alpi asked the Board's representative to the "Friends", Mr. Seidman, if he had anything to report and he remarked he had "finally made it on their mailing list."

Under New Business, Mr. Marshall requested the Personnel and Public Relations Committee to review the present policy with respect to donated items to the Library to see whether or not there are possibilities or exceptions which need to be made. Mr. Marshall stated there are all sorts of potential problems on this issue and he would appreciate it if the Committee would discuss the existing policy. Along this same line, Mr. Marshall continued, an appreciative patron of the Library did contact him recently, and stated she wanted to make a small gift to the Library with which to

buy books. She did send a check to the Library, and Mr. Dumas has acknowledged it. I would like the Board to know that this does happen occasionally, Mr. Marshall concluded.

Mr. Grieve and Mr. Marshall requested the Minutes to show how much the Staff's Christmas luncheon was enjoyed by the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m. by the President.

Robert H. Dumas, City Librarian

For Secretary of the Board

STATISTICAL REPORT

November, 1984

CIRCULATION					12 Months
	Adult	Youth	<u>Juvenile</u>	<u>Total</u>	to Date
Total Books, 1984 - 1983 -	22,687 29,826	2,106 2,210	20,247 21,289	50,223 53,295	634,584 638,998
A-V Materials, 1984 - 1983 -	4,263 3,394		256 345	4,519 3,739	48,341 39,274
Total Circulation, 1984 - 1983 -	26,950 33,220	2,106 2,210	20,503 21,634	54,742 57,034	682,925 678,272

TECHNICAL PROCESSING

Cataloging		Acquisitions	
New books added	1,353	Books checked in	1,407
New titles added	456	Telephone Directories	0
Books withdrawn	1,924	Pemphlets	0
Books mended	911	Gifts	29

Materials in the State of Processing

Materials (physical items) - 515

Titles - 372

FINANCIAL REPORT

	Budgeted	YTD Expended 1982/83	YTD Expended 1983/84	Unencumbered
Personal Services	1,217,726	584,559	689,636	528,090
Operating	230,152	106,962	114,481	115,671
Capital and Books	279,816	110,071	130,176	149,640

STAFF STRENGTH

	Strength Previous Month	Terminations	New Staff	Present Strength
Professional	8	1		7
Library Assistants	8 + 5 (400 hrs)			8 + 5 (400 hrs)
Clerical	22 + 20 (1260 hrs)			22 + 20 (1288 hrs)
Maintenance	$3\frac{1}{2}$			21/2

Current Vacancies:

1 Supervisor, Technical Services; Head, Extension Department

Computer Downtime for Month: 0

STATISTICAL REPORT

December, 1984

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CIRCULATION	Adult	Youth	<u>Juvenile</u>	Total	12 Months to Date
Total Books, 1984 -	23,379 21,430	1,874 1,721	14,252 12,613	39,505 35,764	623,891 638,902
A-V Materials, 1984 - 1983 -	3,719 3,228	/	129 198	3,848 3,426	48,753 40,426
Total Circulation, 1984 - 1983 -	27,098 24,658	1,8 1, 7	14,381 12,811	43,353 39,190	672,644 679,328
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