# DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA NOVEMBER 19, 1992 4:30 P.M.

- I. Call to Order Stan Sitton, Vice-President
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Meeting of October 15, 1992
- III. Communication from the Public
  - IV. City Librarian's Report
  - V. Reports of Committees
    - A. Personnel, Policy, and Public Relations Committee
      - 1. Meeting of November 2, 1992
    - B. Finance and Properties Committee
      - 1. Approval of Bills for October 1992
      - 2. Meeting of November 3, 1992
    - C. Rolling Prairie Library System
      - 1. Report on November RPLS Board Meeting
    - D. Foundation
      - Meeting of November 9, 1992
      - 2. Meeting of November 14, 1992
    - E. Friends of the Library
      - 1. Meeting of November 12, 1992
- TI. Avenues to Excellence II
  - A. Chapter VI, Reference Service
- Old Business
  - A. Long Range Plan 1991 Review, Goal V
  - B. Union Negotiations
- WIII. New Business
  - A. Family Reading Night Proclamation
  - IX. Adjournment

# DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES October 15, 1992

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Richard Lockmiller, President. Members present: Mr. Lockmiller, Daniel Gaumer, Edmund McClure, Barbara Ohlsen, Stanley Sitton, Robert Smith, John Stengel, and Patricia Williams. Members absent: Janice Lambert. Staff present: John Moorman, Linda Humphreys, and Margaret Sommerfeldt. Others present: Owen Balding and Chuck Phillips.

#### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of September 17, 1992 were approved as mailed.

#### III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Owen Balding addressed the Board on a variety of his concerns.

#### IV- CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

The City Librarian's report was previously mailed.

Moorman introduced Cathy Ritchie, staff coordinator for the with Disabilities Act. An ADA informational center will be reference beginning November 2. Ms. Ritchie stated Library is in good condition as far as meeting ADA The Library will be required to attempt to provide to Library sponsored events if one is requested. The Library sponsored events if one is requested.

The late of the staff member be scheduled to make a late of the scheduled to make a late of th

The Christmas Day and New Year's Day. All staff will the could be two work weeks. This makes the coverage.

that the library pay for a second hour of the cost is \$.20 per hour. This will be cost is \$.20 per hour. This will be cost is and bookmarks. Mrs. Ohlsen made the motion on a trial basis from the motion was seconded by Mr.

#### V. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Personnel, Policy, and Public Relations Committee: The Committee met October 5. A Request for Information for cleaning service for the library was reviewed at length. The recommendation of the committee was not to proceed with the Request for Proposal at this time.

The proposed policy for filling staff vacancies was discussed. Mr. Phillips will present the proposal to the Civil Service Commission.

The goals for the City Librarian will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

The Committee recommended to the Finance and Properties Committee that Sunday hours be budgeted for and implemented for the school year beginning in September 1993 if feasible.

The Committee also discussed reorganization. The rationale for the change will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Williams made a motion to adjourn to closed executive session to discuss labor negotiations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stengel and unanimously carried on roll call vote. The Board went closed session at 5:20 p.m. The meeting was re-convened at

There was a question about paying the security guards on the contact the lawyer and check there is also a question about why the electric high. Mr. Moorman has been in contact with an Illinois but does not yet have an answer. Mr. Sitton made approve the bills as presented. The motion was Gaumer and unanimously carried on roll call vote.

The Committee met October 6, 1992.

The Board Council about Sunday hours at the study

The late approval of purchasing a new library for their low bid of \$13,965. Mr.

The late and unanimously carried on roll

Because of the way the current because of the way the current was will continue to receive linear made a motion to adjourn this issue as it relates to secondary by Mr. Sitton and

unanimously carried on roll call vote. The Board went into closed session at 6:25 p.m. The meeting was re-convened at 6:35 p.m. Mr. Sitton made a motion to have the City Librarian pursue the thoughts on health insurance that were discussed in closed session. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClure and unanimously carried.

Rolling Prairie: Mr. Moorman reported that Rolling Prairie Library System and Corn Belt Library System are considering a merger. Decatur Public Library received first choice of the videocassettes from Rolling Prairie's collection.

Foundation: The Foundation met October 12, 1992. The minutes of that meeting were distributed. The Foundation plans to add another Director to their Board.

Friends of the Library: The Friends did not meet this month.

#### WI- AVENUES TO EXCELLENCE II

This was tabled for one month.

#### WII OLD BUSINESS

The cong of CLSI lease/purchase agreement: Mr. McClure made a manual to pass a resolution approving First National Bank of low bid of 5.25%. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ohlsen manually carried on roll call vote.

Tenant from engineer on bookmobiles: Copies of the report were

the library was again tabled.

Including thanked the staff that helped with the open house in conjunction with the Trustee workshop. About 50 trustees libraries attended the open house.

#### BUSINESS

Intermediate that he and SCORE officials have been with the Small Business Association for federal funding of Information Center as a regional center. Mr. The met with officials in Washington, D.C. about this

#### ADJOURNMENT

Immiller adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Williams, Secretary Decatur Public Library Board of Trustees

#### City Librarian's Report

For the November 19, 1992 Meeting

of the

Decatur Public Library Board of Trustees

As I write this report new signs, provided by the Friends of the Library are being installed throughout the library, an order is being processed for the first terminals for our on-line catalog, and we are beginning new procedures for shelving returned books. All of these events represent change, and are but a few of the many changes that have been seen, and will be seen, in upcoming months. Change, however, in and of itself, does not solve problems nor make service better, or more efficient. My hope is that as we continue to look at our operations, our procedures, and our services, we keep our user community and their needs foremost in minds as we plan for the future. For our purpose is to provide individual based library service to the Decatur community.

Work continues on the on-line catalog. The Budget and Incloy survey of catalog use is progressing according to make and an initial report should be available in December. Teach and her staff are working with furniture and equipment to prepare a plan for on-line catalog workstations and a metwork in the order and catalog departments. Trips are arranged to Iowa City, Iowa, Oak Lawn, Naperville, and Illinois to observe how other libraries have adapted make catalog environment.

Totals, Fine Arts Films Series Planning Committee, Mayor's Task Force For Downtown, and

cleaning schedule is being tried. This schedule places the name staff member on duty at all times the library is open through Fridays. After the first of the year this will be re-evaluated and permanent staff hiring decisions intenance department continues on its building painting the spark arrestor atop the building was sandblasted and and the Johnson Control Congressor system was set up so the hooked up to another compressor in case of breakdown.

Margaret Sommerfeldt resigned from her position as administrative clerk on November 9, 1992. For the next several months a manpower employee will be used in the administrative office as I evaluate this position prior to making a permanent hiring decision.

As of November 9, 1992 51.92% of the budget year had been completed and 50.4% of the budget has been either expended or encumbered. Nancy Williams is working closely with library staff to see that all materials funds are encumbered within the budget time frame. She has spent many frustrating hours this past month working with Baker and Taylor and city computer staff trying to get our B&T Link order system fully operational. As of this report Baker and Taylor staff are working on the system's software seeking to correct problems.

Use statistics are down over the same period of a year ago. There were 5.1% fewer visits made to the main library than in October of 1991. This figure translated into a circulation decrease at the main library of 5.41% and a total circulation decrease of 6.31%. Bookmobile 548 saw a circulation decrease of 23.79%. However, changing school use patterns may have contributed to some of this usage decrease. Yet this month also saw a 54% increase in user assists by the adult service and reference departments and circulation increases in the adult paperback areas there new book racks and genre labeling were installed.

On October 29, 1992 a Rolling Prairie Library System Reference was held in the auditorium. Approximately 70 librarians in attendance. Six DPL staff attended and others assisted in the workshop. There were positive comments from all

There was a labor negotiation session on Thursday October 29,

I wish to thank the staff for their participation in the Contributions by DPL staff increased by Last year's participation.

If computers are receiving heavy use and being given to upgrading the disk operating system receiving of the collection is proceeding according the abult services area now has a personal computer and other data bases may be searched. The being given to the being given to upgrading the abult and other data bases may be searched. The being given the being given the being given to the being given to upgrading the being given to upgrading the disk operating system to upgrading the up

The same are highlights from Decetur Public Library for the

#### STATISTICAL REPORT October 1992

Volumes purchased this 12 months to date: 13,424 Volumes purchased last 12 months to date: 16,231

#### TECHNICAL SERVICES

New book volumes added	1,085
New book titles added	540
AV titles added	29
Books withdrawn	1,081
Books mended	919
Gift books	271

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

	Budgeted	YTD Expended 1992/93	YTD Expended 1991/92	Unexpended
Personal Services	1,606,970	748,223	789,814	858,747
Operating	453,268	173,041	178,864	280,227
Capital & books	284,537	158,448	164,374	126,089

#### STAFF STRENGTH

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1/2 time T.S. Clerk I; Audiovisual Librarian; Building Custodian,



| BO would + 135 juvenile = 822 total

#### DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY CIRCULATION STATISTICS October 1992

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#### Personnel, Policy, and Public Relations Committee November 2, 1992

Patricia Williams called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Members present: Mrs. Williams, Dan Gaumer, Barb Ohlsen, Stan Sitton, and Dick Lockmiller. Members absent: Janice Lambert. Staff present: John Moorman and Linda Humphreys.

Labor negotiations: Jack Taylor will meet with the Finance Committee tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. All Board members are encouraged to attend.

Goals for City Librarian: Mr. Moorman's list of goals was discussed. A copy of the goals as modified is attached.

Reorganization: There was a general discussion of Mr. Moorman's initial presentation. As the labor negotiations progress further, reorganization plans will occur.

1 request was received from Margaret Sommerfeldt to change from full-time to half-time. Mr. Moorman reported that Mrs. Sommerfeldt has since submitted her resignation effective November 9.

There was no further business. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Moorman, City Librarian

#### John A. Moorman

#### City Librarian

#### On-Going Responsibilities

- 1. Facilitate communication between library board, administration and staff.
  - a. Hold meetings with area heads at least once a month.
  - b. Hold meetings with all staff at least once every two months.
  - c. Work to provide a positive work environment for all employees.
- 2. Work with the Friends of the Decatur Public Library. Provide assistance and support to the organization and give input as to library financial and program needs that Friends might support.
- Fork with the Decatur Public Library Foundation. Assist the Foundation in developing long-range plan and a fundraising program. Provide input as to library fundation and program needs that the Foundation might support.
- a professional working relationship with City contains and staff which is beneficial to the operation to the Library.
- Consely with community groups such as Rotary, Chamber Connect, and the Downtown Decatur Council to inform and promote library services and activities.
- The and mational level.

John A. Moorman

#### City Librarian

#### Goals For The Period

#### November 1, 1992 - October 31, 1993

- 1. Complete and obtain Library Board of Trustees approval for staff reorganization plan by March 19, 1993. Have implementation plan for staff reorganization approved by Library Board of Trustees by July 16, 1993.
- Eave on-line catalog available for public use by June 1, 1993. Have staff training program on CL-CAT in place within one month after installation of CL-CAT software. Have terminals ordered for on-line use by February 1, 1993.
- 3 Sunday hour main library service on September 12,
- 1. 1993 develop a Request for Proposal for a consultation that will result in a renovation library facility. If funding is consultation completed by January 1,
- Board of Trustees by April 1, the recommendations found in the Decatur Public Library, by Trustees by April 1, by Trustees by

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### BPI - BRECKENRIDGE TRUST	RE	REPORT OF EXPENDIT	VOITURES TO BUDGET	FY 1991-92 FUND	92 PUBLIC	LIBRARY-TRUSTS	10/31/52
	ANNUAL BUDGET E	ANNUAL MONTHLY BUDGET EXPENDITURES	YEAR-TO-DATE EXPENDITURES	Y-T-D BUDGET	UNEXPENDED BALANCE	ENCUMBERANC	UNENCUMBERED PRCAT BALANCE CC#M
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900 EXPENDITURES	1,500	46.09	363.99	750	1,136.01	00.	-1
mar mar	1,500	46.09	363.99	750	1,136.01	00.	1,136.01 24.3
WW DIVISION TOTAL **	1,500	46.09	363.99	750	1,136.01	00.	1,136.01 24.3

## Finance and Properties Committee November 3, 1992

Stan Sitton called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Members present: Mr. Sitton, Ed McClure, Barb Ohlsen, Bob Smith, John Stengel, and Dick Lockmiller. Other Board members present: Patricia Williams and Dan Gaumer. Members absent: Janice Lambert. Staff present: John Moorman and Linda Humphreys. Others present: Jack Taylor and Chuck Phillips.

Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn to closed executive session to discuss labor negotiations. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ohlsen and unanimously carried on roll call vote. The Board went into closed session at 4:32 p.m. The meeting was re-convened at 5:35 p.m.

Levy request: Mr. Moorman's latest draft was reviewed. At the current millage rate of .4174 plus a 2.5% projected increase in the equalized assessed valuation, the library would receive \$2,096,391. The library will request \$2,087,512 from the City Council, which should not result in a millage increase. The consensus was to recommend the latest draft to the Board for approval.

There was no further business. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Moorman, City Librarian

The Mooman

#### FUND: 20 DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

#### REVENUE

Object Code	Description	1992-93 Budget	1993-94 Estimate
30001000	<u>Fund Balance</u> Beginning Fund Balance	166,232	174,817
30100107	Taxes Property Tax - Library	1,955,000	2,087,512
30200104 30200107	1	116,000 76,330	123,000 79,690
30500509 30500510 30500511 30500514 30500515	Fines and Fees Library Fines & Fees Library Non-Resident Fees Library Lost & Damaged Books Verifax Reserves	55,000 2,000 4,000 1,800 5,000	62,000 2,000 4,500 1,500 8,000
30600702	Transfers Transfer From General Fund	0	0
3417/14/101	Investment Income Investment Interest	19,000	21,500
BUBUUROS BUBUURSS	Other Income Contributions & Donations Misc. Income	4,000 1,200	4,000 1,356
	Fund Total	2,405,562	2,569,875

FUND: 20 DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY (continued)

#### EXPENDITURES

Object Code	Description	1992-93 Budget	1993-94 Estimate
090 101 102 104 111 112 114 115	Personal Services Regular Salaries Overtime Temporary Salaries Retirement - IMRF Group Life Insurance Hosp. & Medical Insurance Worker's Compensation Service Recognition Total	1,211,209 0 18,568 242,694 1,134 87,900 18,282 2,583 1,582,370	1,262,078 0 10,000 253,398 1,134 106,348 19,113 2,768 1,654,839
201 202 211 211 212 213 231 232 233 234 238 241 241 245 247 271 271 271 271	Contractual Services Advertising Printing and Binding Serv. to Maint. Buildings Serv. to Maint. Improvements Serv. to Maint. Auto Equip. Serv. to Maint. Office Equip. Electricity Gas Telephone Water Auditing Services Training School Expense Conf. & Other Travel Expense Postage Computer Software Expense Temporary Personnel Services Tuition Reimbursement Travel Expense for Interviews Other Prof. Services Professional Membership Fees Bental (Data Processing) Bental (Equipment) Total	1,000 16,000 13,000 200 5,000 12,500 75,000 12,500 21,000 1,500 3,500 1,500 16,500 900 33,240 1,500 3,000 44,500 2,300 35,000 23,000 33,640	500 16,000 10,000 200 2,500 12,500 82,000 15,519 21,000 1,250 1,500 2,500 3,000 13,000 2,000 0 2,500 57,500 2,600 35,000 23,000 304,569
	Commodities Gasoline Jamitorial Supplies Materials to Maint. Blogs. Materials to Maint. Equipment Materials to Maint. Auto Equi Utilice Supplies Total	3,200 4,000 14,000	2,200 2,000 18,000 0 6,000 26,000 400 54,600

FUND: 20 DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY (continued)

#### EXPENDITURES

Object Code	Description	1992-93 Budget	1993-94 Estimate
400 415 418 420 421 423 499	Other Charges Contingencies Transfer to General Fund Motor Vehicle Insurance Boiler Insurance Property Insurance General Liability Insurance Small Capital Items Total	10,000 30,000 3,497 403 14,291 5,092 1,500 64,783	10,000 30,000 3,600 450 15,000 5,500 1,500 66,050
515 520	Capital Outlay Office Machinery & Equip. Other Machinery & Equip. Total	7,450 0 7,450	0 0 0
ECI	Library Inventory Books and Periodicals	275,087	315,000
	Fund Total	2,311,905	\$2,395,058

## DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION November 9, 1992

The Library Foundation Board of Directors met Monday, November 9, 1992 at 4:30 p.m. in the Library Board Room. Members present: Dick Lockmiller, Sharon Alpi, Martin Seidman, Mark Sorensen, and Bob Smith. Others present: William Gerstner and Linda Humphreys.

The minutes of the meeting of October 12, 1992 were approved as mailed.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Smith reported a checking account balance of \$1,217, a passbook savings account of \$6,492, and two Certificates of Deposit totalling \$19,321. One Certificate matures on December 18, 1992 and one on February 3, 1993.

There was discussion of the philosophy of long and short-term investments. Mr. Sorensen noted that the original purpose of the Foundation was to fund one-time expenditures and guarantee the financial future of the library, not to supplement the library operating budget.

Lipi made a motion to increase the number of directors on the Touristion Board from five to six. The motion was seconded by Mr. and unanimously approved. Mrs. Alpi made a motion to William Gerstner to the Foundation Board of Directors. The mass seconded by Mr. Seidman and unanimously approved.

Training session on fundraising and other issues will be starday, November 14 from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Food will be

It was decided that an invitation will be printed as letter. The invitation will include a card to RSVP.

It will draft the letter, noting that it is a special before the one for the general public.

moted that two signatures are required for the checks on checking account. Previous checks were written with signature. Mr. Gerstner made a motion to approve all mitten to date. The motion was seconded and approved, with abstaining.

Association rejecting a request to make the Decatur Public Dusiness Information Center a regional Business Information funded by the SBA. The letter appeared to be a form letter acknowledge that the Decatur Center is already in place meeds operating funds. It was decided to write another the SBA after the change in administration has taken

There was no further business. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

N. Richard Lockmiller President

# M. REFERENCE BENYOR

070

Procession of notering the same sampling periods as the "Librarians Perception of Reference Fill Rate." (Every 3 years.)		Helenne Transactions Per Capita Once a year Libration shall determine the average number of reference questions asked by each member of the community during the year. The definitions and procedures outlined in the ALA/PLA Output Measures for Public Libraries (1987) should be followed when calculating this measure.	50th 75th 90th	REFERENCE SERVICE BIBLIOGRAPHY	zen Information Needs. New York, NY: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 1983.	NY: Haworth Press, 1983.	$ m _{Y}$ Littleton, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1983.	FOR FURTHER READING	Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1986.	Headhel, Honemarie. Improving Telephone Information and Reference Service in Public Libraries. Hamden, CONN: Library Professional Publications, 1987.
Lighter Mail (6)6 mins Wis Guing We same sampling periods as the "Librarians	Minimum 60 %	Reference Transactions Per Capita Once a year Libraries shall determine the average number of reference questions ask and procedures outlined in the ALA/PLA Output Measures for Public Libraries (1987)		REFERENCE SERVICE BIBI	Difficiency Joan C. Amod for Action: Library Response to Citizen Information Needs. New York, NY: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 1983.	national Bervice for Children and Young Adults. New York, NY: Haworth Press, 1983.	Blevens, Holland Dwall. Reference Work in the Public Library. Littleton, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1983.	FOR FURTHER REAL	Heference and Information Services: A Reader for Today. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1986.	Rechel, Renemarie. Improving Telephone Information and Reference Service in Publi

#### DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY LONG RANGE PLAN, 1989-1994

- V. GOAL: To increase patron access to the world of information through automation.
  - A. Objective: Beginning in 1989, determine the need for database search services offered by the library.

#### Action Steps:

1. In 1989, survey potential users to determine if the need exists for database search services.

#### COMMENTS: Done.

WHAT DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY O

B. Objective: Determine what type of database search services and equipment should be provided, by FY 1991.

#### Action Steps:

- 1. In 1989, Assistant City Librarian and designated staff will determine what databases should be offered in CD-ROM.
- Done. Several databases have been added.
  - In 1989, Assistant City Librarian will recommend for purchase one or more microcomputers to be installed in the Reference Department.
- Purchased four microcomputers.
  - By FY 1991, Assistant City Librarian and designated staff will determine whether or not database search services should be offered on-line.
  - Administration will determine whether fees should be charged for database search service, by FY 1991.
- The funding for this service will necessitate a services to be provided and whether fees assessed \$.05 per sheet of paper
  - Deplining in 1309, prepare for an on-line

#### Action Steps:

1. Administration will form a staff Automation Committee in 1989 to deal with all aspects of library automation.

COMMENTS: Done. Committee still exists with six to seven members.

2. Staff Automation Committee will prepare a report concerning the best, most economical way to convert the present extended catalog records to MARC records, in FY 1991.

COMMENTS: Done. Reported verbally.

3. Based upon the staff Automation Committee's recommendation, convert extended catalog records to MARC format by FY 1993.

COMMENTS: Machine conversion of records will be done by the end of 1992. Conversion of non-hit items could take between two to five years, depending on the number of non-hits and availability of staff and funding.

4. Library staff will input the newly converted records into DPL's bibliographic database by the end of FY 1993.

To be completed by the end of 1992. Non-hit conversions to be entered as completed by staff.

D. Objective: Plan for the purchase of all necessary equipment and software to initiate on-line catalog by 1994.

#### Action Steps:

1. In FY 1992, the staff Automation Committee will recommend the purchase or lease of an additional disk-pack memory storage unit to expand the computer system for an on-line catalog.

m n W

In FY 1993, the staff Automation Committee will recommend the purchase or lease of up to 20 termimals and necessary software for patron access to the on-line catalog.

Survey automated libraries to determine the optimum and locations for patron terminals, by April 30, 1992.

for staff within each department. Priority funding is needed for this project.

E. Objective: Initiate the on-line catalog service when 50% or more of the collection is in MARC format, by FY 1994.

#### Action Steps:

1. In FY 1993, administration and department heads will investigate staffing needs to provide adequate assistance to patrons using the on-line catalog.

COMMENTS: Survey of automated libraries will help to determine staffing needs.

- 2. In FY 1994, administration will provide extensive staff training in use of the new on-line system, prior to making it available for public use.
- 3. In FY 1994, administration and public service staff will develop training materials for patrons who plan to use the on-line catalog.
- 4. The card catalog will be "closed" in FY 1994, (i.e., no new additions will be made to it) once the on-line catalog is operating.
- 5. In FY 1994, the staff Automation Committee will investigate dial-up access for patrons who wish to use the on-line catalog from a remote location.

# Making Connections: A Cultural Plan for Decatur

October, 1992

By

Marc Goldring Herbert Sprouse Dr. Thomas Wolf

The Wolf Organization, Inc. 8 Francis Avenue Cambridge, MA 02138 (617) 492-2167 (617) 492-7525 fax

# **Executive Summary**

The Wolf Organization, Inc. was retained early in 1992 to develop a community cultural plan for Decatur, Illinois. Working with a community-based Steering Committee, the consultants conducted interviews with over seventy-five individuals, including representatives of arts groups, artists, minorities, business, government, educators, the media, and others. A public meeting was also held, with over thirty participants.

The consultants found an active, participatory cultural scene in Decatur, one that provides a solid foundation for future growth. A core of committed volunteers perform both artistic and administrative tasks, accomplishing extraordinary amounts with very little money. This effort is enhanced by the arts program at Millikin University and task Kirkland Fine Arts Center, and other facilities such as the Civic Center. Considering Decatur's self-perception as a "blue collar town," there arts and also such things as the community's built environment and its ethnic and religious traditions.

Perhaps the most difficult problem facing culture in Decatur is the lack coordination and communication among cultural programs and facilities. This has meant that groups have not functioned as efficiently they might and opportunities have been missed. In addition, only has appropriate emphasis been given to "quality of life" issues. Decatur. For the arts to grow, they must be identified as part of a coalition concerned with the quality of life.

The consultants have made a number of recommendations to address these and other concerns. They recommend that arts organizations have increased opportunities for technical assistance and networking. In the area of arts education, they propose establishing a high-level "Arts Education Planning Group" to develop and implement a long-range plan to enhance the quality of arts education in public schools.

The consultants propose that a high-level body to address minority concerns be established. Several initiatives are outlined to better market the arts of Decatur, through altering the image of the arts, expanding leadership, and enhanced communication. They express concerns about the proposal to renovate the Lincoln Theatre and raise some important questions. They propose a facility to serve as an administrative center for cultural groups in the downtown area.

The consultants stress that the Decatur Area Arts Council is an exceptionally well-run and managed agency. They propose several shifts in its emphasis – notably that it focus more on planning and facilitating and less on actual programming – and make the case for the need for additional staff for the agency. The consultants also discuss options for funding, pointing out the need for additional earned income from cultural groups, as well as enhanced public involvement. Finally, the consultants provide details of the process through which this report should be reviewed by the Steering Committee and other community representatives.

Following is a complete list of recommendations from the consultants' report, with page numbers to indicate where discussion on each one begins.

mendation III.A.1: An on-going program of technical assistance should be developed for cultural groups and artists (cf. page 14).

endation III.A.2: Opportunities for networking and collaboration must arises and cultural groups' board, staff, and volunteers should be ended (cf. page 15).

Recommendation III.A.3: Partnerships should be encouraged between cultural organizations and other groups in the public and private sector, including religious institutions (cf. page 16).

Recommendation III.B.1: Decatur's public schools should work toward offering 2 sequenced arts education curriculum utilizing properly trained arts specialists (cf. page 17).

Recommendation III.B.2: An Arts Education Planning Group should be established to coordinate the development and implementation of a long-range plan for arts education (cf. page 18).

Recommendation III.B.3: The Arts Education Planning Group should consider ways to use the arts to promote cultural, racial, and ethnic understanding and awareness (cf. page 19).

mendation III.B.4: The feasibility of developing a coordinated, nonmondated cultural education program should be explored (cf. page 20).

mendation III.C.1: A high level committee of representatives of cultural groups and the minority community should be established to assure interpretation in Decatur's cultural activities (cf. page 21).

The Black Arts and Music Fair should be re-estable as an on-going event (cf. page 23).

Strategies to increase the awareness and alter the culture in Decatur should be developed and implemented (cf.

Efforts should be made to expand the leadership appear of arts and cultural activities in Decatur (cf. page 25).

Tells celebration. Programming variations should be studied. (cf. page 26).

The mendation III.D.4: Regular meetings should be held between repretities of cultural groups and media outlets (cf. page 28).

Limited Theore should be undertaken (cf. page 29).

Recommendation III.E.2: A feasibility study should be conducted for a joint cultural administration facility in the central business district (cf. page 29).

Recommendation III.E.3: All plans for development in the Central Business District should include the involvement of artists (cf. page 31).

Recommendation III.E.4: An approach should be developed to promote the connections between various aspects of Decatur's built environment to highlight the rich heritage of the community (cf. page 32).

Recommendation III.F.1: DAAC should stress its role as a facilitator and catalyst, rather than an active programmer. It should reexamine its programs in this light (cf. page 33).

Recommendation III.F.2: DAAC should develop a plan to increase its resbility in the community (cf. page 34).

Recommendation III.F.3: DAAC should work with the leadership of Decatur Arrantage and others to establish and convene a "Quality of Life Network (cf.

Description III.F.4: DAAC should move its offices into the downtown preferably in the proposed joint administrative facility (cf. page 36).

The manufacture of the second state of the second s

mendation III.G.1: Cultural groups must explore ways to increase their income (cf. page 38).

Dusinesses and individuals (cf. page 39).

The City's financial contribution to cultural actions about increase (cf. page 40).

III.G.4: The Decatur Area Arts Council should apply to

Recommendation IV.1 The Steering Committee should vote on "acceptance" of the interim report. Other selected groups should also review and comment on the document (cf. page 44).

Recommendation IV.2: Once the interim report has been revised to reflect input from the Steering Committee and others, the final document should be presented to the community (cf. page 45).

Recommendation IV.3: The Steering Committee should be reconstituted as a "long-range planning committee" of the Decatur Area Arts Council and called the Cultural Planning Group (cf. page 46).

Recommendation IV.4 Task forces should be created to work on specific pieces of the planning document, coordinated by the Cultural Planning Group (cf. page 48).

Recommendation IV.5: Once the work of the task forces has been completed, the Cultural Planning Group should review, and, if necessary, revise their recommendations and vote to "adopt" them. It should also devise a plan to further the implementation process (cf. page 49).