

DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
Decatur, Illinois

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - NOVEMBER 15, 1962

The special meeting of the Board of Directors was called to study the Budgets for 1963/64, 1964/65, and to discuss the procedure for the building improvement fund.

The members met for dinner in the Decatur Club at 6 PM, November 15, 1962.

Members Present -

Mr. Jack Burnett
Mr. Francis Hart
Mrs. Roger Pogue
Mrs. Erich Stern
Mrs. Dwight Nelson
Mr. John Cheeks
Mr. Harold Koslofski

Members Absent -

Mr. James Sommer
Mr. David Pilcher

Also Present -

Mrs. Mary T. Howe
Mr. Robert Kirchgraber

Mr. Burnett read a letter from Mr. William Bryan, Librarian, Peoria Public Library and President of the Illinois Library Association. Mr. Bryan wrote that he and Mr. Don Dickinson would come to Decatur, December 13th for the purpose of inspecting facilities for the 1964 ILA Conference.

It was agreed the Conference would be a good one for Decatur and the idea was approved.

The 1963/64 budget was inspected and generally approved as accepted in July for the tax levy. The 1964/65 budget was then presented by the Librarian who explained the necessary increase in the salary allocation to keep pace with the City recommendations. No cost of living was included in the figure. The library materials budget was increased to include the rise in book costs and other materials. All other items remained the same as for 1962/63 - 1963/64.

It was agreed to take action on the 1964/65 budget before the next levy.

Mr. Burnett said he wrote to Governor Kerner two weeks ago, but had received no answer. He also talked to Mr. Gary Gray concerning the South Shores Branch. The matter was referred to the Properties Committee with Mr. Hart, chairman. Mr. Hart suggested he contact Mr. Irvin, City Planner, and inspect possible sites.

The Main Building plans were discussed and the possible amount that could be set aside for a building improvement fund.

Mr. Burnett suggested a plan of procedure •

- (1) The officers of the Friends of the Library and the Board of Directors of the public library will meet soon.
- (2) The whole group of the Friends of the Library and the Board of Directors should meet and explain the need of a new building.
- (3) The Board of Directors should meet informally with the City Council to explain the need and ask for reaction.

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The three meetings should be held before March 1, 1963.

All present agree to Mr. Burnett's plan.

Mrs. Pogue urged the consideration of a County or Regional library in the long range plans. The Board members asked Mrs. Howe to secure a member of the State Library for the Board meeting, November 23rd. This person should present the pros and cons of Regional Libraries and where Decatur would fit in the system.

The Librarian and the Assistant Librarian were asked to leave the meeting while the Board discussed salaries.

Meeting adjourned at 10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. Howe,
Secretary.