

Personnel and Public Relations Committee

Minutes

September 2, 1982

The Committee was called to order in the City Librarian's Office at 7:25 p.m. Present were Mr. Susler, Mr. Seidman, Mr. Mueller, Mrs. Jackson, Chairman, and President Moore, ex officio. Also present was R. Dumas.

The first item of business related to a question raised by a staff member, to wit, is vacation time extended by the amount of bereavement leave if an employee has a death in the family while on vacation? Consensus was that it should be and that the policy should be changed to reflect the fact. Motion for Board to be prepared.

A question of interpretation of the policy regarding use of meeting rooms was raised by the Librarian and the guidance of the Committee sought: A group meeting the requirements for use of the auditorium had requested permission for a number of vendors to display their wares which were related to the club's purpose. Does such use constitute commercial use of the room within the meaning of the policy. After some discussion it was the feeling of the committee that this was a kind of trade fair and could set a precedent for coin dealers, stamp dealers, etc., that would be hard to control and that it was a commercial use of the room. The committee felt that exclusions should be based on both nature of use and user.

Pregnancy leave is currently limited to "full time" staff. This is probably an inadvertant carryover from a time when half-time staff were hourly employees and received no fringe benefits. The Committee directed a motion be drafted to strike "full time" from the policy on pregnancy leave.

Consideration was given to a request from Forsyth Public Library Board that borrowing privileges be extended to residents of the village. The Committee decided, since Forsyth had no library and was contracting with Argenta for library service that service to Forsyth residents should be denied at this time but should be offered on a reciprocal basis when the Forsyth Public Library was operating.

The request of Robert Plotzke that Rolling Prairie Libraries employees who do not qualify for residential or reciprocal borrowers' privileges in this Library be granted a courtesy registration in the Decatur Public Library was discussed. The City Librarian noted that non-resident employees of the DPL do not have this privilege and suggested that this policy be changed at the same time. The Committee expressed surprise that DPL employees who may reside outside the City limits do not have borrowing privileges and directed a motion to be prepared amending the policy and granting this privilege. The question of extending the courtesy was discussed. It was suggested that exceptions to our policy at a time when we had stopped courtesy cards to students raised problems. Others felt that non-resident fees might be paid by RPL for its staff as a fringe benefit or on the basis of an indirect benefit which accrues to the Library in much the same way that Librarys pay other fees for employees such as membership in library associations. After discussion, it was agreed to bring the matter to the entire Board without recommendation.

The meeting dissolved at 8:40 p.m.

