



DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

247 EAST NORTH STREET DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523

ROBERT H. DUMAS, City Librarian



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

AGENDA

FEBRUARY 15, 1974

- I. CALL TO ORDER
EDWARD FARRELL, PRESIDENT
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
 - A. REGULAR BOARD MEETING JANUARY 11, 1974
- III. STATISTICAL REPORT
- IV. COMMUNICATIONS
- V. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:
 - A. PROPERTIES AND FINANCE
 - B. POLICIES, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MEMBERS EXPECTED TO BE PRESENT:

MR. BUTLER
MR. FARRELL
MR. HOLCOMB
MR. LINDSAY
MR. PRINCE
MR. ROBINSON
MR. WHITACRE

DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting - February 15, 1974

The regular board meeting of the Board of Directors of the Decatur Public Library was held February 15, 1974 in the board room of the main library.

Members Present:

Mr. Butler
Mr. Farrell
Mr. Holcomb
Mr. Lindsay
Mr. Robinson
Mr. Prince
Mr. Whitacre

Members Absent:

Mrs. Brandt
Mrs. Hedrick

Others Present:

William Ward
(Herald & Review)
Mr. Dumas
Miss Schwegman

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M. by Mr. Farrell.

The minutes of the regular board meeting of January 11, 1974, were approved.

At this time, Mr. Farrell called upon Mrs. Ann Seidman, head of the Research Library of the A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company, to make her presentation to the board. Mrs. Seidman stated that the closing of the library on Mondays had caused considerable inconvenience to the company, and she hoped the move would be only temporary. She explained that the Staley Company library does not duplicate materials which are available from the public library, and that the Staley Company is very dependent on the public library's special materials. Mr. Farrell mentioned that letters expressing concern over the closing had also been received from the Archer Daniels Midland Company and the American Association of University Women. Mr. Farrell stated that the Monday closing is not a permanent move, and that as soon as more funds are available, the library will return to its regular six-day schedule.

In his statistical report to the board, Mr. Dumas stated that there were no surprises in the statistics this month as circulation figures of the library are down some due to the Monday closing and bad weather the earlier part of the month. Mr. Dumas stated that many people are still apparently unaware of the library's new hours. Everything in Technical Services is about the same this month. Books checked in have dropped as there is a decline in the number of books we are ordering. Adult Services statistics are also down this month in almost the exact percentage to the number of hours we have been closed. One of the positive effects of the closing is that the Children's Department hours have been rescheduled to open three nights a week instead of two. During January the Children's Department had a very successful "Family Night" with approximately 250 children attending. Mrs. Preslan has also scheduled a program of "Saturday Afternoon at the Movies" and story hours on Tuesday and Thursday. This broadening of library services to the public is done with the idea that there is more to library service than merely the circulation of books - getting people into the library habit as a good place to

be, and not just for the drudgery of school work. Mr. Dumas stated he was sorry to report to the board that library service to the Decatur Memorial Hospital will be abrogated soon at their request in that they simply do not have enough volunteers to distribute the books, and also there is a problem of storage space for books. Mr. Butler and Mr. Prince suggested that perhaps members of the "Friends of the Library" organization might be available for such volunteer work. Mr. Dumas stated he would pass along this suggestion to Mr. Yamashita, Head of Extension Services.

Members of the board stated they would like copies of the pamphlet Illinois Library Laws. Mr. Dumas explained that some copies of the pamphlet had been distributed to members of the board, but that he would order more.

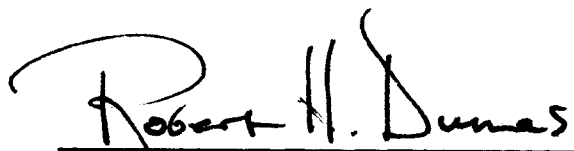
In a brief discussion some dissatisfaction was voiced and questions raised by members of the board regarding the propriety of some of the activities of the American Library Association. Mr. Prince stated that if dissatisfaction exists with some of the policies of the Association that a letter should be written to so state. Mr. Farrell referred the matter to the Policies, Public Relations and Personnel Committee for further discussion.

As Chairman of the Properties and Finance Committee, Mr. Whitacre gave an informational report on the summary of income and expenditures through January 31, 1974 and bills approved through January 31, 1974. The motion for approval of the report by Mr. Whitacre was seconded by Mr. Holcomb and was unanimously approved by a roll-call vote.

Mr. Holcomb, as a member of the Policies, Public Relations, and Personnel Committee, moved that the registration requirement for the borrower's signature be waived for the handicapped and functionally illiterate at the discretion of the City Librarian. Mr. Prince seconded the motion and it was approved.

Mr. Prince announced his resignation as the Board's representative to the Rolling Prairie Libraries System and requested that Mr. Butler be appointed to replace him. Mr. Farrell made the appointment of Mr. Butler as representative and requested that Rolling Prairie be so notified.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.



Robert H. Dumas, City Librarian

For Secretary of the Board