

Finance and Properties Committee Meeting

February 23, 1984

Minutes

Present were Marshall Susler, Shirley Moore, and David Marshall, Chairman. Also present were Sharon Alpi, ex officio, Robert Dumas, City Librarian, and Peter Zelter, representative of C.L. Systems, Inc.

Mr. Marshall called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. After noting that the meeting was for the purpose of gathering information for an in-house independent computer for the Library and to answer questions committee members may have, Mr. Marshall asked Mr. Zelter to assume on the part of the Committee general innocence with respect to computers and proceed with his presentation on that basis.

As a foundation, Mr. Zelter inquired into what the committee expected from a computer and the reasons for consideration for a stand-alone system. Mr. Marshall reviewed the characteristics desired: that the primary function was to manage and control circulation, but that additional functions would be required down the road - public catalog and acquisitions, for example - that a most important consideration was reliability.

The problems of joint use with other libraries with respect to control over data base to insure consistency in cataloging and with respect to response time, etc. were discussed.

Mr. Zelter advised that while his company had merged records in the past it had never split off the records of one library from a joint data base. A program could be devised to do this, but would be an additional cost for the library and would be very expensive. He indicated that it might be \$50,000 or more and recommended against consideration of such action. The alternative approach would be to transfer to DPL the entire data base and to delete manually the holdings of other libraries. He did not know whether the computer could be used to facilitate manual deletion and said he would investigate the question.

Answering a question as to whether the transfer of the entire data base could be accommodated by the smaller of the configurations in this proposal, Mr. Zelter was unsure: his configuration was based upon DPL collections and patron file needs. He thought it might initially require another disc drive which would cost \$15,000. He indicated that, if this were so, CLSI would after need buy it back by issuing a credit against future charges. Another cost not mentioned in his proposal was a \$5,000 charge to copy the data base from 300mb disc drives to the 80 mb disc drives in his proposal.

Because of the concerns involved with fiscal year considerations, Mr. Zelter also indicated that if CLSI were the successful bidder and the order could be placed before June 30, a discount could be negotiated. Upon question from Mr. Marshall, he indicated that this might provide the extra disc drive free, if needed.

Meeting adjourned 6:15 p.m.

