

Financial Committee Meeting
March 20, 1953

Mr. Stafford, Chairman of the Board, and Mr. Hull met with the Librarian at 3:00 p.m. to review the budget for 1953-1954 and the possibility of giving increases in salary to the Staff. The other members of the Committee were unable to be present.

The Librarian reported that she had received a final statement of income for the current year from the City Comptroller and that we were to receive \$6,108.00 more than estimated. She had prepared for the Committee work sheets showing that with this increased income, almost all salaries with the exception of her own could be raised to the national level without decreasing other items.

After a thorough analysis of her figures, Mr. Stafford excused her for a few minutes. On her return the members explained that they had decided to recommend to the Board that the salary scale as prepared be adopted beginning May first with the exception of the salaries of the Librarian and Assistant Librarian which they were increasing somewhat.

The meeting closed at 5:10 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel E. Perry

Muriel E. Perry
Secretary

Board of Trustees
March 27, 1953

The regular meeting of the Board was called to order at 3:35 o'clock.

Members present: Mr. Stafford presiding, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Gage, Mrs. Ridgley, Messrs. Blackford, Felts, Gore and Hull.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

The Librarian's report for February was examined and ordered filed.

The motion was made by Mrs. Gage, seconded by Mr. Felts and unanimously passed that bills for maintenance to the amount of \$3,138.67; renovations, \$123.06 and payroll, \$4927.71 be paid. It was noted that the special Renovation Fund is closed.

The report of the meeting of the Finance Committee March 20th was considered. It was moved by Mr. Hull, seconded by Mrs. Gage and unanimously passed that this report be accepted.

The subject of the By-Laws came up for discussion. Mrs. Gage said they should contain definite rules for appointment and tenure of officers. Mr. Blackford questioned the wisdom of Article 7 which states that "no person shall be employed in any capacity who is a relative or member of the family of a Trustee". Mr. Felts suggested that a brief history of the Library be incorporated.

Mr. Stafford appointed Mr. Hull, Mr. Blackford and Mr. Felts to study the By-Laws and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

A letter from Dr. R. B. Downs, Director of the University of Illinois Library was read. He said their faculty would be glad to survey the Evans Branch with the understanding that any necessary expense would be borne by this Library and the work done at a mutually convenient time.

Mrs. Bailey asked if this survey would include recommendations regarding Bookmobile service to other parts of the city. It was the Librarian's opinion that it would be restricted to the Evans Branch. She reminded the Board of her request in 1949, and since that date, for a survey of the complete system.

Mr. Felts ^{was assured} ~~observed~~ that the influence of the University of Illinois would have great value if such a project could be undertaken.

The Librarian was instructed to investigate the possibility for a complete survey and report back.

Mr. Hull asked her if she had ever inquired about the current value of the Evans Branch property. She replied that she had not because she did not want rumors circulating that we might be considering disposing of it.

The Librarian reported that Mr. Spangler and she had investigated the firms who had cleaned the County and Citizens Buildings. Several people had

visited the Library but the only estimate received was from Mark Boliek whose figures are as follows: cleaning the basement - \$167.50, first floor and stairwell - \$268.00, second floor - \$214.00.

Mrs. Ridgley said she knew of Mr. Boliek's work. He has done some of her friends' homes and has worked for Walter Flora, the Jeweler.

The Librarian was instructed to check with Mr. Merris about the contract. Mr. Hull cautioned her about obtaining Mr. Boliek's certificates of liability and workmen's insurance.

The motion was made by Mrs. Gage, seconded by Mrs. Bailey and unanimously passed that the building be cleaned in the most feasible way.

It was reported that Mr. Stafford, Mr. Duchac and the Librarian had been present at a meeting in the State House of the Committee on Municipalities which considered H. B. 178 which, if passed in its original form, would severely restrict the incomes of public libraries. Those present were assured that the closing lines of the Bill would protect libraries from scaling under the Hodge Act. Under the proposed Bill Decatur would lose its Referendum.

It was reported that the broken plates of glass in the stackroom floor had been replaced by Mr. Swartz.

The Librarian reported that Mr. Reynolds, Commander of the American Legion, had been sent to her by Judge Greanias to discuss library service to the juveniles committed to the new Detention Room at the County Jail. Miss Fox, Mr. Duchac and she had visited the jail and talked with Judge Greanias and Sheriff Peters of such service to all prisoners. She would like to assign the work to Mrs. McNabb but we must provide a book truck so constructed that it could pass between the cells and the outer iron grill. She asked for permission to buy a hospital truck which would be suited to the purpose.

This was laid on the table until the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel E. Perry

Muriel E. Perry
Librarian