DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
247 EAST NORTH STREET DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523
ROBERT H. DUMAS, City Librarian

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

AGENDA

JULY 16, 1981

I. CALL TO ORDER
SHIRLEY MOORE, PRESIDENT

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. REGULAR BOARD MEETING JUNE 18, 1981

III. CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

IV. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

A. FINANCE AND PROPERTIES
1. Approval of Bills

B. PERSONNEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS
1. Participation in Deferred Income Plan

C. AD HOC BRANCH
1. Resolution re Library Capital Improvements Fund

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

<u>MEMBERS EXPECTED TO BE PRESENT</u>:

Mr. Grieve
Mrs. Jackson (Tentative)
Mr. Marshall
Mrs. Moore
Mr. Seidman
Mr. Susler

DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting - July 16, 1981

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Decatur Public Library was held July 16, 1981 in the board room of the main library.

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Others Present:
Mr. Grieve	Mrs. Jackson	Mark Bright (Herald & Review)
Mr. Marshall	Mr. Mueller	Mr. Dumas
Mrs. Moore	Ms. Taylor	Mrs. Hicks
Mr. Seidman		Miss Schwegman
Mr. Susler		

Waiting until a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 4:55 p.m. by the President, Shirley Moore.

By general consent the following corrections were made to the Minutes of the regular board meeting of June 18, 1981: in the discussion of better service to the fringe areas of the city, Mr. Susler and Mr. Seidman voiced the "desirability" rather than "strong approval of the need" for branch library service and asked that the oppositional phrase "on the other hand" be deleted from their remarks; also Mrs. Moore requested the second and third sentences of the first paragraph on Page 3 of the Minutes be changed to read: "According to Ms. Deborah Miller, Director of Governmental Services for ILA, groups, including Eagle Forum, supporting censorship efforts are preparing for a new assault and might try to slip an amendment on a bill. Ms. Miller further stated that the Forum has a list of books which they are checking in every library in Illinois." The Minutes for June 18, 1981 were then approved as corrected upon motion of Mr. Grieve, seconded by Mr. Susler.

In his monthly report to the Board, Mr. Dumas stated we were unable to compare the circulation this month with last June as there were problems with the computer at that time; however, the year-to-date figures were compared with two years ago and we are up approximately 19% for these two months. Unless we have a real slackening off or a terrible winter, we should come out looking good for the year. Further reporting, Mr. Dumas stated he had attended the ALA summer conference in San Francisco and found it to be an extraordinarily good convention. The meetings attended were enlightening, thought provoking, and useful - it was a very worthwhile conference. In a conversation with a 3M representative at the conference regarding the delay in the receipt of the Library's security system, the representative got back to me and reported we should have the system within a week, Mr. Dumas informed.

Continuing, Mr. Dumas stated he had met with members of the Harristown township library board last Thursday concerning the possible contracting of library services to the township by DPL, as the township's bookmobile service from Rolling Prairie has been discontinued. We talked about what we could do for them and what they wanted from us for about two hours. At this time it was asked whether the present policy of the Board allowed young people of school age to obtain free nonresident cards. When they were told school age children could still at this time have access to the Library's collections, they lost interest completely, as this was their main concern, and the meeting ended shortly thereafter. Another meeting with South Wheatland township library board to discuss similar problems is scheduled for later this month, Mr. Dumas stated.

It was noted by Mrs. Moore that the monthly statistical report showed possible computer problems, and Mr. Dumas stated this is true. One light pen was returned June 14 and one CRT returned June 19, and after numerous phone calls to the regional manager, we can't seem to get any straight answers as to when they will be repaired and returned to us. The fifteen day turn-around time instituted by Bud Keating, who resigned several months ago, seems to be no more, Mr. Dumas stated. CLSI has lost two servicemen within the last two months, and Jane Burke reports there is a definite shortage of service personnel available. The service people of CLSI are on a salary basis and work many overtime hours, which may be a factor, Mr. Dumas noted. Mr. Grieve urged Mr. Dumas to carry through on this problem, with letters or withholding payments, or whatever, until some satisfaction or better service is received.

As Chairman of the Finance and Properties Committee, Mr. Marshall gave an informational report on the summary of income and expenditures through June 30, 1981, and bills approved through that date. The motion for approval of the report by Mr. Marshall was seconded by Mr. Grieve and was approved by a roll-call vote.

As Chairman of the Personnel and Public Relations Committee, Mr. Grieve moved that the public library, upon approval of the Decatur City Manager, participate in the deferred income plan offered by the ICMA Retirement Corporation, through the City of Decatur. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion and explained this is essentially an employee option tax deferral plan and is strictly voluntary. The plan defers the payment of income tax until such time as benefits are received, and all staff should be advised of its availability to them, Mr. Marshall stated. The motion was approved.

Mr. Seidman, as Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Branches, moved the adoption of the Resolution, as previously mailed, on the establishment of a Capital Improvement Fund for the Library. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion and it was approved. A copy of this Resolution becomes a part of these minutes. The Resolution will be forwarded to the Mayor and City Council for their consideration.

Under Old Business, Mrs. Moore stated she made some changes in committee assignments. Mr. Grieve has now been assigned to the Branch Study Committee and Ms. Taylor appointed to the Parking Committee.

Under New Business, Mr. Grieve stated that in relation to some of the things Mr. Dumas was talking about earlier in the meeting in regard to the RPL reduction of bookmobile service and the meeting he had with the Harristown people, it would be appropriate to take a closer look at what seems to be a rather generous policy on the part of the Board in terms of allowing non-resident young people to come in and use the Library at no charge. As one who is every day involved in education, I do not like to see cutbacks in any exposure to knowledge, Mr. Grieve continued, but on the other hand, after hearing the reaction of the Harristown people, I feel that perhaps some changes should be made, specifically, that we end the free non-resident cards for students. I think it would be appropriate to negotiate with these people, not as a profit making organization, but negotiate merely to obtain our own costs, Mr. Grieve concluded. Mr. Grieve moved that we end the provision for free non-resident cards for students. Mr. Susler moved that this motion be tabled and referred to the Personnel Committee for further study and consideration. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion to table, stating the South Wheatland people can be told at their meeting with Mr. Dumas that at this point the Board is reconsidering the existing policy which is to provide free non-resident cards to students. We don't know what we are going to do as yet. Mr. Marshall asked if we have any other than the family non-resident cards and what the present fee is. Mr. Dumas answered we do not and that the present fee for family non-resident cards is $34.00. Mr. Seidman asked if there were any indication the students of these districts were really using this facility, and Mr. Dumas replied this would be difficult to isolate. Mr. Susler asked if our boundaries are just the City of Decatur, and Mr. Dumas replied affirmatively. Mr. Marshall stated when the people of other communities are in the system to which we belong, RPL, then I think we have a commitment to interchange; however, when they withdraw from the system, I don't think we have any obligation to provide service for people outside the city of Decatur. Except on a non-resident fee basis, Mr. Susler interposed, and Mr. Marshall agreed. Mr. Seidman asked if the districts withdrew voluntarily and Mr. Dumas answered they had no option, as it was Rolling Prairie's decision to discontinue the bookmobile service. Basically, the problem is, Mr. Dumas stated, that these districts do not want to levy to support the library services. Mrs. Moore observed that the RPL bookmobile service was supposed to be of short duration in the beginning, just to get the libraries going in various areas. The motion to table and refer to committee Mr. Grieve's original motion, was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Robert H. Dumas

Robert N. Dumas, City Librarian

For Secretary of the Board

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS the bonds for renovation of the Central Library will be completely paid off in January, 1982; and

WHEREAS other capital needs for the Library are expected during the next five to ten years; and

INASMUCH AS anticipation by saving for these capital requirements can result in significant savings to the taxpayer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Library Directors recommends to the Decatur City Council an amount comparable to the present bond levy be added to the Library levy; and

MOREOVER BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these additional funds be sequestered by action of the Council into a separate "Library Capital Improvements Fund."

PRESENTED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of July, 1981.

Shirley M. Moore
President, Board of Library Directors

Attest: Reba J. Jackson
Secretary