

Board of Trustees
September 28, 1951

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 3:45 P.M.

Members present, Mr. Knuth presiding, Mrs. Gage, Mrs. Garman, Messrs. Blackford, Owen and Stafford.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Librarian's reports for July and August were examined and ordered filed.

The motion was made by Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Stafford, and unanimously passed that bills to the amount of \$2,055.18 be paid.

Mrs. Garman reported on the scagliola. One half of the column at the foot of the stairs had been done according to the specifications drawn up by Mr. Spangler. The plaster in the cracks had been feathered and the column cleaned of old varnish and revarnished with clear material. Mrs. Garman believes that it looks better than she had anticipated and asked the Board to take notice of the column as they left the meeting. The price for the entire project will be \$130.00.

The Librarian reported that she had made no move to contact Mr. Grant, Superintendent of Schools, regarding the possibility of using the old Grant School as a library branch since a survey of that area had led her to believe it was not thickly populated enough to support the expense. It was also reported that a station had been installed August 21st at the Glazerbrook Kenney Drug Store.

It was brought to the Trustees' notice that Mr. Spangler had contacted Mr. Lester Foltz of the Christy Construction Company and Mr. Hamilton, of the Hamilton Electric Company, regarding the possibility of correcting the outside exhibit cases. The total estimated cost would be about \$150.00. The Librarian had told Mr. Spangler to have the work done. She explained to the Board that she was so anxious to have the matter settled that if the members felt the price was too high she would be willing to use her salary increase in payment as a gift to the library. The motion was made by Mrs. Gage, seconded by Mr. Stafford, and unanimously passed that the exhibit cases be changed. During the discussion Mrs. Garman mentioned the fine appearance of the library grounds and the citation received from the City Beautiful Campaign was examined. The Librarian was instructed to express the Board's appreciation to Mr. Wilson for the fine condition of the library property.

It was noted that the I.L.A. Annual Convention is to be held in Chicago October 18 to 20. The motion was made by Mr. Stafford, seconded by Mr. Owen, and unanimously passed that \$25.00 be set aside to help Assistants, going to the Convention, with their expenses. The Board reminded the Librarian that an expense account for this would have to be rendered for auditing purposes. This is in addition to the Librarian's expenses.

The Board was asked their opinion regarding an inspection of all trees on our property. This has not been done for several years and it was felt that it might be possible that there were weak or diseased limbs that should be trimmed. The Trustees decided that this was not imperative at the time.

The Librarian mentioned that it was very cold in her office during the winter months and asked about the advisability of having either gas turned on in the fireplace

or the purchase of an electric heater. The Board agreed that whichever method would be less expensive should be set up.

The Librarian reported that 1952 would make the 85th year of library service in Decatur and suggested that a Committee be formed to discuss the advisability of some form of recognition. This matter was laid on the table.

A copy of a mutilated book was on display and it was stated that we are apparently having a siege of mutilation, plus the theft of 35 of our popular rental books.

It was noted that Miss Esther Shenk began her duties as Head of Circulation on September 24 (Members of the Board were introduced to Miss Shenk on their way from the meeting); that Mr. Floyd Fear was hired as Bookmobile Driver-Clerk on August 22; and that Miss Elizabeth Limmer finished her summer assignment on August 28.

Mention was made that the Librarian had talked with Mr. Merris regarding cases of lost books, especially that of Dr. Jack Greider, and Mrs. Garman wondered if it might not be possible to have police help in regaining our property.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel E. Perry

Muriel E. Perry
Secretary

MEP/rs