Extension Committee

February 11, 1955

The meeting opened at 4:17 p.m.

Members present: Mrs. Ridgley, Chairman, Mr. Burgess and Mr. Schroeder with Mrs. Howe for consultation.

The Librarian reported that she could find no deed to the Evans Branch property. In the Minutes for the Trustees Meeting February 2, 1922, she found a mention of plans to build the Branch on municipal land.

Mr. Burgess said that the deed as recorded at the Courthouse showed no change from city ownership.

A discussion of the situation took place. Mrs. Howe spoke of the possibility of using the Branch as Extension Headquarters with bookstock moved from Main thus relieving the growing pressure at Main.

The Librarian mentioned some difficulties this would involve if the Bookmobile were housed downtown - also that Bookmobile personnel would have to report daily to Main for reserves, etc. She wondered if the basement could be remodeled and an entrance made; so the vehicle could be housed there.

The discussion included the fact that another Bookmobile at least was needed to reach areas such as South Shores, Southeast and Oak Grove. Booketerias in some of the new supermarkets and shopping areas under construction were mentioned.

Mr. Burgess said he would try to have something definite to report regarding the status of Branch ownership by next week. The Librarian was instructed to investigate some of the market areas.

The meeting closed at 5:05p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel E. Perry

Muriel E. Perry
Secretary

Board of Trustees
February 25, 1955

The meeting opened at 3:50 o'clock

Members present: Mr. Felts, presiding, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Ridgley, Messrs. Blackford, Gore, Ro lins and Schroeder.

The Minutes for November 26, 1954 and for January 28th were passed as read.

The motion was made by Mrs. Ridgley and seconded by Mr. Rollins that bills for operational expenses totaling $2646.75, for salaries $6080.89, a grand total of $8727.64 be paid. (Christy & Foltz certificate #2 was included)

Roll call: all voted "aye".

A discussion took place regarding the Library's income. Mr. Felts reported that Mr. Merris told him our present income is $ .06 on $100. valuation. Our legal limit is $ .20 on $100. valuation or $335,000.

Mr. Blackford observed that the City Council ought to heed our budget requests.

Mrs. Baily remarked that the Lincoln Library in Springfield received an income of $265,000.

Mrs. Ridgley gave a progress report on the Extension Committee. She said that there was some doubt as to our ownership of the Evans Branch (See report filed previous to these Minutes) Mr. Burgess said there was doubt in his mind that we even owned the building.

The Board's reaction to the Librarian's suggestion of moving the building to a better location was that such action would be extremely expensive and therefore not feasible.

Mr. Felts inquired if the Committee had studied the community's attitude? Other questions were raised as to the possibility of using it as an Extension Headquarters.

Mrs. Bailey remarked that possibly it would simplify things not to have to dispose of it. If it is a dead weight in a poor locality it might be less expensive to simply write it off our books and purchase another bookmobile.

The members agreed that some definite service should be offered the community when the Branch is closed.

The Committee was instructed to continue its study of the situation.

Mr. Felts read a letter from Dr. Stone of the University of Illinois saying that the balance of the Survey would be submitted in time for the March meeting if not well ahead of that time."

A discussion of the Survey took place. Mr. Rollins felt that a copy should be made available to the Staff - possibly on file in the second office. Mrs. Ridgley felt that if the Staff read it in its present form lowered morale might result. She suggested that a summary be made for their inspection. The Librarian said that distributing it to the Staff would be most harmful in her opinion.

It was agreed that Mr. Felts and Mr. Gore's suggestion to lay the matter on the ~~talb~~ table for a decision at the next meeting was wise

The Librarian reported that she had released James Powers as Head Janitor on February 12 th and had appointed George Owens to the position on Feb. 14th.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel E. Perry

Muriel E. Perry
Secretary