

THE URBANA FREE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2000

Present: Mary Ellen Farrell, William Golden, Robert McCandless, Chris Scherer, Michael Stevenson, and Jane Williams.

Absent: Margot Jerrard.

Staff present: Debra Booth, Jean Koch, Barbara Lintner, Fred Schlipf, and Phyllis Max Spiro.

Also present: Rupert Evans and Peggy Henderson

The Urbana Free Library Board of Trustees met at a regular meeting held in the Archives of The Urbana Free Library on May 9, 2000. The meeting was called to order by the President, Michael Stevenson, at 7:39 p.m.

It was moved by Jane Williams, seconded by William Golden, and passed unanimously that the minutes of the regular Board Meeting of April 11, 2000, be approved as mailed.

It was moved by Kermit Harden, seconded by Chris Scherer, and passed unanimously that the following bills be approved retrospectively for payment:

April 12, 2000 - General Fund, \$111,805.75 Trust Fund, \$548.14; Document Center Fund, \$144.00; Publications Fund, \$190.24; Grant Fund, \$1294.48.

April 25, 2000 - General Fund, \$110,815.01; Trust Fund, \$214.27; Document Center Fund, \$50.00; Publications Fund, \$143.98; Grant Fund, \$1435.11.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Automation

The City has set aside \$50,000 for the Library's next automation upgrade.

Building and Grounds

The main hydraulic valve for the Library's elevator is worn out and will be replaced soon. The repairs will take the elevator out of service for two days.

The Board agreed that building maintenance money should be set aside every year, in preparation for years with major repair costs.

Education and Training

No report.

Finance

The Board's proposed 2000/2001 appears unchanged in the City's full budget.

Due to substantial increases in assessed values in Urbana, the Library's tax rate this year has dropped from .54 to .51.

Friends of The Urbana Free Library

The spring book sale netted about \$6300, one of the largest amounts ever raised. The Sunday giveaway was particularly successful.

Lincoln Trail Libraries System

No report.

Long-Range Planning Committee

Mary Ellen Farrell suggested that the focus of this committee be changed. The Board decided to finish revising the *Long-Range Plan* and then concentrate on schematic designs.

The Board will meet as a committee of the whole at 6:00 p.m., June 6, to review the *Long-Range Plan*. This meeting will be followed immediately at 7:30 p.m. by the regular monthly Board meeting.

Policy

No report.

Trustee Reports

The Library expansion ordinance was passed by the City Council in a 7-0 vote.

The Board is grateful to the City Council and the Mayor for working so tirelessly to work out this agreement.

The Board would also like to thank Rupert Evans, president of the Urbana Free Library Foundation, for his negotiations with the City.

The Foundation Board received three applications for the position of fundraising administrator. Two of the applicants will be interviewed by a committee of the Foundation.

The Foundation Board will also hire Boris Frank to help guide the campaign and train volunteers

Robert Janes donated \$5,000 to the Friends in honor of his father, Adrian Janes. The Friends in turn donated the money to the Foundation.

Chris Scherer said that the Library was mentioned for a donation in the Rotary Club's Long-Range Plan.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Executive Director

The Library has received quite a few grants lately. They include:

- * \$2,000 adult reference grant from the Illinois State Library.
- * \$ 1 000 grant for adult new readers from the Illinois State Library
- * \$2,500 ParenTech grant from the American Library Association.
- * \$1,000 marketing grant from the Illinois State Library.
- * \$24,970 teen initiative grant from the Illinois State Library.

In cooperation with Urbana Adult Education (which applied for the grant) and Prairie School, a \$34,926 grant to continue the family literacy program at Prairie School.

A \$67,085 grant for the demonstration project for the proposed Greater Urbana Public Library District. The grant runs through November. The referendum to create the district failed in the spring election, but the committee plans to resubmit the issue in the spring, or to submit a somewhat altered issue this fall. Demonstration cards are now good system-wide.

In addition, the Library received 600 books and 40 microfilms from the Jean Evans collection.

The Library's new website is *urbanafreelibrary.org*. There are cross references from a number of variants.

Adult Department

In June, as usual, the Library will bring budget revisions to the Board.

Children's Department

The staff is getting ready to do school visits to introduce the summer reading program. This year's skit is a frog variety show with the staff dressed as frogs.

Special Collections

Julia Vodicka will teach her third genealogy mini-class this Saturday at 10:00 a.m. She will discuss using knowledge of fashions to help date old photographs.

The Archives was able to copy 60 years of Mt. Olive cemetery records.

Tom Whiteside, a longtime patron of the Archives, passed away recently.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No report.

NEWBUSINESS

No report.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16

Phyllis Max Spiro,
Recording Secretary