

MINUTES OF THE IOWA COUNTY LIBRARY PLANNING COMMITTEE

November 19, 1996

Purpose of the Committee: The purpose of the committee is to study local library service, the options, the needs and the funding.

The Iowa County Library Planning Committee met at the Dodgeville Public Library, Dodgeville, Wisconsin on Nov. 19, 1996 at 6:30 P.M.

Chairperson Peter Press called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Committee members present were Peter Press, LaVerne Draves, Victoria Kolb, Therese McCarragher, Lois Menninga, and Earlene O'Keefe. Also present was Barbara Polizzi, Mineral Point Librarian.

Motion for certification of open meeting was made by Victoria Kolb. It was seconded by LaVerne Draves. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the agenda and minutes by LaVerne Draves; seconded by Victoria Kolb. Motion carried.

Item #6. Recapping of Iowa County Budget Planning Meeting

LaVerne Draves had inquired of members of the Iowa County Board's Finance Committee if the proposal of additional money for Iowa County libraries over and above what had been discussed for the Southwest Wisconsin Library System budget had been brought up in the meeting for consideration of the proposed Iowa County budget. No definite answer was obtained from the committee.

Peter Press recalled some questions he had asked of the committee and county board Chairman Mr. Scullion in the final budget meeting. For example, he had inquired how he could get an item into the budget for consideration. Chairman Mr. Scullion expressed the opinion that rural residents might see their taxes go up because of this additional request for financing library services in Iowa County and he did not feel there would be much support for this request. Although the request of our committee was not given consideration as part of the county's budget for library services this year, the County Board did allow some library committee members to address them after the county budget was already passed.

Lois Menninga wondered if rural evaluation for tax purposes was rising. LaVerne Draves and Peter Press addressed her inquiry. One point they both stated was that rural areas were experiencing a shift in land use from agriculture to housing as more people from urban areas were moving into Iowa County.

LaVerne Draves suggested that more ground work be in place prior to any future budget request from our planning board to the budget committee of the Iowa County Board. Perhaps more and earlier ground work by our committee would assist the finance committee of the Iowa County Board in understanding the need for more county funding for the four county libraries in their effort to serve rural patrons.

Item #7. The Long Range Plan was tabled till a future meeting.

Item #8. New members.

Peter Press introduced Barbara Polizzi, the Mineral Point librarian, as the newest member of the planning committee. After formal appointment procedures, she will be the representative for the Mineral Point Public Library. Former representative Tom Kelly resigned his position on the committee and Barbara will serve the remainder of his term. The committee was apprised of some members who would be serving through 1997.

Item #9. New Business.

There was no new business to be brought before the committee.

Item #10. Next Meeting Date.

The Next meeting will be held at the Dodgeville Public Library at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, April 8, 1997.

Item #11. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted  
by Earlene O'Keefe, Acting Sec.