

CRETE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PUBLIC MEETING

December 19, 1991

1. Call to order.
2. Introduction by Rose Marie Foley, President of Crete Public Library District Board of Trustees
3. Need for new library--Sharon Wsol, Administrative Librarian
4. Brief overview of Planning Process to this date--
5. Explanation of financial plan--Steve Larson, Associated Municipal Consultants
6. Questions and answer period
7. Adjournment

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Present: Trustees Foley, Adams, Engel, Schultz, Shepley, and Murray, Administrative Librarian Wsol, financial consultant Larson and new reporters, Erika Hobbs, Crete Record, and Matt Logan, the Times.  
Absent: Trustee Klausman.

President Foley opened the meeting in the board room of the library at 7:04 p.m. with introductions of the trustees to the press.

Administrator Sharon Wsol was asked by Foley to give an overall review of needs for a new library. She stated that the present facility is inadequate for several reasons: Because of space the collection is held to 28,000 when in order to meet the board goal for a B level library it should reach 65,000. The collection is guided by available space, not need. The public has very little room to use for work and it gets very crowded after school when students arrive to do homework. One of the board goals is to emphasize pre-schoolers door to learning. Limits have to be set on this program since the crowded board room is the only place for children to gather. Other reasons for need are building strength limitations which prevent the addition of shelves, very limited parking, and the need to meet state handicap access standards which cannot be done in the present building.

Trustee Shepley added that the anticipated growth in the district makes the current facility totally inadequate.

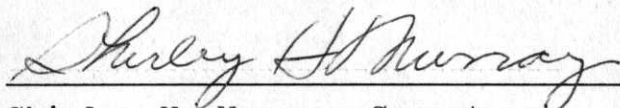
At President Foley's request, Trustee Murray gave a brief review of the planning process to date, starting the the Citizens' Workshop held in March 1988 to establish goals and a mission statement for long range planning, through the hiring of a sites engineer, the purchase of a site, hiring a building plan consultant, adopting a building plan, hiring a financial consultant, adopting a financial plan after hiring an architectural firm to design a new library building.

Finally President Foley introduced Steve Larson of Associated Municipal Consultants who reviewed the adopted Financial Planning Report for the Library Building Program. Larson commented based on his experience the program is very modest. Figures were computed to anticipate a district population of 30,000 in the next 10 to 20 years. The building would be 24,500 sq. ft. and the cost factor of \$100 per sq. foot is allowing for a building start 1 to 2½ years from now. The Library will ask for

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a \$3,650,000 Library bond issue spread over 16 years which has an average tax increase of  $.16\frac{1}{2}$ ; and a second question that asks for a library operating tax increase of .08. This is a total of  $.24\frac{1}{2}$ , however the library is dropping the .05 working cash fund tax so the total increase will be  $.19\frac{1}{2}$  on \$100. of assessed valuation. Finally Larson commented that this is a very good time to be asking for a loan since interest rates are down.

The hearing was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.



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Shirley H. Murray, Secretary