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Ex-candidate to fill library board seat

By JOAN CARREON
Times Correspondent

LANSING — A one-time candidate for a seat on the Lewis O. Flom Lansing Public Library Board was chosen Thursday to fill a board vacancy.

Library board members approved the appointment of Robert Reich to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation last month of Janet Widdel.

Widdel, 47, a library aide at Schrum School in Calumet City, was elected to the board a year ago.

Reich, 46, a former teacher and

the owner of Vanguard Tour Service Inc., is the husband of former board member Barbara Reich.

She served on the board for 12 years before deciding to go back to school for her masters degree last year.

He was chosen for the position over three other applicants. Board President David Tanis said one of the reasons Reich was chosen is because of his interest in the library, which he demonstrated when he ran for election to the board last April.

Reich will serve until the board election next April and then will

have to run for the seat.

In other matters, the board also agreed to advertise for a replacement for Children's Librarian Lynne Howe.

Howe has an extended illness and it is not known when, or if, she will return to work at the library. She has been gone from her job since Feb. 28.

Should Howe decide to come back, Tanis said the library will have a job for her.

"If she regains her health, she's welcome back," Board Treasurer Bill Lathrop said.