

Library director named by officials in Lansing

By Kvm Liebler

The Lansing Public Library has a new director. It was announced Thursday.

Janice Bojda, head of the children's services department at Indian Prairie Library in Willowbrook, will succeed Joanne Jensen, who left her post as director of Lansing Public Library in May.

Jensen, who resigned amid controversy, accused board members of harassment and of unfairly denying her a pay increase.

Bojda was one of 20 applicants for the position. "It was a unanimous board decision," said David Tanis, president of the Library Board.

"We're very pleased and relieved the position has been filled and we're ready to move forward," Tanis said.

Bojda, who will earn \$32,000 a year, will begin her new job Nov. 5. In the meantime, the new director will be tying up loose ends at Indian Prairie.

Bojda said working for the Lansing library will be different. "The Indian Prairie library serves about 41,000 patrons in half the space that the Lansing library serves about 20,000," she said.

In addition, Bojda said Lansing has twice as many books as the Indian Prairie library.

"It'll be a big change. I'll have to go in and assess the situation," she said.

Bojda received both an undergraduate degree in elementary education and a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Illinois.

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sity of Illinois in Champaign. Up until this point, she said working with children has been her specialty.

"But," she said, "as a department head at Indian Prairie, I've honed my administrative and managerial skills."

As for long-term goals, Bojda said it will all come out during next month's library board meeting. "I'm sure the board has some ideas and I have ideas, but I'll have to wait and see."

Tanis credited Norine Beemsterboer, acting library director, for the library's smooth sailing since Jensen's departure.

"She did a superb job," he said. "The whole staff has done a superb job."

A coffee and cake reception to welcome Bojda to the library has been tentatively scheduled for Oct. 18 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

development unless they are shown 70 percent leases," he cautioned.

For the Berger school site, he indicated that the board will be meeting in closed session in the next two weeks to iron out some concerns.

According to Peck, James Dellaportes from First National Realty, "wants the village to deviate from a

through first grade, 2nd grade through 3rd grade, 4th grade through 5th grade and 6th, 7th and 8th grades — will be judged on artistic value, originality and theme.

"We stress fire safety and fire education throughout the year," Bower said, "but during fire prevention week, we really go all out. The whole department's looking forward to working with the people."

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