

August 15, 2023

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 6 p.m. in the second floor Library Program Room of the Marion Public Library. Present were Mrs. Nicholson, Dr. Case, Ms. Ketcham, Mr. Lutton, Ms. Sumpter and Mr. Cline. Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle were also present. Mrs. Pogue was absent. There were no viewers on zoom.

Library Board President Jeremy Case called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mr. Lutton, the minutes of the July 18, 2023, meeting was unanimously approved.

On motion of Ms. Sumpter, seconded by Ms. Ketcham, the Treasurer's report and payment of the docketts were unanimously accepted and payment authorized. The register of claims is made as a part of these minutes.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$3,076,420.18 in the Library Operating Fund as of July 31, 2023

Business:

Finance: 1) Budget 2024: Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle met with Ryan Burke from the Department of Local Government Finance on July 19. With the growth quotient for 2024 at 4%, the current budget was increased to just under that amount so that a binding review would not be necessary. At this meeting, Form 3 of the Budget can be reviewed, and it will be placed on Gateway and on the Library website and social media. It was the consensus of the Board that this be placed on Gateway, website, and Face Book; 2) Spending for the remainder of 2023 will be cut off toward the end of September.

Building & Grounds: The Parking lot project is almost completed. The lots themselves are paved and striped. Currently, Yeakle Concrete is preparing the alleys for leveling. When they are finished, the alleys must be "cured" for 10 days before they reopen. The main parking lot and the staff lots are accessible at this time as is the book drop against the building.

Parking lot costs: These were approved at an earlier meeting and by consensus on Friday, August 4 when the problem areas were found in the main lot:

E & B Paving, LLC	Original Bid:	76,755.00
	Change Order Undercut	44,835.00
	Total	121,590.00
	Yeakle Concrete 50/50	5,440.00

On motion of Mr. Lutton, seconded by Ms. Sumpter, the Board unanimously approved the additional cost of this project due to issues in the main lot which involved more filling and leveling.

b) SESCO group is doing brownfield remediation on the Firestone building across the street. They will drill holes near the Library building to do water-testing.

Jay House development: Some furniture and kitchen items were donated for the Jay House. The Rental application has some changes and will be reviewed by Library attorney, Michael Hotz. Mary Eckerle also contacted Insurance Management about liability issues.

E-Rate Resolution: Mrs. Eckerle presented a Resolution to continue in the Indiana State Consortium for Public Library Internet Access for Funding Year July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This is an annual

renewal. The Consortium provides e-rate services for Indiana libraries. On motion of Ms. Sumpter, seconded by Ms. Ketcham, this motion was unanimously approved.

In-Service: Staff would like to have a full day in-service yet this year. The Board consensus was to have it for a full day.

Tax Redistribution: Mrs. Eckerle explained that the County Council intends to reroute LIT monies from government entities in Grant County in order to pay for Public Safety for the County Call center. The Council has not officially notified the Library of this but they did pass this measure at their May Council meeting. This measure still must be approved by a majority of the Grant County Tax Council.

Director's Report: The following report was approved by consensus of the Board.

Materials and Services: Statistics were presented at the meeting.

Staff: Federa Smith resigned from her position in Reference effective August 1. At this time, no replacement is being sought.

Travel & Meeting: 1) August 12, Douglas School reception in Kokomo, Collen Cramer, mileage; 2) August 14, ILF Children's & Youth Conference, Indianapolis, Madisyn Timmons, Jamie Beck, conference fees and mileage; 3) August 18, Sirsi-Dynix meeting, Zionsville, Kristen Gioe, mileage; and 4) September 15 Indianapolis, Indiana State Library 2023 Difference is You Conference, Barbara Dixon, Registration, mileage.

Properties: 1) Mr. Marx continued to work on Chiller issues in July. Currently, all systems are working; 2) With the Parking lot project beginning in early August, there were a lot of logistics to work out. First United Methodist Church and the Senior Center graciously allowed staff and patrons to park in their lots during the project; and 3) Mr. Marx helped hang all the Quilt show quilts in the Forrest and Carnegie rooms and assisted at the Quilters' Silent Auction.

Kurt Cameron/Banned books: Actor Kirk Cameron and BRAVE Books hosted the first national "See You at the Library" event on August 5, 2023. The event, which the book publisher describes as a "national movement for free speech," was held at hundreds of libraries nationwide. It was not held at our library.

Circulation: 1) July continued to be another busy month for issuing and updating library cards. Circ staff issued one hundred new adult cards and twelve new juvenile cards. They also updated many expired cards; and 2) Garfield attracted visitors from Sweden, Texas, Nevada, California, Kansas, and Arizona.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) July was the end of the Summer Reading Program. There was a good participation. Prizes were sweet treats and books. Everyone who completed the program could enter their name in a drawing for gift cards that were donated by various local businesses; 2) Sheri hosted the book discussion group in July with 9 people in attendance. She also advertised library programs on social media and the web page; and 3) three people attended the July Craft program.

Database: Mango Languages: Sean Harnett created a bookmark highlighting Mango Languages.

Mango Languages teaches you to read and speak in another language, using realistic conversations. Compare your pronunciation with audio from native speakers. Choose from more than seventy languages.

You can download the app from Play Store or Apple Store, or you can go through your browser. You will need to plug in your library card number to access this service. You can sign in as a guest, though creating an account lets you save your progress.

Interlibrary Loan: Libraries in Indiana have had serious backlog issues with the new courier service that was recently hired by the Indiana State Library. Currently, MPL is waiting for over 100 Interlibrary loan packages. The State Library continues to ask for patience while deliveries get caught up, but this

bottleneck is over a month old. Shirley Mooney is the interlibrary loan librarian, and she is doing her part on our end to deliver good service.

Indiana History and Genealogy: 1) The social media committee continues to be active on Facebook and Instagram. There is also a new Threads account for MPL; 2) MPL received a box of late 1800's records that were given to the Grant County Historical Society. They belonged to Sidney Harvey who was a commissioner from the Roseburg area. These have been unfolded, sorted, and flattened. Staff made copies of some of interest for the files and the papers will be sent to the museum; 3) Update on the county records digitization project: Currently 1,638 record books and probate files have been uploaded to FamilySearch.org; 4) Bill Munn presented Grant County in the Civil War for the MPL Virtual Genealogy Club on Thursday, July 27th. The Zoom has been posted on the Library YouTube channel; 5) Mrs. Stoffer was notified of several boxes of Weaver Popcorn Company's historical photos and items that were in danger of being discarded. Rhonda Stoffer, Collen Cramer, Kelsey Winters, and intern Heather Gall went to the Weaver factory, and they sorted through the items and brought back two boxes and some additional items; and 6) The Indiana History volunteers are continuing to work on several projects. Another volunteer has applied.

Technical Services: 1) In July, Kristen Gieo took a class from MCLS on copy cataloging and this past week, she took a class on original cataloging. She is enjoying the classes and hoping it will help in her work; 2) Kristen Gieo will attend the INSIRSI meeting on August 18 at the Avon Washington Township Public Library. This is a group of libraries that uses SirsiDynix products; and 3) Ordering has slowed down in the summer months, but it should pick up again.

Children's/Youth Services: 1) 450 grab and go crafts were distributed during July; 2) There were 14 programs during July including Animals with Hedgehog Hannah, the Glow Dance Party, and Wonderspace blocks; 3) The Training Center visited both the Children's Department and the History Center; 4) In the Summer Reading Program, there were 346 K-6th readers and 160 readers in the pre-K group; and 5) Storytimes have resumed and the Book Clubs will resume in September.

Museum: 1) Hosted the Quilters Hall of Fame Exhibition in the Forrest and Carnegie rooms; 2) Presented a Family Quilt Storytime & Craft celebration; 3) Continue to accept donations and work on the Object inventory; 4) Created a Marie Webster exhibit for the Quilters' weekend; 5) Progressing on the 20th Century Black Marion Exhibit; and 6) Conducting tours of the museum.

Cornfield classic: Collen Cramer, Kelsey Winters, and Mary Eckerle met with Loretta Tappan on July 21. The Motorcycle Race held in Marion in 1919 and 1920 has been celebrated in Marion for several years in an event called "HogDaze". It has been taken over by the Indiana Motorcycle Society and is now called the "Cornfield Classic." As the group studied its history, the wish is to have an exhibit that tells its history and showcases some of the motorcycles from that time period. The group asked if the History Center would be willing to host an exhibit. Currently, there is a Crowdfunding Grant from the Community Foundation to raise money for this event.

Teen Department: 1) Dungeons and Dragons events have been a lot of fun; Hope to continue this with a campaign spanning from September through October; 2) The Summer Reading Program, and its prizes, were a hit. Already planning next year; and 3) Displays in July featuring "Traveling with Books" and pink Books for the Barbie Movie!

Network Manager: 1) Sonitrol and the wireless connection with the Jay House failed and Mr. Burritt had to replace a port and a switch. The connection has been restored; 2) Wireless and network switches will be replaced as part of this year's e-rate project; and 3) Mr. Burritt is working to improve the sound system in Meeting Room B.

Marketing: Kelsey Winters and Mary Eckerle spoke with "Just Jewels" at WBAT on August 3. They gave program information for August and detailed plans for the Jay House.

Indiana Humanities: MPL received a grant from Indiana Humanities for this program. Our Library will host Ava Tomasula y Garcia on Monday, August 28 @ 5:30 pm. She is presenting a program entitled *Gas and Oil, Dirt and Ghosts: Landscapes and Histories of Extraction in Indiana*.

SOS: (reported by Collen Cramer): a) SOS recently held elections for new officers. Julie Autry was elected President and Torianna McNair was elected vice-president; and b) SOS voted to become an Indiana Mainstreet affiliate.

Grant County Historical Society: (reported by Renee Bissell-Cole): Upcoming events:

August 16th meeting at 6:15pm MPL Mtg rm B is a presentation by the Suffrage Sisters and one Tx senator who opposes a woman's right to vote. 😊

August 19th- GCHS will be at the Pettiford-Weaver Reunion Expo in the Clarence Faulkner Community Center 12-4pm

August 26th 9am-2pm GCHS will be at the Grant County Farmer's Market on the Square. Stop by and say hello.

Sept 20th 6:15 MPL Mtg rm B- Cathy Shouse will present the History of Fairmount.

Oct 18th 6:15 Forrest Room in the Carnegie Bldg.- Historian Bill Munn will present part two of a four-part series about the history of Grant County. Part one was recorded and can be seen on YouTube.

We have scheduled into 2024 with a March presentation by Jim Gartland, the History of Atlas Foundry, though I have not procured the meeting rooms for 2024 yet.

Community Outreach: 1) Congresswoman Victoria Spartz held a town meeting at MPL on Monday, August 14 at 5:30 pm. There were about 100 people in attendance; 2) MPL will participate in Taste of Marion at IWU on September 1; 3) MPL will participate in the United Way Day of Action on September 14; and 4) MPL is working with WorkOne for a Job Fair in late September.

Adjournment/Next meeting: Tuesday, September 19, 2023. This meeting will hold a Public Hearing on the 2024 Budget.

_____President _____Secretary

_____Member _____Member

