

August 17, 2021

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, August 17, 2021, at 6 p.m. in the 2nd floor Library Program Room of the Marion Public Library. Present were Mrs. Nicholson, Mr. Breen, Mr. Cline, Ms. Sumpter, Mrs. Cline, Mr. Lutton and Dr. Case. Also present were Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle. This meeting was zoomed but there weren't any viewers.

Ms. Sumpter called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mr. Breen, the minutes of the July 20, 2021, meeting was unanimously approved with two corrections.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mr. Breen, the Treasurer's report and payment of the docket was unanimously accepted and payment authorized. The register of claims is made a part of these minutes.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$2,097,938.42 in the Library Operating Fund as of July 31, 2021.

New Business:

Travel, meeting attendance: On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mr. Breen, attendance, travel, and related expenses were unanimously approved for the following meetings: 1) CYPD (Children's and Youth People's conference, Muncie, April 22 & 23, registration, mileage.

Budget Preparation: The 2022 Budget preparation continues. With the Growth Quotient, there Library is allowed to raise its budget 4.3%. It is unlikely, though, that MPL will receive that amount in revenue. The circuit breaker cap continues to impact the property tax collection. On motion of Mr. Breen, seconded by Mr. Cline, it was unanimously approved that Form 3 of the 2022 budget would be placed on the Gateway portal.

Following are notes from the meeting with the DLGF:

- September 11 is our deadline to have Form 3 up on Gateway.
- Must reduce LIRF budget by 20,000 from 76,873 to 56, 873.
- 2022 budget
 - LOF 2,238,870
 - Rainy Day 50,000
 - LIRF 76,873 with reduction of 20,000
- Expect our LIT to be down. In 2021, we receive 14 distributions in 12 payments plus a supplement. In 2022, expect only 10 months of LIT.
2021 Normal would have been 39,048. We received \$46,672 a month. Expect to receive in 2021: \$546,672.20. 2022 Expect only 10 payments and will probably receive 390,480
From Ryan Burke, our DLGF representative: "I also wanted to let you know it looks like the county would see about a 7% reduction in LIT Certified Shares (<https://www.in.gov/dlgf/files/memos/caa8609869aa7a996826aeb5bafa2e3420ed4ee2.pdf>) due to lower incomes in 2020 that are being distributed in 2022."

The County is planning to assess the Library money to help pay for the Emergency Dispatch Center. There will be more discussion at the meeting. The letter that was sent to some of the members of the Tax Council is included as part of the minutes. Ruthann is planning to speak for the Board at the County Council meeting that deals with the LIT assessment.

American Rescue Plan: The grant application was submitted on August 9 to the Indiana State Library. Gathering information was a team effort. Rhonda Stoffer will be Project Director for the grant. The State Library will notify grant winners in September.

Jay House: Jay House utilities have been paid out of the Webster Gift Fund. According to the State Board of Accounts, this can continue as long as that part of the rent payment is receipted into the Webster Gift Fund. By consensus, this was approved by the Board.

COVID: On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mr. Breen, there is a mask mandate in effect for both library staff and the public until further notice.

Grant County Historical Society: The Grant County Historical Society will meet on Wednesday, August 18 at 6:15 p.m. in Meeting Room B of the Library. Ruthann Sumpter is Acting President of the organization. Renee Bissell-Cole is willing to serve as the Library liaison to the Grant County Historical Society. On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, Mrs. Bissell-Cole was unanimously appointed to the Grant County Historical Society Board.

Museum: Interviews for the Head of Museum Services will begin on August 17. Tamara Hemmerlein from the Indiana State Library will give a presentation on "difficult topics" on Tuesday, August 31's Special Board meeting.

The Museum committee met on July 30 to discuss museum planning and formation of a committee to work on the future of the museum. A definitive name for the museum was also discussed and Ed Breen drew up a proposal which will be sent separately before Tuesday's meeting.

From Ed Breen:

The museum component of the Marion Public Library was made possible by two events:

□ The 1993 vacation of the Carnegie building and relocation of the collection to the new building. (An exception is the "Indiana Room" collection, continually housed in the Carnegie building.)

□ The 1992 agreement with the Grant County Historical Society to accept, preserve and display the collection assembled by the Society.

In 1993 the Library Board formally adopted the name "Marion Public Library – Museum Services" to identify the museum component lodged in the Carnegie building but acknowledged in that adoption motion that "it may be known as the Marion Public Library Museum."

That ambivalence has not abated. To this day there is confusion and imprecise description of the museum component.

It has been called, informally and incorrectly, the "Grant County Museum at the Marion Public Library." Or the "Marion Public Library Grant County Museum" -- or any other possible permutation of the words "Marion," "Grant County," "Museum" and "Library"

Grant County government is not a participant in the operation of the institution. The Library and its components are supported by the citizens/taxpayers of the corporate City of Marion.

Grant County residents outside the corporate limits of the City of Marion are provided access to the library's borrowing privileges through purchase of a "non-resident" library card.

Access to the museum is undefined and unrestricted.

As we emerge from Covid and look to reopen the museum under new leadership (a new director yet to be hired) and focus new energy on its development, we are proposing that the name and identity need to be redefined in a more precise and contemporary way.

We are proposing the museum component be renamed:

The History Center

At Marion Public Library

The institution would be unchanged by this. The museum remains a department of the Marion Public Library in every way.

The Indiana Room would remain as it is, but with the added attraction of being a part of The History Center, a step toward offering two-dimensional and three-dimensional collections under a single umbrella. The proposed name is supportive of the goal of the museum being the forum in which the story of our community is told.

The proposed name would in itself become a tool for making our patrons aware of our offerings. With proper typographic treatment it would become a logo to be used consistently in promotion and marketing of the museum division.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, the Board unanimously voted to rename the museum *The History Center at Marion Public Library*.

In addition, the museum committee is also in the process of forming a committee to work on the museum's long-range plan. If there are community members that you would like to suggest for this committee, please give the names to Mary Eckerle.

Fall Hours: The Board passed summer hours earlier this year as an experiment. At that time, it was decided that they would revisit the hours questions as to whether they were adequate. On motion of Dr. Case, seconded by Mr. Breen, the Board unanimously voted in for the following hours beginning after Labor Day - Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and no Sunday hours. On motion of Dr. Case, seconded by Mr. Breen, the Board unanimously voted to have the Indiana History & Genealogy Department open by appointment only. This will be re-evaluated when COVID numbers improve. The museum remains closed during this time.

Deaccession of materials: There are some items, especially old chairs, that the Library wishes to delete from its inventory. Sale of the items is allowed if the items are passed along to Friends to sell. Permission is needed to do this. A list of deaccessioned items will be provided. The Friends does this with books for the book sales. The donation of books to Friends has had standing approval by the Board. The Deaccession of materials was consented unanimously by the Board.

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

Materials and Services: Statistics will be presented at the meeting.

Staff: 1) Betty Reynolds has retired after 22 years at the Marion Public Library. Emily Morris will be returning to the Indiana Room beginning August 16; and 2) Emma Reel, a recent graduate of Mississinewa high school, will start as a Children's Department Page on August 17.

Properties: 1) Roger Marx re-plastered and painted the Forrest Room in anticipation of the Quilters Hall of Fame celebration; 2) Chambers Maintenance dusted and mopped and vacuumed the museum in anticipation of reopening; 3) Mr. Marx is drawing up plans for parking lot repair and repaving which will be shared with the board; and 4) Mr. Marx is interviewing pest control companies as the head of Grant County Pest Control retired. 5) Roger Marx is constructing a door for the Library Programming Room upstairs. Mary Eckerle will bring a diagram; 6) Mary Eckerle will explain plans for the parking lot work; and 6) Roger Marx and Mary Eckerle are getting quotes for power washing the buildings.

Children's/Youth Services: 1) During the month of July, Children's staff prepared 500 grab and go crafts; 2) The Outdoor Storytime has been very popular; 3) Lego Club begins again on Saturday, August 28 in Meeting Room B; and d) The Boys and Girls Club visited the Library and created with Legos.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) Christina Rowland and Barbara Dixon made a video on how to create a fairy garden. It was posted on the Library's Facebook page; 2) Barbara Dixon's craft class on making a Mandala had 11 people in attendance; and 3) The Reference Department had a quilt display in conjunction with the Quilters Celebration in July; and 4) The July CriCut class had six people in attendance.

Teen Programming: 1) Summer Reading went well. There were 119 teens signed up and 53 completed; 2) Teen Tuesdays is planned to start in September. There will also be a high school book club starting on October 1; and 3) Tylanna Jones and Kristen are excited to be going to the CYPD conference. They always come back with great ideas.

Indiana History & Genealogy: 1) The Virtual Genealogy Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. July 22 was on Cemetery Restoration and Repairs with cemetery restorationist and stone carver Casey Winningham with six attending. August 12 was a sharing time. August 26 will have Jeannie Regan-Dinius from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Her topic will be The Underground Railroad in Grant County; 2) Update on the county records digitization project: Rhonda Stoffer is waiting to hear from Pam Harris on the status of purchasing supplies for the probate packet project. Hopefully this project will begin soon; 3) Rhonda Stoffer presented a program entitled "Using Facebook for Genealogy Research" for the Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library on July 13th via Zoom. There were 525 people who attending on Zoom and on YouTube; and 4) For the past year, MPL has used vCita to schedule appointments, curbside pickup, computers, and study room. vCita will not be renewed and Rhonda Stoffer and Sheri Sharlow are seeking a replacement program.

Circulation: 1) Staff at Circulation are in the process of placing all the music CDs back in their original cases and will no longer keep the discs in the file drawer at Circulation. CDs are still being checked out, but the format is no longer a high demand item; and 2) Joanne Hix, Joe Fox, Christina Rowland, and Michelle Morgan attended the Digipalooza conference virtually. The program sessions consisted of panel discussions, presentations from librarians and educators sharing best practices, plus interviews with bestselling authors Andy Weir and Grace Burrowes.

Head of Technical Services/System Administrator: 1) SkyRiver has been implemented at each workstation in Technical Services with great success; 2) Continuing to work on the best way to implement digital cards; and c) Adult graphic novels are now on the second floor of the Library.

Network Manager: Most of Mr. Burritt's time this past month was spent on research for the American Rescue Plan quotes. He approached several vendors about pricing and availability of equipment. The equipment listed in the grant must be installed by July 30, 2022. Backorders are not allowed.

Marketing: 1) Mary Eckerle and Joe Weir from the Knights of Columbus were on WBAT on July 23 to promote Christmas in July; and 2) Tylanna Jones and Kristen Gioe were on WBAT on August 6 to wrap up summer reading and to give an August/September preview of programs.

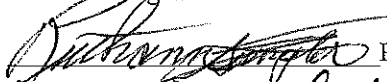
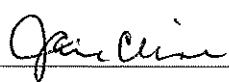
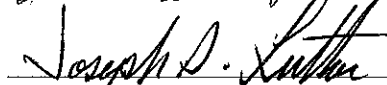

September 11: The Library will have an exhibit on the 20th anniversary of September 11. Peerless Printing printed signs from the American Library Association's programming office – they will be exhibited in September with other resources.

Historic Marion Neighborhood Association: Historic Marion is partnering with Hope House and God's House and the Library in a Neighborhood Clean-up to be held on Saturday, August 28.

Community Outreach: Taste of Marion is scheduled at IWU on Friday, September 3. This event could be in jeopardy, though, due to COVID.

Appreciations: 1) Deb Geyer from The Quilters Hall of Fame wrote, "Thank you to you and your staff for all you do for The Quilters Hall of Fame but especially for your hospitality during Celebration. We appreciate that you are so accommodating and helpful."

Adjournment/Next meeting: Tuesday, September 21, at 6 p.m. This meeting will be a public hearing on the 2022 budget.

 President  Secretary
 Member  Member
