

December 17, 2024

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 6 p.m. in the second floor Library Program Room of the Marion Public Library. Present were Ms. Ketcham (via Zoom), Mr. Cline, Mr. Case, Mr. Gilmore, Ms. Sumpter (via Zoom). Jonie Riddle and Jaime Pitt were also present.

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

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Ms. Ketcham, the November 19, 2024, minutes were unanimously approved.

On the motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Ms. Sumpter, the Treasurer's report and payment of the docket 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 \$3,349,541.51 in the Library Operating Fund as of December 17, 2024.

Business:

Finances – Jonie updated the board concerning EOY spending. We will have no encumbrances.

Budget - The 2025 Budget was approved. The 1782 form was received on December 2, 2024.

Board Appointments & 2025 Meeting Dates – An update was given regarding MPL board appointments. The Commissioners appointed Linda Wilk. The City Council & County Council will appoint during their respective December meetings. The Director presented a document listing the 2025 MPL Board meeting dates. Mr. Gilmore moved to approve the 2025 meeting dates, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Cline. The motion carried unanimously.

PLAC Card – The Director informed the board of the increase in PLAC (Public Library Access Card) fees from \$65 to \$70. It was mentioned that MPL may need to increase their non-resident fees as well.

Salary Resolution – The Director is working on the salary plan for 2025 which will be presented at the January 2025 meeting.

Concrete Work - A concrete proposal for the Terrace was presented. The Director recommends proceeding with the quote for concrete repairs, excluding additional planters.

- **Programs:** 15 programs offered in November.
- **Family Storytime (Nov 15):** Partnered with Ceola Friday and Keenan Davis for two sessions; families received books, made leaf rubbings, and enjoyed snacks. Positive feedback, plans to repeat.
- **Battle of the Books (Nov 23):** Winners: Kendall Elementary (4th grade) and Northview (5th grade). Thanks to Kristen, Madisyn, and staff for organizing.
- **Paws to Read:** Therapy dog program resumes on the 4th Monday of each month.
- **New Staff:** Welcome Bayley Grieve to Children's/Teen staff, starting Dec 18.
- **Outreach:** Eastbrook 5th graders visited the library for a tour, craft, and story in November.

6. Circulation (Michelle)

New Staff Update: Katie Singleton has accepted a full-time position and will now be working Sean's hours at Circulation.

Community Engagement: Joanne and I represented the library at the Walkway of Lights on November 24th. Mary Eckerle also joined us! The event was well-received, with guests generously paying it forward to allow others to enjoy the lights at no cost.

Garfield: Visitors traveled from Texas, Los Angeles, Boston, and Atlanta, all expressing appreciation for the Garfield trail and offering compliments about our library.

Budget Success: Joanne and Michelle wrapped up the year by successfully spending down our budgets for the Fiction and AV collections.

Holiday Decorations: Joy has beautifully decorated the main floor for the holidays, adding festive cheer to the library.

Staff Update: Recca officially started full-time at Circulation and will also begin working on community outreach efforts.

7. Indiana History (Rhonda)

County Records Digitization: 5,824 record books and probate files uploaded to FamilySearch.org. Scanning expected to finish by year-end. Awaiting final approval from FamilySearch on additional items for digitization.

Staff Update: We are thrilled to have Emily back at work after medical leave.

Bookeye Scanner Purchase: Library Board approved purchase of the Bookeye scanner to digitize fragile and oversized items. Scanner will arrive by year-end, with

The Reference Department has been busy, with Sheri handling social media, website updates, and Skykit TV displays, as well as managing the monthly discussion group. Angie continues to manage ILL and periodicals, while Aurora assists the team as needed. We are eagerly awaiting the hiring of a replacement for Sean to begin training.

I hosted one craft time with 10 participants, and Teresa Boucher led a Bob Ross-style painting class with 8 attendees. Unfortunately, I had to cancel the second craft class and the first fiber arts program due to illness. The fiber arts program is now scheduled to begin on December 18th at the Jay House.

Our partnership with the Quilter's Guild is progressing well. They have ordered six sewing machines, cutting mats, and rotary cutters, and we plan to start monthly classes in January in the Program Room. Additionally, we look forward to resuming classes with the Purdue Extension Office in the new year, with Mindy Mayes replacing Kailey Dockerty. Mindy will begin her role in January.

10. Technical Services (Kristen)

The Battle of the Books has concluded, with this year's winners being:

- 4th grade: Kendall Elementary
- 5th grade: Northview

TS has remained busy managing the influx of incoming materials.

11. Teens (Madisyn)

Total Number of Events: 8

Total Attendance: 13

Program Attendance:

Open Hours: 11/7 (1), 11/14 (4), 11/21 (0), 11/28 (Cancelled)

Pizza Game Night: 11/8 (2)

D&D: 11/9 (2), 11/23 (3)

Anime Club: 11/15 (1)

Key Highlights:

Attendance: Lower than expected, but increased engagement with displays.

D&D Break: Program paused in December, planning strategies to boost return attendance in January.

Volunteer Opportunity: Contact made with a high school art teacher to involve National Art Honor Society students in library volunteering.

Displays Featured:

1 Star Reviews