

January 16, 2024

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, January 16, at 6 p.m. in the second floor Library Program Room of the Marion Public Library. Present were Dr. Case, Ms. Ketcham, Mrs. Pogue, Mrs. Nicholson, Ms. Sumpter and Mr. Cline. Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle were also present. Mr. Gilmore joined the meeting via zoom. Collen Cramer was present at the beginning of the meeting. There were no other viewers on zoom.

An Executive Session preceded the 6 pm meeting.

Library Board President Cindy Ketchem called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Collen Cramer, Head of Museum Services, spoke on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, the minutes of the December 19, 2023, meeting was unanimously approved.

On motion of Ms. Sumpter, seconded by Mr. Cline, 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 \$3,325,689.366 in the Library Operating Fund as of December 31, 2023.

Business:

Finances: The 2024 Budget is now in effect. At this meeting, financials from December 2023 will be presented in order to wrap up the year.

Policies: Internal policies and procedures: 1) Snow Procedure; 2) Sick Bank Policy. These have not changed and are information items only. The Board reviewed these and they passed with consensus.

Other: 1) Circulation Policy – two minor changes; 2) Collection Development Policy – two minor changes; 3) Computer Use & Internet Policy – a section was added to ensure that the Library complies with the Children's Internet Protection Act; and 4) Investment Policy – no changes.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, the four policies and their changes were unanimously approved.

Director Search: Staff members were pleased that new director candidates visited every department while at the library.

Jay House Development: There are some groups interested in booking the Jay house. At least one organization and a patron have booked it thus far this year.

General Motors Project for Public Spaces: The grant announcement should be forthcoming the week of January 15.

Senate Bill 32: Mary Eckerle reported that there has not been much movement of this bill in the Senate.

Treasurer's Bond: Sue Nicholson's Bond for 2024 has been signed and notarized and will be filed with the County Recorder.

Insurance Information: Mark Bilger from Insurance Management met with Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle on January 10 to review the policy for this coming year. Because of so many property damage claims in 2023, property insurance will be going up. Insurance Management will do its best to keep costs down.

Covid: COVID kits, donated by the Grant County Health Department, are popular items at the Circulation Desk.

Erate: Marion Public Library will not apply for Category 2 funding this next year but will continue to work with AdTec and ENA as Erate providers.

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

Materials and Services: Statistics were presented at the meeting.

Staff: 1) Aurora Hyde is new to the Reference Department and will begin at MPL on January 15; and 2) The Indiana History & Genealogy position is still open.

Travel and Meetings: January 19, Bluffton, Mock Caldecott Workshop, Adrian Hale, Tylanna Jones, Registration and mileage.

Properties: 1) Roger Marx prepped all the snow equipment and purchased ice melt; and 2) Roger Marx designed a train track for the Polar Express event and acted as the conductor for this museum/children's department program.

Circulation: 1) 38 Library Cards were issued in December. In addition, there were several card renewals; 2) The indoor Garfield attracted many visitors over the holidays; and 3) Patrons checked out many Christmas books and DVD's during the holiday season. Televisions shows and series continue to be a draw for patrons.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) December was a busy month for most people and the library offered multiple programs and things to do. There were a book discussion group, two different craft programs, a puzzle table, and various coloring sheets as well as a variety of displays for people to enjoy; 2) The Computer lab stayed busy with 663 logins and almost 400 people used the study rooms; 3) Patrons continued to place ornaments on all three Heroes Trees throughout the month. The Police, Fire, and Veterans departments participated in putting ornaments on trees in memory of or honoring their past and present members. It was a community effort!

Indiana History and Genealogy: 1) Update on the county records digitization project: Currently, 3,376 record books and probate files have been uploaded to FamilySearch.org; 2) Janet Frey, the Family Search coordinator who has been working on the project at the Courthouse, contacted Mrs. Stoffer to see if there were any records at MPL that might be of interest to FamilySearch and that could be digitized. The library would receive copies of all items scans that were created. The Indiana Room and the Museum put together a list of proposed items for scanning. Ms. Frey sent this list to FamilySearch to see what items they would like to digitize; 3) Emily Morris is back at work following a shoulder replacement; and 4) Mrs. Stoffer spoke with Charo Boyd about showing the Pettiford-Weaver Documentary. She hopes to show it in June as part of Juneteenth.

Technical Services: 1) Ordering for 2024 has begun and already new materials are coming in; and 2) Kristen Gioe weeded the adult fiction audiobooks. There's still plenty more to check out!

Children's/Youth Services: 1) The grab and go bag for December was an ornamental craft. Grab and Go bags continue to be hot items in Children's; 2) There were 12 programs in the Children's Department in December; 3) Madisyn Timmons gathered materials to hand out at the English Learners event at McCulloch; 4) On Saturday, December 16, MPL held the Christmas in the Carnegie event. There was a cookie and cocoa bar, ornament painting, coloring, and activity sheets, storytime, photo op, and an interactive movie. Roger Marx set up train tracks and functioned as the conductor of the Polar Express. Over 55 patrons attended; 5) Book Clubs will resume in February; and f) Margaret Peterson Haddix will be at MPL on Monday, March 18, 2024, at 5:30 pm. This is as a result of a partnership with Justice Middle School and Kari Persinger.

Museum: 1) Colleen Cramer continues to inventory the museum collection; 2) Mr. Cramer and Ms. Winters continue to plan the Ball Stores Exhibit with Minnetrista. The Minnetrista team came and toured the museum and its collections; 3) The 20th Century Black Marion Exhibit is still in development and the plan is to roll it out this year; and 4) Hosted the Christmas at the Carnegie Program in December.

Teen Department: 1) Madisyn Timmons reorganized the Teen shelves and is keeping the collection relevant and updated. There are especially trending reads on social media and the Manga section. Ms. Timmons finds that a lot of YA books are trending for adults right now and has been trying to stay on top of making sure that the library has the titles that have been specifically requested; and 2) Recent displays include "Don't judge a book by its movie."

Network Manager: 1) MPL's firewall needs replacement and Mr. Burritt is working on that issue; and 2) The heavily used printer at the Reference/Adult Services desk has died and will be replaced.

Marketing: Kelsey Winters was a guest on WBAT to discuss Christmas in the Carnegie program in December. The Chronicle-Tribune had a nice front-page write-up on the program. Mary Eckerle was a guest on January 4 to discuss January events and promote our collection.

AARP tax help: AARP members are currently in training and tax help begins in February.

Comfort Care kits: MPL is marketing these kits, and many have been distributed to patrons who ask for them. There are some real needs in this community.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: The library will remain open and have passive activities, film slips of Dr. King's speeches, and books to check out.

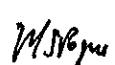

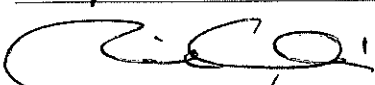
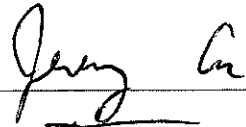
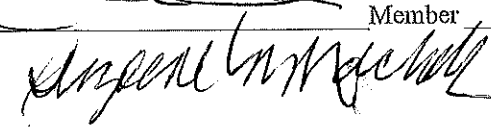
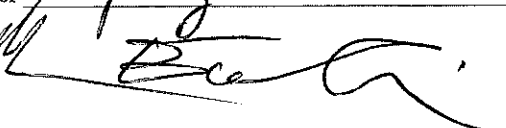
Homeless: Linda Wilk has asked that MPL participate in the 2024 Homeless point in time count on January 24. At that time, we will assist in counting homeless individuals who come into the library. The definition to be counted is that the person slept in a place not suitable for living such as an abandoned building, under a bridge, etc.

Candidate Forum: Mrs. Eckerle discussed the possibility of holding a Forum before the Spring Primary. There is a contested judge seat, two county commissioner seats, and some county council seats. The Board felt this would be a good opportunity.

Community Outreach: 1) Madisyn Timmons met with Diana Gardner (she is retired but back a few days each week) at the High School to discuss possibilities for teen involvement and possible partnerships in the future; and 2) On January 22, a group of special ed students will have a field trip to the library.

Appreciations: 1) From Natalie Garner at the Front Desk: "A patron stopped by the Circulation Desk on his way out just to tell us that we have a lovely library. He is a social worker and visits lots of libraries and really likes ours. He even toured the museum and Indiana History & Genealogy and enjoyed them too. Always good to hear something positive!" and 2) A patron thanked Paul Burritt: "Thanks to the magic man who let me borrow the fan. Dear Sir, Thank you for letting me use your fan today. I have an auto-immune disease that causes me to overheat and pass out. You're a lifesaver! Thanks again! Mrs. Bette Wildes. Vprep of Indiana."

Adjournment/Next meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

 President  Secretary
 Member  Member



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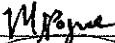
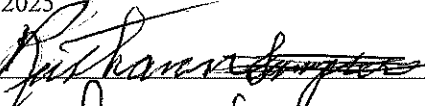
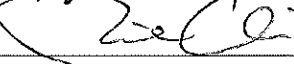
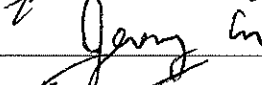
The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met as the Board of Finance on Tuesday, January 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the Library Program Room Present were Dr. Case, Ms. Ketcham, Mr. Cline, Mrs. Nicholson, Ms. Sumpter, and Mrs. Pogue. Mr. Gilmore was present on Zoom. Mrs. Eckerle and Ms. Riddle were also present.

All members of the Board were designated as members of the Board of Finance. On motion of Mr. Cline seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, it was unanimously approved Ms. Ketcham to be President of the Board of Finance and Ms. Sumpter to be Secretary of the Board of Finance.

A Finance and Investment Policy was presented. On motion of Mrs. Pogue, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, this policy was unanimously accepted by the Board.

On motion of Ms. Sumpter, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, it was designated that legal advertising will be published in the *Chronicle-Tribune* and in the *News Herald*.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m. The next regular Board meeting will be February 20, at 6:00 p.m. The next Board of Finance meeting will be January 21, 2025

	President		Secretary
	Member		Member
