

July 19, 2023

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, July 19, 2023, at 6 p.m. in the second floor Library Program Room of the Marion Public Library. Present were Mrs. Nicholson, Ms. Ketcham, Mr. Lutton and Mr. Cline. Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle were also present. Dr. Case, Ms. Sumpter, and Mrs. Pogue were absent. There were no viewers on zoom. Kelsey Winters, Museum Assistant, was present for the first fifteen minutes of the meeting.

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

Kelsey Winters was at the beginning of the meeting to discuss future plans for the Jay House. The Rental fee for the House was raised and it was recommended that the Deposit fee also be raised. A Wish List for kitchen items and furniture items has been created and distributed. The plan is to complete the preliminaries and begin renting in early September.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, the minutes of the June 20, 2023, meeting was unanimously approved.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson,, the Treasurer's report and payment of the dockets 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 \$3,153,373.82 in the Library Operating Fund as of June 30, 2023

Business:

Public Library Standards: On June 23, Jennifer Clifton from the Indiana State Library Development Office informed Mary Eckerle that the Indiana Library & Historical Board found Marion Public Library to be in compliance with the Public Library Standards.

Policies:

- Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials (this is part of the Circulation Policy). Add the line: **Do you live within the library district?** On motion of Mrs. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Cline, this addition to the Reconsideration form as part of the Collection Development policy was unanimously approved.

Finance: The State Budget Agency released the Maximum Levy Growth Quotient in early July. It is 4%. This is the amount that this year's budget can be raised without entering into a binding review with the fiscal body – the Marion City Council. Mary Eckerle and Jonie Riddle

Building & Grounds: Havel Brothers submitted a Quotation for the following Scope of Work for: Refrigerant Park Sale – Price for 80 lbs of R22 Refrigerant. Total Parts and Labor: \$7,200.00. A motion is needed to approve this since it is over the \$5,000 threshold. On motion of Mr. Lutton, seconded by Mr. Cline, this purchase was unanimously approved.

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

Materials and Services: Statistics were presented at the meeting.

Staff: No staff changes this past month.

Travel & Meeting: August 15, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries, Barbara Dixon and Sean Harnett, mileage.

Properties: 1) Mr. Marx worked on the air conditioning unit in the museum and the chillers in the library building; 2) The Brain Kitchen removed all of their items from the Jay House and Mr. Marx assisted in taking down the bookcases. He has also power washed and grouted the posts and outdoor sections of the House; 3) He is working with E & B paving on the August parking lot projects; and 4) He will be assisting the Quilters this week in setting up of their Celebration.

Circulation: 1) June was a busy month at MPL. Ninety-seven new library cards were issued, and many more cards were updated; 2) Kelsey Winters has been cross training and learning the basics of the Circulation Department She is a quick and eager learner; and 3) Garfield is once again extremely popular. In June, visitors came from Florida, Texas, Kentucky, and various towns in Indiana.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) June was a busy month with the Summer Reading Program along with other activities; 2) The Book Discussion group, hosted by Sheri Sharlow, had ten people in attendance in June. It will continue throughout the summer months; 3) Sean Harnett was able to assist Paul Burritt in setting up the new computers upstairs and completing needed updates; 4) The Indiana State Library hired a new courier for Interlibrary loan books and service has been disappointing. MPL does not get the pickups and returns on a timely basis. This is happening all over the State; 5) Barbara Dixon hosted a rock painting activity and had 33 attendees; 6) There were two creative journaling workshops with five people attending each one; 6) Displays for June included Father's Day, D-Day, and the Tour de France; and 7) The Study Rooms continue to be busy.

Indiana History and Genealogy: 1) Roger Marx replaced the HVAC unit in the workroom and also patched the walls around all three units. This has cooled off the room considerably; 2) Update on the county records digitization project; currently, 1,104 record books and probate files have been uploaded to FamilySearch.org; and 3) Bill Munn will present *Grant County in the Civil War* for the MPL Virtual Genealogy Club on Thursday, July 27. Registration is open to receive the Zoom link.

Technical Services: It has been feast or famine in this department. Shipments of Baker & Taylor items have been slow to come. This happened last year too. Baker & Taylor is monitoring the ongoing contract negotiations between UPS and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Hopefully, shipments will pick up. Lots of donations are coming in. It looks like there will be a book sale this fall.

Children's/Youth Services: 1) Prepared over 650 grab and go crafts during the month of June; 2) 213 patrons attended Storytimes during June; 3) twenty-five programs were offered during June. Special programs included Stevens Puppets, Science of Bubbles, and the ever-popular Sign Language class; 4) The YMCA camp kids visited both the Children's area and the museum. They came back another day for a movie and enjoyed a popcorn snack; 5) The Glow Dance Party will be on Thursday, July 27; and 6) Wonderspace is loaning MPL the Big Blue Blocks during the week of Monday, July 24.

Museum: 1) Hosted Sharon Wilson as part of the Carnegie Lecture series; 2) Took part in the SOS "Behind Closed Doors Tour"; 3) Conducted work and a zoom on the 20th Century Black Marion Exhibition; 4) Hosted tours of the museum; and 5) Finalized the Ridley Tower Community Room project.

Teen Department: 1) The Dungeons and Dragons events were a wonderful time. A group is really enjoying it and asked for consistent D & D events throughout the year; 2) The Painting Class with Tashema was a hit; 3) Lots of teens have come in to get their prizes for summer reading and it's been an opportunity to meet them and share about upcoming programs; and 4) Displays in June included Pride Month and Popular Picks.

Network Manager: MPL now has Deep Freeze running on the Reference public computers and the Teen computers. Deep Freeze is software that will return the computer back to the original condition after logging off. It makes sure that personal data is removed from the computers.

Marketing: Mary Eckerle and Barb Pack from First United Methodist Church were on WBAT on July 6 to talk about the Neighborhood Downtown event taking place on July 22.

SOS: (reported by Collen Cramer): 1) The group did research on downtown buildings for the "Behind Closed Doors Tours." This program was the most successful our that SOS has had; 2) Contributed to the Quilter's Hall of Fame Ice cream social; and 3) Board elections are scheduled for July.

Grant County Historical Society (reported by Renee Bissell-Cole): 1) GCHS had a booth at the 25th anniversary of the Grant County Farmer's Market last weekend; 2) The group is actively seeking volunteers for an indexing project; 3) The next meeting is Wednesday, July 19 at the Jay House. It will be Show and Tell (antiques, family memorabilia, tales of olde); 4) August 16 at 6:15 pm is a performance of the Suffragette Sisters. This will be the 103 anniversary of the ratification of the Women's Right to Vote; and 5) GCHS is invited to be a vendor at the Weaver-Pettiford Reunion on August 26/27.

Eclipse: Mary Eckerle gave an update on community preparation for the Eclipse. Bob Jackson, the local director of EMA, is gathering people into committees in preparation for the Eclipse. The Library will assist in meetings and information gathering.

Quilters Celebration 2023: There will be workshops, lectures, and displays from Thursday, July 20 through Saturday, July 22 here at the Library and the History Center. This partnership with the Quilters lasted many years.

Community Outreach: 1) Barbara Dixon, Rhonda Stoffer, Kelsey Winters, Mary Eckerle and three Friends of the Library and Museum participated in the Farmer's Market Anniversary on July 8; 2) Downtown Celebration: MPL is partnering with the Senior Center and First United Methodist Church in a Downtown Celebration of July 22; 3) National Night Out: This celebration of Marion Neighborhoods will be held at Matter Park Gardens on Tuesday, August 1. Some staff members will be involved.

Appreciations: 1) Sharon Wilson presented the Carnegie Lecture on June 24. She wrote, "I thoroughly enjoyed presenting the program and always appreciate all the help I received in the past and in the present from a great library staff. Kind regards, Sharon;" 2) Lisa Dominisse from Radiant Health emailed Mary Eckerle after a recent visit to MPL. She applauded the staff's Customer Service. She said that she was greeted when she entered the building. She needed to update and pay for her library card and was helped immediately. She needed a book for light reading and was escorted to the stacks with some recommendations; and 3) To Collen and Mary: "Hi there! We wanted to pause for a moment to recognize that it takes a village working together to put on major events for our community. Thank you for being part of our village and for having the courage to dream of something fun and follow through with that vision. Events like "Behind Closed Doors" create memories that change us and coast of vision of what is possible for us to achieve as we all work together. Thank you for the time and energy you gave. It is impactful in more ways than we even know. With Gratitude, City of Marion's Discover Marion Downtown Team & Marion Save Our Stories. Kayla, Kelsey, Layla."

Adjournment/Next meeting: Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

Jerry An President Ruthann Stoffer Secretary
Joseph D. Lutton Member Cici Member
Angela M. Schuber
Cynthia Kitch