

June 18, 2024

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, June 24, at 6 p.m. in the second floor Library Program Room of the Marion Public Library. Present were Ms. Ketcham, Mrs. Pogue, Mr. Case, Ms. Sumpter, Mr. Gilmore. Jonie Riddle was also present. There were no viewers on zoom.

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

The May 21, 2024, minutes was tabled for approval until the next meeting so that corrections could be made and information added concerning the previous director's award.

On the motion of Mrs. Pogue, 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 \$2,955,243.42 in the Library Operating Fund as of May 21, 2024.

Business:

Finances: The State Board of Accounts audit (engagement) continues through May. Jonie Riddle gave a brief update.

Redevelopment Letter: The Marion Redevelopment Commission has determined that for the 2024 taxes payable in 2025, there is no "excess assessed value" to be allocated to the taxing units as prescribed by the Act. –Given to board members.

ARPA Funds: Jaime attended the budget committee meeting of the Marion City Council. The council approved the money for the library to be voted on at the next regular meeting.

Unmasked Exhibit: The board recently received a request to host an art installation in the museum portion of the library. A formal proposal was received by the creator. The board discussed bringing the exhibit to the library and to the community. The board would like to hear from diverse leaders in the community about the potential of bringing the exhibit to the museum.

Action Taken:

The board has tasked the library director with potential collaborating with the requestors to bring together leaders in the community to weigh in on this sensitive subject matter. Board members want additional information and feedback from others who have hosted the exhibit.

I. Director's Report

1. **Materials and Services:** Statistics will be presented at the meeting.
2. **Staff –** We are in the process of hiring a Collections Manager for the Museum; We also have 2 staff out for major surgeries.
3. **Community Engagement:** MPL & History Center are hosting the screening of a documentary about the first Black settlement in Grant County. Jaime is also attending the Early Literacy Task Force meetings sponsored by the United Way. Attended the ReElement open house—they are a new business coming to the area hoping to make community connections. The PPS site visit went well and we are very excited about the Pop-up Boards and the community involvement.

Children's/Youth Department:

In May, at the library, we hosted a grab-and-go Carrot Garden craft and offered a total of 12 programs. Our outreach efforts included participation in the Mental Health Fair with Radiant Health, as well as hosting field trips from St. Paul, Kendall, and Riverview schools. Kristen and Tylanna promoted the Summer Reading program at Lakeview, resulting in over 550 readers signing up. Details about the program can be found on our flyer, and already, two teens and two kids have achieved their reading goals. In collaboration with Rookies Ink, we introduced Summer Reading t-shirts for patrons to order, adding a fun element this year. Additionally, Tylanna met with Project for Public Spaces to explore potential enhancements for our library, anticipating exciting developments ahead.

Circulation

In May, we issued a total of 90 new library cards, comprising 65 Adult Library Cards and 25 Kid's Library Cards. Additionally, we diligently processed numerous card updates to ensure the accuracy and currency of member information. This increase in library card issuance demonstrates growing community engagement with our library and its resources.

Recent Visitors to Garfield: The Garfield branch has recently hosted visitors from diverse locations, including Idaho, Florida, Ontario (Canada), Alaska, and New Hampshire. These visits highlight the Garfield Statue's reputation as a valued and appealing destination for individuals from various regions, reinforcing its significance in our community outreach efforts.

Indiana History Department:

The social media committee remains active on Facebook and Instagram, and we encourage you to contact us with any promotional needs. In the county records digitization project, 4,524 record books and probate files have been uploaded to FamilySearch.org, pending final legal approval on additional items. Newspapers.com is finalizing our newspaper digitization project and setting up online access. I've collaborated with Charo Boyd of the Pettiford family to screen the documentary "Rooted in Love, Lifted in Strength" on June 22 as part of our Juneteenth programming, with a panel discussion and refreshments to follow. Our project to standardize call numbers with TS is ongoing, thanks to Kristen and Olena's assistance.

Museum:

In our recent meetings and collaborations, we discussed plans for a satellite exhibit at the History Center with Sebastian Encina and explored funding opportunities for future exhibits with Haley Anderson from the CVB. Our exhibit development committee is now focusing on Black Businesses, with planning underway. We hosted an initial NAGPRA collections review with Morgan Lippert from the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and discussed potential partnerships with Logan York from the Miami Nation of Oklahoma, tentatively planning a virtual lecture for August. Additionally, we met to discuss notable historical sites along the Mississinewa River.

For events and programming, we assisted with planning the June 22 screening of "Rooted in Love, Lifted in Strength: The Pettiford-Weaver Story," and participated in the Mental Health Matters Fair. We also prepared for the International Placemaking Week Conference in Baltimore. In tours and education, we led field trips for St. Paul's Catholic School, Riverview Elementary,

and Eastbrook South Elementary, totaling 139 students. Personnel and administration efforts included conducting interviews for the Collections Manager position and holding succession planning meetings for the Head of Museum Services position. We installed a new quilting display in the Victorian Room, thanks to The Quilters Hall of Fame, and discussed future rotating displays. Community engagement activities included attending the ReElement open house and assisting with the Mayoral Wall project. At Jay House, we hosted 4 meetings and 1 tour, with the Indiana Motorcycle Preservation Society utilizing our space. For the PPS Grant, we hosted a successful 3-day site visit with Elena and Alessandra from Project for Public Spaces, featuring a well-attended public workshop and interactive "pop-up boards" for additional feedback.

Networking:

Paul is currently working on resolving two technical issues: rebuilding the operating system and reinstalling software on two staff computers and addressing issues with the public computer in the Indiana room that's running Windows 10 and struggling to run microfilm software. Additionally, we've recently purchased three new radios for the office, children's area, and Reference areas, and I'm available to provide computer assistance to both staff and patrons.

Properties Department:

Getting all rooftop exhaust fans operational required over 25 trips from the basement to the rooftop. Roger resolved the issue of unidentified control locations for four units without needing new wiring and switches. However, Roger discovered a wiring mix-up where the exhaust fan switches in the Network and maintenance rooms were controlling the wrong fans. After tracing and correcting the wiring, each switch now controls its respective fan.

While on the roof, Roger detected failing bearings in a chiller condenser fan motor, which I replaced to prevent costly damage. Early detection allows for bearing replacement at \$40 instead of \$300 for a new motor.

My current major project is constructing a partition wall in the Program room, alongside other maintenance tasks, including valve packing replacements, cleaning, and updating maintenance procedures.

Reference:

This month's displays included themes such as Mother's Day, racing, arthritis and bone health, lesser-known holidays, insects, cheese, BBQ, cryptids, telephones, and Memorial Day. Sheri hosted a book discussion group with 11 attendees, while I led craft sessions where participants made felt bowls shaped like flowers. Teresa Boucher conducted a Bob Ross-style painting class, attracting 12 participants. The craft programs had a total of 15 attendees. We plan to schedule Teresa again in August due to the positive reception of her classes. In preparation for the Summer Reading Program, we organized rewards for adults who complete the program, including a book bag with goodies and entry into a prize drawing. An extra family movie day is scheduled for Thursday, June 20th, at 1:00 PM, hosted by the Borlands' as part of the Summer Reading Program. Additionally, a series of programs with the Extension Office will begin on July 24th with "The Garden Grocery," and we are planning another series on "Dining with Diabetes," with dates to be confirmed.

Technical Services:

The Battle of the Books is fast approaching, with the finalized book list ready for coach voting in July and the event scheduled for November 23rd. Jaime and I attended the Second Harvest event on June 4th, sharing summer reading program details, and although attendance was modest, we hope to see increased participation this summer. We have recently added a vast selection of children's nonfiction books from Books Galore to our collection. While Joanne is away, I will manage fiction book requests and process new audiovisual materials. During the summer, I will work from home one day a week to focus on authority control and cleaning up series records to improve catalog usability.

Teens:

May was an extremely busy prep month for both Youth Services departments as we geared up for the summer. We held two Teen Takeovers on May 17th and 31st and incorporated open Teen Lounge time. The PPS grant required significant preparation, and I attended the Mental Health Fair at Matter Park on May 10th to promote our Teen programs. All handouts, promotional materials, and most media for Children's and Teens' programs were completed by May 1st, and we distributed posters and sign-up sheets early in the month. School deliveries were completed before the last day on May 22nd, and we provided posters and handouts to McCulloch and Marion High School. Prizes for the Summer Reading program were selected, ordered, and the webpage updated. The Teens department was decorated for Summer Reading, and I assisted with the Children's department as well.


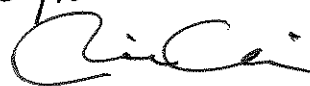
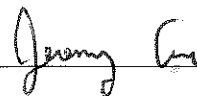
With Marion schools out, we anticipate frequent visits from teenagers. As long as they adhere to library rules, they are welcome to stay. I will soon send an email outlining policies and options for staff reference. Summer Reading sign-ups and prizes for teens are managed at the Children's desk. Please direct any inquiries there. We also have posters and handouts with programming information and sign-up details for the Reader Zone app in both departments. The Inheritance Games is the pick for the Teens Book Club this summer, with informational bookmarks and sign-ups available at the Children's desk.

Displays Included:

- Stories with Road trips
- Dark Academia

Travel & Meetings: The Director will be attending a budget workshop in Brownsburg in July.

Adjournment/Next meeting: Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Gilmore, Seconded by Mrs. Pogue Tuesday, July 16, 2024.

	President	_____	Secretary
	Member		Member