

May 16, 2023

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 6 p.m. in the second floor Library Program Room of the Marion Public Library. Present were Mrs. Nicholson, Dr. Case and Ms. Sumpter. Mr. Lutton was available remotely. Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle were also present. Mr. Cline, Ms. Ketcham, and Mrs. Pogue were absent. This meeting was zoomed with one viewer.

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

Roger Marx was present at the beginning of the meeting. He went into detail about this year's Parking Lot project. The Library will advertise and solicit bids on the parking lot. There is also an alternate project which will depend on whether or not the City of Marion can match the money. The invitation to bid will go out immediately and the Board can approve the bid winner at the June meeting.

On motion of Ms. Sumpter, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, the minutes of the April 18 meeting was unanimously approved.

On motion of Ms. Sumpter, 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 \$2,463,998.63 in the Library Operating Fund as of April 30, 2023

Business:

Technology: _Paul Burritt sought three quotes for computer replacement and received two. CDWG computers was the lowest bidder with of bid of \$26,323.74. EDGE came in second with a bid of \$26,804.82. The Board approved the computer replacement last month, but Mr. Cline (rightly) suggested that the Indiana Code be checked regarding obtaining quotes and bids. Mr. Burritt was able to lower the number of computers that are needed. The plan is to continue to look at the older computers and continue to replace them.

Finance: The Department of Local Government Finance released Circuit Breaker figures for 2023. The total for MPL is \$547,730.42.

Jay House development. Kelsey Winters and Mary Eckerle are working on a brochure to promote Jay House use. This brochure will expand the use of the Jay House to the public.

Grant County Historical Society: Travis LeMaster of the Grant County Historical Society has requested that Renee Bissell-Cole continue in her position as liaison to the Board. Mrs. Cole will remain as liaison for now and the Board will vote on her reappointment at the June meeting.

Indiana Historical Society grant: Museum staff is writing a grant for preservation of a Bible and Account book that are degrading. Mary Eckerle has written a letter of support and would like the President of the Board to sign off on it also. Mrs. Eckerle provided more information. This grant seeks monies to restore a Bible from Matthew Beck who was a member of the Weaver community in the 1800's. Fred Beck, nephew to Matthew Beck, compiled an account book and its restoration will also be part of the grant. Dr. Case co-signed the letter of support with Mrs. Eckerle.

Indiana State Legislature: Mary Eckerle gave a recap of legislation pertaining to libraries during this past term.

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

Materials and Services: Statistics were presented at the meeting.

Staff: 1) Kelsey Winters is now full-time in the History Center; and 2) No other staff changes this month; b) Another Meet the Author event is planned for Monday, May 15 when David Cole, author of *The Math Kids* series, visits the Library; and 3) The Children's Department offered 15 programs during the month of April.

Properties: 1) Roger Marx has been preparing specifications for parking lot paving and repair; and 2) Meeting Room B will be repainted this spring or summer.

Children's/Youth Services: 1) The Children's Department partnered with the General Francis Marion Chapter of the DAR in April to put together a Meet the Author event with Libby Carty McNamee. There was a great turnout and lively discussion about her book, *Susanna's Midnight Ride*; and 2) Another Meet the Author event is planned for Monday, May 15 when David Cole, author of *The Math Kids* series, visits the Library; and 3) The Children's Department offered 15 programs during the month of April.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) The Library hosted the Grant County Art Association's annual Spring Art Show; 2) Programming consisted of a Seed Starting program with two master gardeners and the monthly book discussion group; and 3) There were several displays. Among them were displays on Earth Day, Autism Awareness Month, and Astronomy.

Indiana History and Genealogy: 1) Update on the county digitization project: Currently, 323 record books and probate files have been uploaded to FamilySearch.org; and 2) Three of the new volunteers have begun projects: Debbie Ackley is indexing Marion High School Surveys from the 1940's up to the 70's. Sandy Dunn is working with surname and local history files. Mary Gary is creating a surname index to the family history books. Paul Haley, a long-time volunteer, is indexing the Upland Courier newspaper on microfilm.

Circulation: Circulation staff are the first greeters of the Library. They welcome people to the library, register them for cards, assist in recommending and finding books, teach patrons how to use Hoopla and Libby and a dozen other jobs. They are the nerve center of the Library. And they are much appreciated.

Museum: 1) Collen Reagan interned this past semester. He was a fantastic intern and will be missed. He graduates from Taylor next week; 2) The museum will have another intern for the summer; 3) The team is planning a 20th Century Black Marion Exhibit. A Committee will assist in planning the project and a Research group will do the leg work; 4) Tashema Davis will have a painting class in the Carnegie Room on May 12; and 5) Collen Cramer will present "Pharaohs in Middle Earth" as part of the Carnegie Lecture Series on Saturday, May 20.

Technical Services: 1) Kristen Gioe is cleaning out the card catalog. She is going through materials that have a status of awaiting or final processing. There are several hundred items that she is fixing; 2) Marion Health's donation of two sets of disc golf and two sets of pickleball is being cataloged and will circulate soon; and 3) Mrs. Gioe is developing some Read & Play kits for the Children's department.

Teen Department: 1) Madisyn Timmons reports that summer programming for teens is planned and ready. This will include Teen Takeovers, Anime Club, Dungeons and Dragons, a Teen Painting class with Tashema Davis, and a Teen Movie Night; 2) A TV was placed over the Teen Lounge to help display teen programs and hopefully increase engagement with the Teen area; and 3) Displays for teens this month include a Rainy Day display with popular YA books and trending books on Tik Tok and also some National Library Week pages.

Network Manager: 1) Paul Burritt is still working on computer replacement for this year. The adult computer number in the upstairs lab will be reduced because fewer people are using them. This is a trend across many Indiana libraries as people begin to use their phones more to check email, social media, and google; 2) Mr. Burritt and museum staff are planning to replace two scanners soon.

Marketing: Kelsey Winters and Collen Cramer were on WBAT this past month.

Friends Book Sale: The Book Sale ended on May 13. Most of the items were gone by the end of the Sale.

SOS as reported by Collen Cramer: 1) A second Interim Board Meeting was held, deciding further upon the bylaws of the SOS organization; and 2) The Planning Committee for an SOS downtown event was held at Ashley’s Ice Cream on April 13th and May 5th. The SOS Event will be called *Behind Closed Doors: The Past, Present, and Future of Marion Restoration*. It is in collaboration with the City of Marion and will highlight restoration projects that have been done in the past, are currently ongoing, and have plans for the future. The event will give attendees privileged access to tours through these sites that are normally closed to the public. The Marion Public Library’s Carnegie Building will be featured in this event.

Imagination Library: The Imagination Library of Grant County had a kickoff event at Matter Park on May 9. The Library had a vendor table at the event and participated in the Storytime program.

Boots Street Garden: Garden plots are still available in the Community Garden across Boots Street.

Community Outreach: Mary Eckerle and Jonie Riddle met with Lindsey Kelems of ASPIN. Ms. Kelems is a Health Insurance Navigator, and she will be available at the Library once a month in case patrons need help enrolling in Federal Marketplace plans, CHIP, Medicaid or HIP. She will also assist enrollees with questions about health plan coverage. If this is a popular service, she will come more often.

April Events

- Prevent Child Abuse, Wednesday, April 12
- Kindergarten Round-up at Marion High School, Thursday, April 13
- Earth Day @ Matter Park, Tuesday, April 25
- YMCA – Healthy Kids Day, Saturday, April 29

May Events

- Justice Multilingual Night, Thursday, May 4
- Kendall Family Night Wednesday, May 10
- Imagination Library Kick-Off with United Way @ Matter Park – May 9
- St. Paul 3rd graders, Thursday, May 11
- Mental Health Matters with Radiant Health @ Matter Park – May 17
- Lakeview, Monday, May 22

Appreciations: 1) “Hi! Want to thank you for pulling my name for the Gift Basket. I have never won anything before 😊. It was very nice. Thank you! Mrs. Valerie Zook.” Senior Expo; and 2) Neiman Lawson wrote a kind thank you note to the Indiana Room Staff thanking them for piecing together missing family history.

Adjournment/Next meeting: Tuesday, June 20, 2023.

_____ President _____ Secretary

_____ Member _____ Member

