

April 20, 2021

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 6 p.m. in the 2nd floor former Teen Room of the Marion Public Library. Present were Mrs. Nicholson, Mr. Breen, Mr. Cline, Ms. Sumpter, and Dr. Case. Mrs. Cline joined via Zoom (which failed before the meeting began when the Library internet went down. At that time, Mrs. Cline joined via a telephone speaker). Mr. Lutton was absent. Also present were Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle. Mr. Hotz was present at the beginning of the meeting.

Ms. Sumpter called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. She welcomed Board attorney Michael Hotz.

Judge Hotz updated the Board on the Webster Gift Fund. Both he and Ryan Jones from Edward Jones are working to see if the stock holdings can be divested in any way. Hotz has contacted the State Board of Accounts about what the Library can and cannot do.

On motion of Mr. Breen, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, the minutes of the March 16, 2021 meeting was unanimously approved.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Mr. Breen, the Treasurer's report and payment of the docket was unanimously accepted and payment authorized. The register of claims is made a part of these minutes.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$1,591,341.68 in the Library Operating Fund as of February 28, 2021.

New Business:

Travel, meeting attendance: None to report

Technology: MPL has a 30-day free trial of wireless printing from Libdata. It is being well received by the public. The cost for a year is \$400.

COVID discussion: The Mask policy will continue. Food and drink are not allowed in meeting rooms at this time.

Museum curator: Sue Bratton will act as Interim curator of the museum. She will be working 15 hours a week for 4 months. She will help prepare the museum for its reopening as well as assist Mary Eckerle in developing some policies, procedures, and a job application for the new museum curator.

Brianna's Hope: This group will no longer meet in the Jay House. A Brianna's Hope chapter has started meeting in the building down the street which was the former ESC.

Solar Eclipse: Discussion. April 8th, 2024 the long total eclipse drought will finally end for Indianapolis when the circle city experiences its first total solar eclipse in 819 years! The path of the eclipse will cut through the U.S. from Texas to Maine with Indianapolis area sitting near the center of the path of totality. Mary Eckerle will contact other librarians as well as the CVB about eclipse plans.

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

Materials and Services: Statistics will be presented at the meeting.

Staff: Kayla Johnson submitted a letter of resignation effective May 1, 2021. She has worked at the Library for 8 years. She will continue her position as full-time Neighborhood Association Coordinator

with the City of Marion and has taken a part-time job as a custodian for REAL Community Covenant Church.

Properties: 1) Over the past several weeks, Roger Marx has been focused on the planning and installation of the new study areas on the 2nd floor; and 2) Mr. Marx put up tables and brought up many boxes for the Library Book Sale.

Children's/Youth Services: 1) Virtual Programming on FB – During the month of March, there was a Virtual STEAM Challenge – Engineer a water-bottle hummingbird feeder; 2) In-person Programming – none; 3) At the Library – During the month of March, there were 13 curbside orders; 15 Book Bundles were checked out; and 500 grab and go crafts; and d) Other – Telling a People's Story Exhibit will be at MPL from April 11 through May 29; Summer Reading Dates are June 1 to July 10 and the theme is *Opening Doors*.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) The Seed Library is now open and people have been coming in to get seeds and there have also been some seed donations; 2) Barbara Dixon and Christina Rowland filmed another SmartArt Tutorial showing how to create a teacup bird feeder and a teacup floral decoration; 3) The Reference Department had several displays up throughout March including March Madness, Disability Awareness, Downtown Marion, RCA memorabilia, and Women's Suffrage; and 4) The monthly Book Discussion has had good numbers and more members are showing up in person.

Teen Programming: 1) Kristen Gioe did a quick weed in the Teen section; and 2) Teens had a Take and Make scratch art bookmark for National Library Week.

Indiana History: The Virtual Genealogy Club is meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. On April 7th, Curt Witcher from The Genealogy Center at Fort Wayne presented "The Power of Story: The Importance of Telling Your Personal Story" as part of the Telling a People's Story exhibit programming. 19 people attended. April 22 will be a Question and Sharing time.

Museum: 1) AARP has been doing a great job with their new setup. So far, they have processed 2,398 tax returns; b) There are items from the Museum in the display case on the Library's second floor to go with the theme of *One State One Story*; and June Felton has been finishing up donation and loan issues as well as readying the workroom for the next person.

Circulation:

Monthly stats: Overdrive downloads – 1724. Hoopla downloads – 933. Curbside pickup – 26. 9859 patrons visited the Library in March.

Head of Technical Services/System Administrator: 1) Wowbrary launched on March 3. Joe Fox has spent time coordinating the look and feel with the vendor and with Sheri Sharlow, who deserves a great deal of credit for helping to optimize it; and 2) Joe Fox has taken responsibility for the Library's Twitter account and he has begun making changes to things like the logo, tagline, and followers.

Network Manager: 1) Mr. Burritt installed four new public computers and monitors in the Indiana Room; and 2) VPN (Virtual Private Network) has been set up with Edge IT help. This is a more secure way to remote in from outside our network.

Marketing: Tylanna Jones and Rhonda Stoffer were on WBAT on April 1 to promote the Telling a People's Story exhibit programming and other library happenings; and b) Sheri Sharlow has done a lot of work in advertising the various programs at the Library, including creating handouts, bookmarks, etc. Kristie Fuller and Kristen Gioe have also created a lot of marketing materials.


Indiana Humanities: Mary Eckerle will update Board on the status of the grants.

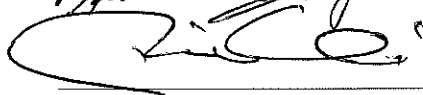
LSTA Grant: The laptop for the CriCut finally arrived and Paul Burritt got the software installed. Staff members are learning how to use it and, hopefully, there will soon be classes started so that the Library can fulfill the terms of the LSTA grant.

Friends: The Friends Book Sale has had a busy start with earnings of \$1771.69 for the first week. It will continue through the end of April. Since there was not a Book Sale last year, there are a lot of boxes of books to be sold.

Community Outreach: 1) MPL plans to work with community neighbors to get the Community Garden on Boots Street going again; 2) Double H Manufacturing and WorkOne held a Job Fair at the Library on April 15 and 3) Leadership Grant County, led by Tim Harris, will visit the museum on April 21 as part of their class. Kersten Priest from IWU will conduct the tour through the Weaver exhibit.

Adjournment/Next meeting: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 6 p.m.

 President _____ Secretary

 Member _____ Member



