

July 16, 2019

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, July 16, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in the Israel Conference Room. Present were Mr. Cline, Mrs. Enyeart, Dr. Case, Ms. Sumpter, Mrs. Cline, and Mrs. Nicholson. Mrs. Eckerle and Ms. Riddle were also present. Mr. Breen was absent.

Mr. Cline called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

On motion of Mrs. Enyeart, seconded by Ms. Sumpter, the minutes of the June 18th meeting was unanimously approved.

On motion of Mrs. Cline, seconded by Ms. Enyeart, 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 \$1,283,093.86 in the Library Operating Fund as of June 30, 2019.

New Business:

Travel, meeting attendance: On motion of Dr. Case, seconded by Mrs. Enyeart, attendance, travel, and related expenses were unanimously approved for the following meetings: 1) August 25-26, Carmel, Indiana. CYPD conference, Tylanna Jones, Kristen Gioe, Amy Reel, registration, mileage, lodging.

2020 Budget: It is officially Budget season. The growth quotient set for 2020 is 3.5%. The Department of Local Government Finance will hold budget meetings at MPL the week of August 5th. After the DLGF meeting, the budget will be advertised on Gateway. There will be a review (not binding or nonbinding) of budgets at the August 21st County Council meeting. The public hearing for the Library's 2020 budget will be at the September Board meeting. Finally, the 2020 budget will be adopted at the October Board meeting.

Library policies: Michael Hotz is reviewing the service animal policy.

Bequest: The Library received a gift of \$82,707 from the estate of Dale Dietrich in late June. The article from the *Chronicle-Tribune* follows the agenda.

Sonitrol: The Library uses Sonitrol for security in all three buildings. Sonitrol needs to do an upgrade on the Library's security system. Sonitrol submitted a proposal for contractual service with the cost of \$8,339.15 and a monthly monitoring fee of \$416. On motion of Ms. Sumpter, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, the Board unanimously passed this proposal.

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

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

Staff: Samantha Hauke has resigned as page in the non-fiction area. She will be a freshman at Purdue this fall. There are job openings for pages in the Children's Department and Reference/Adult Services.

Properties: 1) All HVAC equipment is working well and temperatures seem to be staying comfortable in the buildings; 2) Since installing the remote locking system for the adult bathroom doors, there has been a noticeable decrease in paper usage, major messes, and vandalism; and 3) Mr. Marx has finished painting the Connector and is installing new baseboards.

Neighborhood: The Library neighborhood has been a little rough this past month. The police were called a few times to settle fights in the parking lot. A man overdosed across the street behind the Blinn apartments. Finally, there might be squatters in the yellow house across the street from the Jay House. The police have been notified.

Cybersecurity: Mary Eckerle expressed concerns about cybersecurity on the Library networks and asked that board members send her recommendations for speakers and program presenters.

Children's/Youth Services: 1) The Children's Department offered 22 programs with 2,237 in attendance and 12 storytimes with 287 in attendance; 2) The Family, Food & Fun activity for June was creating a fairy garden or space landing; 581 children signed up for summer reading; 3) The Children's Sign Language class was bigger than ever this year. On the first day, there were 70 people; and 4) The Summer Reading party will be Friday, July 26th at 5 p.m. and Silly Safaris will be at 5:30 p.m.

Indiana History & Genealogy: 1) Rhonda Stoffer spoke with the Kiwanis Club on July 10th; 2) Rhonda Stoffer will attend the Midwestern Roots Conference in Indianapolis, July 18th, 19th and 20th; and 3) Dr. Kersten and Dr. Robert Priest and the Taylor students are continuing their research on Weaver. They have found several new items of interest and will be sharing their research in the museum in August for the 100th Pettiford Family Reunion.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) The first Saturday movie was *Dumbo* with 43 patrons in attendance; 2) The Barb Wilson book group discussed *Blessings* on Wednesday, July 10th. The August book is *Bento Box in the Heartland* by Linda Furiya; 3) Summer reading has been hugely successful – the biggest year yet! Patrons are really enthused; and 4) The Grant County Fiber Arts Guild will sponsor another tatting workshop during July. It will be led by Maria Porterfield.

Teen Programming: 1) Teens have had a record-breaking year for summer reading sign ups. 176 teens signed up for this; 2) In June and July, teens enjoyed the monthly Otakus meetings; 3) Teens watched *Guardians of the Galaxy* for the last teen movie of the summer and it was well attended. A teen DIY: Fairy Gardens program is planned; and 4) The final teen summer party is scheduled for Saturday, July 13th. There will be video and board games along with a modified version of the Stranger Things Escape Room. The Escape Room was highly successful in July.

Museum Services: 1) Attendance in the museum for June was 88; and 2) Mrs. Joan Brown donated several items to the museum this past month.

Circulation: Ten hot spots are now in circulation. Adult cardholders may check out a hot spot for a one-week loan.

System Administrator: Chair Yoga Class for Seniors has gone well. Beginning July 23rd, the library will offer two classes: one at 9:15 a.m. and one at 10:15 a.m. on Tuesday mornings. The classes will run through August 20th. After those sessions, staff will determine whether to hold more sessions. The response from the participants has been extremely enthusiastic.

Network Manager: 1) The new computers are in and being distributed; and 2) Office 365 is up and running. There will be training for staff soon.

Marketing: 1) Mary Eckerle was a guest on WBAT on July 5th; and 2) The *Chronicle-Tribune* covered the Stranger Things Escape Room.

Weaver: This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Weaver/Pettiford family reunion at Hills Chapel Church near the Weaver settlement in Grant County. Dr. Kersten Priest from IWU & Dr. Bob Priest from Taylor have a crew of students researching Weaver history and developing family trees. In addition to an exhibit of MPL Museum artifacts, they will have an exhibit celebrating the Weaver families. It is expected that people attending the reunions will visit the museum on Saturday, August 17th. Since this is also the 100th anniversary of the NAACP, the exhibit will most likely remain through the end of the year.

Grant County Historical Society: The Grant County Historical Society gifted MPL with an Institutional membership.

S.O.S: The property at 917 S. Adams Street, aka Ginger Lee's, was donated to SOS a few months ago. SOS has received a loan from Indiana Landmarks to replace the roofs on both building and tuck point the main building. The building will then be put on the market. There was a clean-up on the morning of June 22nd during which a 30-yard dumpster was filled with debris. About a dozen people volunteered their time to help with the effort. Also, SOS has collaborated to create design guidelines for historic preservation for the Marion City Council. The guidelines will be presented to council's ordinance committee later this summer.

Candidate Forum: MPL is working with the Chamber of Commerce to set up Candidate Forums with those running for mayor and City Council. These will probably take place on two nights since the field of candidates has greatly expanded during the last month.

Voter's Registration: Patrons will have an opportunity to register to vote at both the Circulation desk and the Reference desk.

Strategies for Youth: Sharon Vodraska and Mary Eckerle attended a meeting where the local police were being trained on dealing with youth. The ladies shared about situations happening inside and outside the Library. Most of the police in attendance had visited the Library on several occasions. Mrs. Vodraska also gave information about some of the services offered in our community and she shared the Library's Resource pamphlet.

Community Involvement: 1) The Library will participate in World Breastfeeding Week by having a table at Marion General Hospital on August 6th; 2) The Library will be at National Neighborhood Night Out on August 6th; and 3) the Library will also participate in Bend of the River's Books and Bikes event on August 17th.

Adjournment/Next meeting: Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 6 p.m.

_____ President _____ Secretary
_____ Member _____ Member

Tuesday,

Dale Dietrich and his gift

Jul 09, 2019

by Ethan Clewell - eclewell@chronicle-tribune.com

Sukhjinder Bath keeps Dale Dietrich close to her heart in the form of a necklace holding his ashes. Dietrich was like a father to Bath and they kept close and took care of each other until the day Dietrich died.

According to Bath, the two were incredibly close. He helped her through her mother's death. She helped him move on to the last stage of his life.

She says he was a very good man and an honest man, but he had trouble trusting.

"In the last 35 years he lived here, he only trusted me," Bath said.

According to Bath, he was social, loved to fish and he would save every penny that he could.

Near the end of his life he put those pennies, and his trust, into the organizations made to help Grant County.

When Dale Dietrich passed away, he donated \$728,660.40 to Hands of Hope, Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, Marion Public Library, Hearing and Vision Repair, Grant County Senior Citizen Center and Cancer Services of Grant County.

This includes a nearly \$250,000 donation to Hands of Hope, a resource program for victims of domestic violence.

"Most of the money went to Hands Of Hope so that women and children can have a better life," Bath said.

Dietrich also donated his house, worth nearly \$70,000, to Cancer Services of Grant County.

The other programs all received donations of \$82,707.

"Something like this means so much to a community," said Samantha Hyde, director of community relations for Salvation Army.

Officials at the Salvation Army has not decided what they will be doing with the money, although Hyde said they typically use large donations to expand their Pathway to Hope program. Hyde says the program attempts to break the cycle of poverty in a way geared towards the individual's situation.

Giving without taking was a part of Dietrich's life, Bath says.

Dietrich worked at the Philips 66 on North Washington Street under Bath. According to Bath, he got his job by working when nobody asked him to.

Bath had asked him if he wanted a job cleaning. That night he cleaned the entire gas station and Bath asked him what his payment should be.

"He (Dietrich) said, 'I want five dollars and a generic pack of cigarettes,'" Bath said.

Until the end he trusted Bath to take care of him. And after he passed, he trusted her to deliver the checks.