

October 16, 2018

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, October 16th, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the Israel Conference Room. Present were Mrs. Enyeart, Mr. Cline, Mr. Breen, Mrs. Nicholson, Mrs. Cline and Ms. Sumpter. Mrs. Eckerle and Ms. Riddle were also present. Dr. Case was absent.

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

On motion of Mr. Breen, seconded by Mrs. Enyeart, the minutes of the September 18th meeting was unanimously approved.

On motion of Mr. Breen, seconded by Ms. Sumpter, 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 \$713,810.17 in the Library Operating Fund as of September 30, 2018.

New Business:

Travel, meeting attendance: None to report

2019 Budget adoption: There being no objection to the published 2019 budget at the public hearing, on motion of Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mr. Breen, the budget resolution of \$1,927,447 for the Library Operating Fund, amount to be raised \$1,608,970; tax rate of 0.2434; \$105,000 for the Library Improvement Reserve Fund, and \$65,000 for the Rainy Day Fund, was unanimously adopted and will be sent to the Department of Local Government Finance. In addition, under the same motion, the published tax rate for 2019 was unanimously confirmed and approved. And, under this same motion, it was approved to reduce the Library Improvement Reserve Fund by \$100,000. This resolution is made a part of these minutes.

Roof Replacement: McGuff Roofing has indicated that they will begin work at the Library on October 31st. The Board will need to sign a contract with McGuff at this meeting.

Insurance information: Michelle Bunker, Insurance Management, notified the Library that there would be a 4.38% increase in Health benefits cost this coming year. Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle will meet with her on October 24th regarding changes in the policy.

Holiday schedule: A Holiday schedule for 2019 was presented. On motion of Mrs. Enyeart, seconded by Ms. Sumpter, the Board unanimously approved the 2019 holidays.

Brain Kitchen: The Brain Kitchen managers provided more information on the reading area/sensory area that they would like to put together as a result of a \$1500 grant. Their vision is for this space to serve a dual purpose in it being a place where students can quietly read and take AR tests, and also be a space they can calm down with the help of a listening station and sensory tools. Usually, only one child at a time would be using the room and they would have supervision. They wonder if they could potentially convert one of the rooms upstairs in the Jay House for this purpose. Ideally, they would like to have this ready to go after winter break at the very latest.

Library In-Service: The Staff In-Service is planned for Tuesday, November 27th. Still working on the program for the morning. The Library will be open from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. that day.

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

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

Staff: Karen Converse is no longer employed at the Library.

Board Re-appointments: Letters were sent to Mayor Alumbaugh regarding re-appointment of Ruthann Sumpter for her 2nd term and to the Marion School Board regarding the re-appointment of Jane Cline for her 4th term.

Properties: 1) Roger Marx has completed the lighting project in the courtyard. It is very bright out there at night and, hopefully, will cut down on mischief out there; 2) Mr. Marx is contacting the “bed bug” company to come again and do some spraying in Circulation, the Computer Lab and some other areas; and 3) Marion Utilities began trash collection on October 2nd.

Children’s/Youth Services: 1) First United Methodist preschoolers will begin visiting again twice a month for a storytime; 2) *Hotel Transylvania 3* will be shown over fall break; 3) Kings Academy volunteers will be at the Library on Friday, October 26th. They will clean and dust; 4) Sharon Vodraska and Kristen Gioe will attend the Youth Worker Café on Tuesday, October 23rd. The topic is, *LGBTQIA+ Community and Individual Needs: An Overview and Basic Tools*; and 5) Tylanna Jones will have a storytime for children in migrant families Monday, October 22nd after her regular storytime. There will be a translator for the storytime. This group will also receive reading tips, a tour, and library card sign-ups in addition to the storytime.

Indiana History & Genealogy: Wendy Puffer, a professor at IWU visited the Indiana Room with one of her classes. The class will be researching the lynching and the proposed memorial this semester.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) The Grant County Art Association is having their fall show in the Reference area this month. It will be here through October 28th; 2) The Barb Wilson book discussion group discussed *Mrs. Lincoln’s Dressmaker* on Wednesday, October 10th. The group continues to grow in size; 3) Sara Pohlman continues to hold her Punch and Painting class. The class has been concentrating on portraits for the last few months. Mrs. Pohlman reports that she has seen a lot of progress in those that have come consistently; 4) 15 people came to the *Visit with Mary Shelley* program. The speaker was very informative; 5) Clare’s craft program is always full. There were 17 people this last month; and 6) Sheri Sharlow will be giving a tour of the Library on October 24th for seniors from an area church.

Teen Programming: 1) In September, teens had an Otakus meeting and there were many new faces. It’s exciting to see new teens finding the group; 2) *FrankenFest* is quickly approaching and Kristen Gioe is working on a Mad Scientist Escape Room as one of the programs offered that day. Teams must help Dr. Frankenstein find the final piece for his monster – his brain. Teams will have thirty minutes to solve four puzzles to find the brain; 3) Teens will get to try their luck at a Breakout Box on November 3rd in the teen room; and 4) The teen room has seen a small change. The Manga collection has run out of room so it has moved to the last aisle of the Teen Fiction section. This is a popular collection and it keeps growing.

Museum Services: 1) Four seniors at IWU are considering using the Forrest Room for their Senior Art Show in late November. They would have a showing and a reception; and 2) Diana Siler, Fairmount, has offered the museum four short decoration pieces that she says are from the dome that was removed from the Grant County Courthouse. She sent photos of the pieces and Mrs. Felton compared them with other photos and believes they are authentic.

Circulation: 1) The Circulation Department completed six voter registration forms for the upcoming election; and 2) The following was posted on Facebook:

Marion Public Library

October 5th at 10:30 AM ·

Need some help using your laptop, smartphone or tablet? MPL is pleased to partner with Marion High School to provide technical assistance to you. Interns Kohala, Shawn, Brandon, and Devin are at the library on Thursdays and Fridays to help with your computer needs. Our interns can help you learn to use your device, troubleshoot problems, train you to use programs, and answer questions. They are proficient in Microsoft Office, Windows 10, and Google Suite. Call the library to make an appointment with one of our tech-savvy interns! Help is available from 9:30 to 11 and 12:30 to 2 on Thursdays and Fridays.

System Administrator: Karen Hiemstra assisted Ivy Tech student Amy Lauriat, who did an internship here last year, with statistics about titles in the Library collection.

Network Manager: 1) 14 staff computers have been ordered; and 2) Five copiers have arrived and the new contract with Van Ausdall is underway.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) Clare's craft class has resumed with a full house on Thursday, September 6th; 2) The Barb Wilson book discussion group will discuss *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker* by Jennifer Chiaverini; 3) The Frankenstein theme is back for September and October in line with the grant from Indiana Humanities. *Abbot and Costello Meet Frankenstein* was shown on September 1st and *The Bride of Frankenstein* will be shown in October; and 4) There were 38 people attending the weekly knitting/crochet group with five sessions in August. Members of the group contributed items for the display cases in the Library lobby.

Teen Programming: 1) In August, the teens had a game day at the Library. This has become a new popular program that teens like; 2) Teens also had an Otaku meeting with 20 in attendance which was wonderful; and 3) The movie, *Ready Player One*, was shown on September 8th.

Museum Services: 1) The museum received a large donation from Martha Russell. Her husband was Grant Russell, a long time realtor in Marion. She donated his uniform, many books, and other items connected to his time as a pilot during World War II; 2) Tanya Marshall loaned the museum two albums with Pettiford and Weaver photos and other information. She gave permission to scan all the material in them; and; 3) 108 people attended meetings in the Forrest Room. In addition, 108 people visited the museum.

Circulation: 1) Downloadable magazines are now available from Overdrive. Overdrive has curated a collection of 50 popular magazines. Magazines have unlimited checkouts, and simultaneous use; 2) Marion High School IT students are back this year. They are available to provide technical assistance to patrons and staff. They will also be able to install, modify and repair computer hardware and software on individual's computers/devices; and 3) Voter registration forms are now available for staff and patrons to fill out. Completed forms will be delivered to the Voter Registration office. Deadline to register for the November election is October 9th. The form is available at the Circulation Department.

System Administrator: The Circulation system received an upgrade this past month. With this, came memory issues and other problems that are being worked through.

Marketing: 1) Mary Leffler and Mary Eckerle were on WBAT on September 6th promoting *FrankenFest*; and 2) The *Chronicle-Tribune* covered the Mary Shelley event.

Indiana Humanities Grants - Frankenstein: Saturday, October 27th is *FrankenFest* with a read-a-thon of Mary Shelly's novel. The novel will be read aloud by volunteers beginning about 9:15 a.m. The day will be filled with activities for all ages including a cartooning workshop, craft and science activities, a TED talk about Frankenstein, and food for purchase.

Indiana Humanities – Novel Conversations: A grant was submitted to Indiana Humanities to bring an author to the Library in May 2019. The Library received this grant two times before, most recently in May 2018 to bring Philip Gulley to the Library. The three author possibilities (in order of MPL's preference) for this round are:

RAY BOOMHOWER, 2010 REGIONAL AUTHOR WINNER

A native of Mishawaka, Indiana, Ray E. Boomhower has been with the Indiana Historical Society for more than three decades and now serves as editor of its quarterly popular history magazine *Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History*. A former newspaper

reporter, Ray has written numerous articles for such publications as Outdoor Indiana, the Indiana Magazine of History, Michigan History, and Traces. He has also written sixteen books on a variety of Indiana subjects, including biographies of such notable Hoosiers as Ernie Pyle, Gus Grissom, Lew Wallace, May Wright Sewall, John Bartlow Martin, and Juliet Strauss.

In 1998 he received the Hoosier Historian award from the Indiana Historical Society. In 2009 his book Robert F. Kennedy and the 1968 Indiana Primary was selected as the winner in the historical nonfiction category of the annual Best Books of Indiana contest sponsored by the Indiana Center for the Book. His books have also been finalists and received honors in the annual Benjamin Franklin Awards from the Independent Book Publishers Association and Foreword Review's Book of the Year Awards. Ray has also been honored with multiple awards for his writing from the Indiana Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. Ray, who lives in Indianapolis with his wife and dog, is a member of the Society of Midland Authors, the Midwestern History Association, and the Biographers International Organization.

Genre: Nonfiction, history, and biography

Target Audience: Adults, but teens are welcome

Offerings:

- Workshop on how to write biography, "Telling Good Stories: Writing Biography for Fun and (Little) Profit."
- Presentation on the history of Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History and how to write for the quarterly periodical
- Programs on individuals he has written biographies of, including Ernie Pyle, Lew Wallace, Gus Grissom, Juliet Strauss, May Wright Sewall, John Bartlow Martin, Alex Vraciu, and John Bushemi
- Other programs upon request

SANDY EISENBERG SASSO, 2018 REGIONAL AUTHOR WINNER

Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso served as Senior Rabbi of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, Indianapolis from 1977 to 2013. She currently is the director of the Religion, Spirituality and the Arts Initiative at IUPUI's Arts and Humanities Institute. Sandy is active in the arts, civic and interfaith communities and has written and lectured on women, spirituality and the discovery of the religious imagination in children. She cofounded Women4Change Indiana in 2017.

Sandy is an author of two books for adults and sixteen award-winning children's books, including two starred reviews from Publishers Weekly and the 2006 Best Books of Indiana Award. Four of her books are awaiting release in 2018 and 2019. She has been named a Sagamore of the Wabash and has received the Heritage Keepers Award from the Indiana State Museum and the Spirit of the Prairie Award from Conner Prairie. She received a National Jewish Book Award in 2013. She and husband Dennis.

Sandy was the first woman ordained from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and the first to serve a Conservative congregation. She and her husband, Dennis, are the first practicing rabbinical couple in world Jewish history and were designated as Interfaith Ambassadors of the Year by the Center for Interfaith Cooperation in Indiana. They are the parents of two children, David and Debbie, and grandparents of Darwin, Ari and Levi. Visit her online at www.allaboutand.com.

Genre: Children's literature, adult nonfiction

Target: Adults, children (6-9)

Offerings:

- Readings and discussion of her works for adults and children
- Retelling the Bible - writing from the questions
- Nurturing children's spirituality through narrative
- Giving women names and stories

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Among Adrian's other honors are the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award, two grants from the Illinois Arts Council, the Julia Peterkin Award, a Pushcart Prize and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Lannan Foundation and a Simon Fellowship from United States Artists. He teaches in the MFA program at Indiana University in Bloomington and is currently working on a new collection of poems, *Hearing Damage*, and a graphic novel. He is the 2018-2019 Indiana Poet Laureate.

Genre: Poetry, graphic novels

Target Audience: Adults, teens

Offerings:

- Discussion and readings of his works

LAURA BATES, 2015 EMERGING AUTHOR FINALIST

Laura Bates has a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in Comparative Literature, with a focus on Shakespeare studies. She is professor of English at Indiana State University, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on Shakespeare and world literature.

For more than twenty-five years Laura taught throughout the state and federal prison system. She created the world's first Shakespeare program in supermax—the long-term solitary confinement unit. Her prison work has been featured in local and national media, including two segments on MSNBC-TV's *Lock Up*. Laura chronicled these prison experiences in "Shakespeare Saved My Life: Ten Years in Solitary with the Bard" (*Sourcebooks*, 2013). The book received positive reviews as well as national and international recognition, from *Kirkus* and *Publishers Weekly* to *National Geographic* and the *Huffington Post*. It was selected as the 2015 global Big Library Read and read by more than 100,000 readers in 12 countries. A film adaptation is currently under contract. Laura's second book, *Making a Difference: Using Literature to Change Children's Lives*, was published by Kendall Hunt in 2016. Informed by her work with prisoners who committed their crimes, including murder, as juveniles, this book shows teachers and other caring adults how to use literature to redirect criminal impulses in youth.

Laura is a popular speaker on campuses, in schools, libraries, and community centers across the nation. Her interactive multimedia presentations introduce audiences to both Shakespeare and prison in new and thought-provoking ways. She has been called "highly engaging" and "inspirational."

Genre: Nonfiction (though her specialty is Shakespeare, which is fiction/drama/classic literature)

Target Audience: All groups, but especially college campuses, libraries and community centers, as well as prisons, high schools and even elementary schools

Topics:

- Discussion and readings of her works
- Presentations on Shakespeare and prison (which can be a combination of multimedia interactive presentation, lecture, book reading, and Q&A)
- Creative-writing workshops

Discover Downtown: Sue Bratton and Mary Eckerle have participated on the steering committee for this event to be held on Friday, October 12th from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. There will be walking tours of available buildings as well as food trucks, a beer garden, family fun and a pop-up history center in the lobby of the former Regions Bank at the corner of 4th & Washington. SOS and MPL have collaborated to have 20 historic photos enlarged to posters for the exhibit in the former Regions Bank. Bill Munn and Sue Bratton have also researched timelines showing business activity from the late 1800s to 1965 for several of the buildings on the square.

Community Involvement: 1) The Library participated in Allen School's Community Fair, the Fall Festival at the YMCA, the Veterans Stand Down at the YMCA and will be at Justice Middle School's Literacy Night next week; 2) Some members of the Marion High School band showed off their new uniforms and briefly performed at the Circulation desk on October 11th at noon; 3) Board members are welcome to volunteer with staff and Library Friends at the Walkway of Lights on Sunday, November 18th from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; and 4) A Job Fair will be held at the Library on Friday, October 19th in partnership with WorkOne and the Growth Council.



Appreciations: 1) Author Irene Hannon thanked the Library on Twitter for featuring one of her books on Title Talk on September 24th; 2) A patron told Mary Leffler how much she is enjoying taking classes on the new *Universal Class* database. It is always nice to get good feedback; 3) Amy Lauriat, Ivy Tech student wrote to Karen Hiemstra, "This is great, thank you so much! There are so many resources available. Wow! I will check on the database information, too"; 4) Indiana Wesleyan University sent a thank you note for Library participation in Taste of Marion; 5) The Chamber of Commerce sent a picture and thank you note for Library participation in the new Garfield statue ribbon cutting; 6) "I know I'm a few days late, but wanted to thank you for your presence during the Community Fair and your commitment to Allen Elementary!!! It does NOT go unnoticed!!!" Mr. Anthony Williams, Allen Elementary School

Principal; and 7) “Marion Public Library – Thank you very much for the opportunity to teach my “Write Your Story” Workshop this year! It was exciting for me to watch understanding & confidence grow in most who attended! I appreciate your willingness to take a chance on me! It was a joy to work with you.”
Bekah Shaffer.

Adjournment/Next meeting: Tuesday, November 20th at 6 p.m.

_____ President _____ Secretary
_____ Member _____ Member