

November 17, 2015

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, November 17th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Israel Conference Room. Present were Dr. Case, Mr. Cline, Ms. Sumpter, Mr. Holderead, Mr. Ott and Mrs. Cline. Mrs. Eckerle and Ms. Riddle were also present. Mrs. Enyeart was absent.

Dr. Case called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

By consensus, the minutes of the October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting was unanimously approved.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$1,637,056.69 in all funds as of October 31, 2015.

On motion of Mr. Cline, seconded by Ms. Sumpter, the Treasurer's Report was approved and payment of the docket was unanimously authorized.

New Business:

Travel, meeting attendance: none to report

History Made Here project: Estimates for the project were reviewed by staff with additional input from Mike Cline and Paula Shultz from the Convention & Visitors Bureau. The Library submitted a grant for \$10,000 to the Community Foundation for the project. Other grants are being considered.

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

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

Staff: Applications are being taken for the custodian position.

Board appointments: Debbie Enyeart was reappointed by the Marion School Board on November 11th. Her fourth term will begin January 1, 2016 and end on December 31, 2019.

Property: 1) Roger Marx and Paul Burritt are repairing lights in both buildings and outside; and 2) Maintenance is looking at costs and making lists of wiring, painting and repairs to the Museum that need to be completed before the *History Made Here* project begins.

Children's/Youth Services: 1) The recent Basket class was successful with 16 people in attendance; 2) 150 people attended the Children's Halloween Party. Roger Marx did a great job in creating the Haunted Walkway and there were several volunteers; 3) The third annual Battle of the Books program will be held on Saturday, January 30th. In addition to Marion Community Schools 4th graders, there will be two 4<sup>th</sup> grade teams from Northview Elementary School; 4) Family Survivor Night is November 13th and there are 5 teams participating; and 5) Author Leland Gamson will read and sign books on Thursday, November 19th in the Children's Department.

Museum Services: 1) The Museum has 178 visitors which included five meetings. The Manufacturing Exhibit's opening breakfast had 70 people in attendance; and 2) Mrs. Felton has been preparing the Museum for the upcoming exhibit. This involves emptying cases and putting items in storage.

Reference Services/Adult Programming: 1) The Wilson book group discussed the *Rosie Project* in October and *The Fault in our Stars* in November. There will not be a December meeting; 2) Clare's craft for December will be a Yo Yo Snowman; 3) 51 patrons attended the November 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday showing of *Jurassic World*; 4) Karen Blinn and Mary Leffler organized the first adult coloring program on November 9th. It was well attended with lots of positive comments; and 5) November is *National Novel Writing Month*. Sheri Sharlow is hosting write-ins and meet-ups for aspiring authors.

Teen Programming: 1) Teens will make a food gift craft in December.

Indiana Room: 1) Rhonda Stoffer will speak to the Wabash County Genealogy Society when they visit the Indiana Room on Monday, November 16th; 2) Ancestry.com has updated its database to point people to the Library's new webpage URL. They have also updated the death records portion of the Library's database. Two national genealogy bloggers mentioned these updates in their blogs. One blogger even went further and pointed out other items of interest on the Library's website besides the database; and 3) Indiana Room staff member Debbie Ruth found some errors in the 1910 Jonesboro death record book. The Health Department cannot change the official book but has copies of the correct pages and the Library's database also has the corrections.

Circulation: 1) New art prints have been ordered and will circulate soon.

Marketing: 1) Mary Eckerle and Sheri Sharlow were on WBAT on November 5th; and 2) The *Chronicle-Tribune* covered the Candidates' Forum on October 21st.

Manufacturing Exhibit: The exhibit was quite successful this year with 200 people visiting during October. The *Chronicle-Tribune* ran a complimentary article about it. Volunteer docents made it possible to keep the exhibit open on the weekends.

In-Service: The Library In-Service was held November 4th. In addition to 30 staff members attending, there were librarians from Gas City, Fairmount and Upland. The topics were well-received.

Candidate Forum: The forum was very successful with about 200 people total for the two sessions.

Coding program: IWU is partnering with the Library to have a Coding program here on Wednesday, December 9th as part of Computer Science Education Week. The goal is to attract high school students and pique their interest in computer technology.

STEM grant: As STEM becomes more and more popular and discussed in the community and in the newspaper, the Library staff sees this as an opportunity to make more contacts for potential partnership in planning the November 2016 STEM exhibit programs. Five staff members attended a maker space program at the Allen County Public Library on November 11th and obtained lots of good information about future innovative programming.

Keith Rea: Keith Rea, son of Bill Rea, has offered to perform at the Library on December 18th. He is a musician and songwriter currently living in Texas.

Friends: The Friends of the Marion Public Library and Museum met on November 9th. 15 people attended – the biggest turnout ever. Lots of ideas and plans for 2016 were discussed including book sale changes, authors to invite, and bicentennial thoughts. The Friends will fete the staff and board sometime in December.

SOS: SOS proposes extending the downtown historic commercial district further south on Washington Street calling it the South Washington Street Historic District. The area, roughly 4<sup>th</sup> Street to 20<sup>th</sup> Street & Gallatin Street to Branson, has a number of stakeholders and significant building. SOS met with each mayoral candidate and with community members including stakeholders and redevelopment commission members to share information about the area. Each meeting concluded with a walk around the neighborhood. One group toured the train depot at 10<sup>th</sup> and Washington. A feasibility study was completed on the former PCC & St. Louis Depot and it will be presented to the Quilters Guild in December.

Community Involvement: 1) The Library had a table display at the Fall Health and Safety Festival sponsored by Head start and Early Head start; 2) Children's Department staff visited Allen School and Riverview School in October; 3) Walgreens offered Flu Shots at the Library on November 6th; 4) Staff and Friends will volunteer at the Walkway of Lights on November 22nd from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; and 5) the American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive in Meeting Room B on December 11th.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ President \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Member \_\_\_\_\_ Member