

**August 16, 2022**

The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees met Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 6 p.m. in the second floor Library Program Room of the Marion Public Library. Present were, Mrs. Cline, Mrs. Nicholson, Ms. Ketcham, Mr. Lutton, Ms. Sumpter, and Dr. Case. Mr. Cline was absent. There were no participants on Zoom.

Mrs. Cline called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

On motion of Mrs. Nicholson, seconded by Ms. Ketcham, the minutes of the July 19, 2022, meeting was unanimously approved with three changes.

On motion of Ms. Sumpter, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, 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 \$2,677,179.15 in the Library Operating Fund as of July 31, 2022.

**New Business:**

**Technology:** 1) Mr. Burritt reports that the new server should be installed soon; and 2) Problems with the wireless have arisen and they are being addressed with ENA technology and Sonitrol security.

**Policies:** 1) A revised Sick Bank policy was being presented; 2) The Animals in the Library policy has been revised with some additions from the Board and Michael Hotz. These two policies were tweaked by board members and were approved and re-adopted by consensus. 3) Mary Eckerle met with Michael Hotz on July 29 about the Guns in the library legislation. He is reviewing statutes and will get back with suggestions for wording.

**Budget 2023:** Jonie Riddle and Mary Eckerle met with Ryan Burke from the Department of Local Government Finance on July 22. Attached is a copy of the Notice to Taxpayers which will be placed on Gateway after the Board meeting. The goal of the meeting was to look at needs for 2023 and determine how to best place amounts in the accounts. 5% is the Growth Quotient for this next year and it was important to keep the advertised budget under 5% so that the Budget did/ does not have to be reviewed by the fiscal body which is the Marion Common Council. More information at the meeting.

**ARP City Grant:** There has been no forward movement or information on this Grant opportunity.

**Common Council Resolution:** A Common Council Resolution regarding a tax abatement for General Motors was shared with the Board.

**Census: This is Information only. Census Bureau Announces Release Date for 2020 Census Congressional District Summary Files**

**AUG. 11, 2022** — The U.S. Census Bureau today announced it plans to release the 2020 Census Congressional District Summary Files in August 2023. These summary files are retabulations of selected summary levels from the Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (scheduled for release in May 2023) for the 118th Congress and the new state legislative districts. When states report changes to congressional districts, the Census Bureau retabulates data using the new boundaries.

More information is available on the [About 2020 Census Data Products](#) webpage.

No news release associated with this announcement. Tip sheet only.

**Covid guidelines:** This is Information only.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention loosened Covid-19 guidelines on Thursday, freeing schools, and businesses from the onus of requiring unvaccinated people exposed to the virus to quarantine at home.

The changes are a sharp move away from measures such as social distancing requirements and quarantining, which had polarized much of the country, and effectively acknowledge the way many Americans have been navigating the pandemic for some time. The agency's action comes as children across the country return to school and many offices have reopened.

"We know that Covid-19 is here to stay," Greta Massetti, a C.D.C. epidemiologist, said at a news briefing on Thursday. "High levels of population immunity due to vaccination and previous infection, and the many tools that we have available to protect people from severe illness and death, have put us in a different place."

The C.D.C.'s new guidelines come after more than two years of a pandemic in which more than one million Americans have died. With the highly contagious BA.5 subvariant of Omicron spreading, the United States is recording more than 100,000 cases and nearly 500 deaths a day on average.

But many Americans dispensed with practices such as social distancing, quarantine, and mask-wearing long ago.

"I think they are attempting to meet up with the reality that everyone in the public is pretty much done with this pandemic," said Michael T. Osterholm, an infectious disease expert at the University of Minnesota, referring to the C.D.C.

The agency has been working for months on the new guidance, which builds on previous recommendations issued in February, when the agency shortened isolation times for many Americans. The C.D.C. said it is making changes now because vaccination and prior infections have granted many Americans some degree of protection against the virus, and treatments, vaccines and boosters are available to reduce the risk of severe illness.

The changes shift much of the responsibility for risk reduction from institutions to individuals. The C.D.C. no longer recommends that people stay six feet away from others. Instead, it notes that avoiding crowded areas and maintaining a distance from others are strategies that people may want to consider in order to reduce their risk.

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

**Materials and Services:** Statistics were presented at the meeting.

**Staff:** 1) Bob Coffelt is the new morning custodian. He previously worked for Marion Community Schools; 2) Christina Rowland left the library's employ on August 4 to become the new children's librarian at the Gas City library. Currently, staff is filling her workload; and 3) A Children's/Teen program assistant job opening is advertised. Mary Eckerle gave an update on staffing.

**Travel & Meetings:** 1) SirsiDynix User Group annual conference, Johnson County Indiana, Kristen Gioe, registration, mileage; and 2) Youth Services Conference, Sunday, August 21-Monday, August 22, Plainfield, Indiana, Tylanna Jones and Kristen Gioe, registration, lodging, and mileage.

**Properties:** 1) Roger Marx has begun pressure washing the library building. It looks great; 2) Roger Marx spent part of July training Bob Coffelt. Hopefully, he will alleviate some of the load in the maintenance department; and 3) Roger Marx hopes to begin the parking lot project before the end of August.

**Children's/Youth Services:** 1) The Grab & Go project for August was a Backpack Lanyard; 2) Storytime attendance has been steady. Friday Storytime is now in the Children's Activity Room; 3) For Summer

Reading, there were 136 pre-K readers and 268 K-6 readers; and 4) Kristen Gioe and Tylanna Jones will attend the ILF Youth Services Conference in Plainfield on August 21 and 22.

**Reference Services/Adult Programming:** 1) July saw the end of the Summer Reading Program 250 adults participated with a 47% completion rate. 118 adults read at least 24 hours during the life of the program. Several businesses made generous donations for prizes including Lowden Jewelers, 50 East, Folkie's, Brooks Brothers, Texas Roadhouse, Horner's, Obi's, Los Amores, Mac's Hardware, Papa Murphy's, Player's Gear, Sarah's Sweets, plus coupons for the Indiana State Fair, Splash House, and Casey's. The library also purchased gift cards as giveaways along with snack items and donated books; 2) Upstairs displays had a "Oceans of Possibilities" theme. Other displays included books on quilting (which included a hanging quilt display, Pearl Bassett, and a puzzle table for patrons; 3) The Book Discussion continued to be a draw with 14 in attendance. The Shell bracelet class had 9 attendees; and 4) Staff members from that department and library staff in other departments helped out when there were shortages during July.

**Circulation:** 1) Sean Harnett started working part-time in the Reference Department. This is in addition to his Circulation hours; and 2) Garfield continues to draw people from around the world into the library. July visitors included people from Brisbane, Queensland, Yuma AZ, Detroit, and Orange County CA.

**Indiana History & Genealogy:** 1) The Virtual Genealogy Club will start up again later in August; 2) Update on the county records digitization project: work on the project slowed in July due to vacation and sick leave. Staff plans to pick up the pace in August; and 3) After a 6 week leave for knee surgery, Rhonda Stoffer is back at work!

**Museum:** 1) Continued Photo Inventory; 2) Intern put up hat display in library; 3) Hosted SOS Strategic Plan session; 4) Hosted Quilters Event; e) Had first Museum Strategic Plan session; 5) Visited Children's Museum and had meetings with staff there; 6) Contributed museum items to the General Motors Open House Event; and 7) Held the second Carnegie Series lecture.

**Teens:** 1) Teen programs over the summer went really well; and 2) The Teen department has an Oculus Quest 2 kit from the Indiana State Library. This is a virtual reality headset. Kristen Gioe will use it at the Teen Takeover program.

**Technical Services:** 1) Kristen Gioe will attend the INSIRSI conference on Friday, August 12 at the Johnson County Public Library; 2) MPL received a large number of items from the bindery which will eventually land in Indiana History; and 3) Kristen Gioe cataloged the Caregiver Memory Kits from LifeStream.

**Network Manager:** 1) New server install is back on track hopefully soon. EdgeIT now has all the hardware in hand. This update on the server is needed because it has reached its "end of life." Microsoft will no longer support Server 2012R2 (our current DC01 server) software in early 2023; 2) Over the last month, Mr. Burritt noticed staff and patrons having issues with our wireless dropping connections and/or no connections at all. He is monitoring the wireless network. One probable reason is that AT&T, T-Mobile, and other Internet providers are changing from 3g to 5g technology and beyond. And there have been recent FCC changes influencing all internet providers as well; and 3) Also, FCC changes will cause the library to update the way MPL elevator phones connect to 911. (\$\$\$\$). Roger Marx and Paul Burritt are working with the elevator company to resolve this issue.

**Marketing:** Michelle Morgan and Mary Eckerle were on WBAT on August 4. Michelle Morgan talked about Hoopla and Libby downloadable services and Mary Eckerle discussed the new Caregiver Memory kits.

**September @ the Library:** 1) September is Library Card Sign-up month. A staff committee is working on ways to attract more borrowers to the library; and 2) September 18-24 is Banned Books week. In light of recent developments to ban books both in Indiana and the nation, the library staff will plan a display and information.

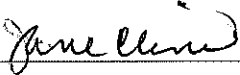
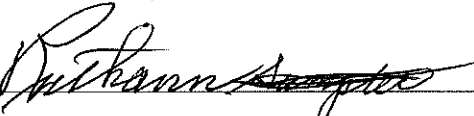
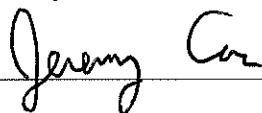
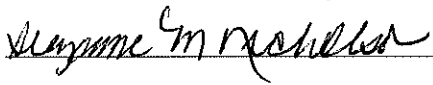
**Marion: A Pictorial History:** Mary Eckerle provided an update on this book written by June McKown and a future possibility connected with it. The Grant County Historical Society plans to buy the copyright and film from the publishing company when it goes out of business in October. This will allow the Historical Society to print copies of the book for sale and distribution in the community as a fundraiser.

**Quilt Show:** The Quilters Hall of Fame Celebration 2022 went well despite some challenges. The north elevator was out of service for the duration of the Show, but quilters were able to use the south (back) elevator. The Saturday storm also caused issues although, luckily, the power did not go out completely and there wasn't much damage outside except for limbs and leaves.

**Community Outreach:** 1) MPL will participate in a Taste of Marion on September 2 @ IWU. This is the event that welcomes back new students; and 2) MPL will participate in the Stand Down event for veterans on Friday, October 9 at the YMCA. At this event, area programs for veterans are on display.

**Appreciations:** From the newsletter of the *Crosley Quarterly: Heartland*. "On May 7, the Heartland Region, along with the Marion, Indiana Public Library, hosted special Spring club event. The library's museum has a beautifully restored 1952 Crosley VC on display, and the Indiana History room has a comprehensive collection of documentation and news articles related to the post-war Crosley manufacturing presence in Marion. In addition, the county historian presented on Powel Crosley and his involvement in establishing a facility in Marion. And we heard from a "special" guest speaker, Ned Yingst, talk about his seventy-plus year affair with all things Crosley. Forty-two people attended the morning presentations, with most from the local community. We had twenty-two members attend from the club with eight Crosleys on display. A good turnout from the community stopped to see the cars. Many reminisced about their "Crosley experiences." A local banker even brought his Crosley! It was great seeing everyone and enjoying all the various conversations. And two new Heartland Region members were signed up! Thanks to everyone for taking the time to bring your Crosleys to the Marion Public Library for our special event. A special thanks to the library staff who made the arrangements for the main speaker and had the street blocked off so we could display our Crosleys.

**Adjournment/Next meeting:** Tuesday, September 20, 2022. This will be a public hearing on the 2023 Budget. It is important to have a quorum (4) for this meeting.

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