

The Working Men's Institute Board of Trustees met on April 18, 2024

President Fred Frayser called the meeting to order. Those in attendance were President Fred Frayser, Treasurer Tamara Allison, Secretary Christine Crews, Trustee Connie Weinzapfel, Director Ryan Rokicki, and Circulation Specialist Shannon DeLap

Minutes of the March 21, 2024 meeting had been sent electronically. Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Christine Crews seconded. Approved.

Tamara Allison then presented the Treasurer's Report. Ryan reported that the Bob Johnson Trust has been placed into a Vanguard account. Connie Weinzapfel moved to accept and hold for audit. Christine Crews seconded. Approved.

FWMI-

- Dr. Carlisle Wishard of the Evansville Museum hosted our first FWMI lecture on Wednesday, March 27th at 6:30 p.m. Forty people were in attendance. The next lecture will be presented by David James on May 22nd.
- Our first book sale of the year will be held the second weekend of June.

In Old Business-

- We had some negative criticism from the membership about the restoration of the Harry Hawkins mural in the Room for the Dissemination of Useful Knowledge. Ryan has been in contact with the conservator, Andrea Chevalier.

In New Business-

- Our STEM programming attendance has been low. We have decided to put the "Meet a STEM career" on hold but continue with the STEM Story Time.

Director's Report (see attached)

Mr. Rokicki then presented the claims. Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to accept the claims. Christine Crews seconded. Approved.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Director's Report-April 18, 2024

Kiwanis Story Time took place on Thursday, March 28th at 6:30 p.m. Andria Barthlow read *How Do Dinosaurs Choose Their Pets* by Jane Yolen and Mark Teague. There were eleven children present. The next Kiwanis Story Time will be on April 25th. Jean Kares will be reading *Grandpa's Teeth* by Rod Clement.

Pre-school story time is doing well. We had four children this morning.

Tristra Newyear, an author of historical fantasies and scientific romances, held a book signing and discussion on April 4th at 6:30 p.m. There were approximately twenty people in attendance.

The New Harmony Clay Project held an artist lecture titled "Narrative Form" at the WMI on Tuesday, March 26th at 6:00 p.m. This lecture featured Artists in Residence Autumn McKay, Alex Lewis, and Greg Van Dusseldorp. Fifty-two patrons attended.

On Wednesday, March 27th, the Director of Science Experiences at the Evansville Museum, Carlisle Wishard, educated the public in preparation for the 2024 total solar eclipse. Her talk focused on the geometry of the total solar eclipse, the path of totality, and eclipse safety. There were forty patrons in attendance.

Monday, April 8th brought fifty people to the WMI. Many just visited but we did have a few that stayed and experienced the Total Solar Eclipse on the lawn with the staff.

The New Harmony Artists Guild held an art show and poetry reading on Sunday, April 7th and Wednesday, April 10th. There were around 30 to 40 patrons on Sunday and fourteen on Wednesday. The art display hung in the Maclure room until April 14th.

Tomorrow, I will be attending the Indiana Library Federation regional conference at the Floyd County Public Library in New Albany.

Heritage Days is April 24-25. We have enough Staff and Volunteers for this event.

Alexandrian Public Library will be touring the WMI on Monday May 13th.

The Feiner grant has been launched. So far, we have had two applicants. Last Years recipients Tristra Newyear-Yeager, Eleanor Rust and Rebecca Hope have contacted me about their lectures. Ms. Yeager and Ms. Rust have set the date of September 5th and Ms. Hope will be in August.

Bill McKenzie will host "Grief: A journey to Peace and Acceptance" May 2nd at 7:00 p.m.