

The Working Men's Institute Board of Trustees met on March 21, 2024

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

Minutes of the February 15, 2024 meeting had been sent electronically. Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Christine Crews seconded. Approved.

Connie Weinzapfel then presented the Treasurer's Report. Christine Crews moved to accept and hold for audit. Nathan Maudlin seconded. Approved. Nathan Maudlin made the motion to take \$50,000 from the endowment for our operating funds. Christine Crews seconded. Approved.

FWMI-

- Dr. Carlisle Wishard of the Evansville Museum will host our first FWMI lecture next Wednesday, March 27th at 6:30 p.m. She will be discussing the science behind the upcoming eclipse. The first forty people will receive a pair of eclipse glasses.
- Erik Janik has completed the trash bin pad.
- We have decided not to participate in the upcoming community-wide yard sale.

In Old Business-

- We have received the disbursement from the Bob and Pat Johnson Trust. Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to use a portion of the disbursement from the Bob and Pat Johnson Trust to clean the Harry Hawkins mural located in the Room for the Dissemination of Useful Knowledge. Nathan Maudlin seconded. Approved.
- The molding for the Room for the Dissemination of Useful Knowledge was to be completed last year by Koester Construction. This needs to be completed. We will get a bid from Koesters for this project.

In New Business-

- Connie Weinzapfel has spoken to Karla Atkins at the Town Hall about transferring the town records to the WMI. It was suggested that Ryan stop by the Town Hall and get an idea about how many linear feet are needed for their storage.
- We are taking measures to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience during the April 8th Solar Eclipse. Camping will not be allowed on the lawn. "No Camping" signs will be made if necessary.
- It is our turn for a compliance review. It is shorter and not as extensive as a regular audit. The auditor will be e-mailing each Board member questionnaire. Completion of this is optional.

- We need a Capital Asset Policy to fulfill a requirement from the State Board of Accounts. We have established our level of capital assets is \$1000; however, it is not highlighted in a policy. We can add this to our Internal Controls Policy. Nathan Maudlin made the motion to change the amount of the capital asset to \$5000 and add it as an amendment to our Internal Controls Policy. Christine Crews seconded. Approved.

Director's Report (see attached)

Mr. Rokicki then presented the claims. Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to accept the claims. Nathan Maudlin seconded. Approved.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Director's Report-March 21, 2024

Kiwanis Story Time took place on Thursday, February 23rd at 6:30 p.m. Tamara Allison read *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*. Eight children were in attendance. The next Kiwanis Story Time will be on March 28th. Andria Barthlow will be reading *How Do Dinosaurs Choose Their Pets* by Jane Yolen and Mark Teague.

Our STEM area dedication and Story Time took place on March 7th. We had six children attend the event. The next STEM Story Time will take place on April 4th.

Mike Axton held his "Meet a STEM career" talk on March 14th. Due to another STEM related program that evening there were no children present. We did have eight adults present. On April 11th Dan Busler will highlight his career as a Pharmaceutical Chemist and Scientist.

Tristra Newyear, an author of historical fantasies and scientific romances, will hold a book signing and discussion on April 4th at 6:30 p.m. She creates stories that transport readers to other worlds by exploring our human and technological relationships and understanding the past. Ms. Newyear has a doctorate in history and area studies and is one of three recipients of the 2023 Lena Feiner Research Grant.

The New Harmony Clay Project will have an artist lecture titled "Narrative Form" at the WMI Tuesday March 26th at 6:00 p.m. This will feature Artists in Residence Autumn McKay, Alex Lewis, and Greg Van Dusseldorp.

On Wednesday March 27th Director of Science Experiences at the Evansville Museum, Carlisle Wishard, will educate and engage the public in preparation for the 2024 total solar eclipse. Her talk will focus on the geometry of total solar eclipse, the path of totality, and eclipse safety.

We would like to thank Connie Weinzapfel for the new area rug in the STEM area.

Josh Lamb has been here and repaired the lights in the library area.

Last Friday, I attended the Southwest Indiana Regional Directors Round Table at the Fort Branch library. The WMI will host the next one in May.

The new furniture for the reading room has arrived.

It is with deep sadness that we inform you of the passing of our esteemed volunteer, Helen Smith. We received this news this morning and we wish to express our heartfelt condolences to her family and loved ones during this difficult time. The WMI is grateful for the time and effort she put into her volunteer work.

