

The Working Men's Institute Board of Trustees met on October 17, 2024

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

Nathan Maudlin motioned to retain the current Board of Trustees officers for 2025. Connie Weinzapfel seconded the motion. Approved. Tamara Allison then proposed electing Connie Weinzapfel for another term as a Trustee. This motion was seconded by Christine Crews and approved.

Minutes of the September 19, 2024 meeting had been sent electronically. Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Nathan Maudlin seconded. Approved.

Tamara Allison then presented the Treasurer's Report. Nathan Maudlin moved to accept and hold for audit. Christine Crews seconded. Approved.

#### **FWMI-**

- The final FWMI lecture is scheduled for November 14 at 6:30 p.m. Please note that there has been a change in the speaker. Jerry Rairdon, Wesselman Woods Director of Development will now present in place of Zack Garcia who has resigned from his position.

#### **In Old Business-**

- Archive expansion update: Glen Kalley from Patterson-Pope will provide another schematic next week. Once we have reviewed the schematics, we will schedule a meeting with the committee to discuss how we should proceed with this ongoing project.

#### **New Business-**

- Franco Proserpi -Nathan Maudlin visited with Franco recently while visiting Italy. He has a new project that may be of interest to the WMI. Mr. Proserpi has been working on "The Dance of the Graces" since 1997 and would like to have the paintings displayed here.
- Meeting with Rick Johnson- Director Ryan Rokicki had lunch with Speaker Rick Johnson on Tuesday. While he didn't have any ideas on how to increase participation, he did have some opinions, one being that many members are involved in many other things. Ryan suggested that perhaps a few weeks before the membership meetings President Fred Frayser could meet with Mr. Johnson and discuss things that need to be addressed within the meeting.
- Connie Weinzapfel has purchased more furniture for the lecture hall. It includes a sofa and four chairs.
- The transfer of Town Records-Connie Weinzapfel has been working with Linda Warrum and Ann Huelsmann to transfer the town records from the town hall to the WMI. They

will need to be reduced. Connie is checking into the retention policy for Indiana on these types of records. The ones that would be of most interest would be minutes from the town council meetings and the financials.

- Connie Weinzapfel would like the FWMI to host a lecture with an entomologist.

**Director's Report (see attached)**

Mr. Rokicki then presented the claims. Nathan Maudlin made the motion to accept the claims. Christine Crews seconded. Approved.

Director's Report October 17, 2024

The final episode of the 8-episode podcast *Frances Wright: America's Forgotten Radical* was released on September 25.

Kiwanis Story Time occurred on Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Tracee Foley read *Pete the Cat: Rocking in my School Shoes* by James Dean. Nine children attended. The next Kiwanis Story Time will be on Thursday, October 24, at 6:30 p.m. Ann Huelsman will read *The Book Tree* by Paul Czajak.

Pre-School Story Time will begin its fall session on October 24, 2024. We have had approximately six children each week. This session will conclude on December 19, 2024.

Peggy Taylor began free weaving classes at the Working Men's Institute sponsored by the Indiana Arts Commission on Thursday, September 19, 2024. Woven by Hand and Heart will meet each Thursday evening from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The fall session concludes on October 17. There will be another session in December. The winter classes will be December 26-28 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Ben Nicholson, the author of "Clockwork Basilisk: The Early Revolvers of Elisha Collier & Artemas Wheeler," will chat about America's first revolver.

The WMI is excited to host the Local Loco Model Train Club for the October 26-27 weekend. Local Loco is a group of model railroad enthusiasts from Evansville and the surrounding communities in southwestern Indiana. This FREE event will showcase various model railroad layouts. The club members will be running trains for everyone to enjoy. The event hours are Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

David Angel is scheduled to deliver a presentation titled "Mastering Difficult Conversations" on October 29, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. This event will be the inaugural session of the "Conflict Resolution 101" series, taking place this fall at WMI.

Bill Mckenzie will host "Grief and the Holidays" on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

I went to Rice Library to begin digitizing the Disseminator.

Melora has been working on adding interpretive labels to the artwork.

Paul Plaschke began working on the Harry Hawkins mural today.

Peggy Fisherkeller as well as Randy and Deb Patrick will be here next month continuing the Indiana State Museum's Curatorial Outreach.