
BOT Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2025

Call to Order

The monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Working Men's Institute was held on March 20, 2025. Attendees included President Fred Frayser, Treasurer Tamara Allison, Secretary Christine Crews, Trustee Connie Weinzapfel, and Director Ryan Rokicki. Members not in attendance included Vice President Nathan Maudlin.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on February 20, 2025, were sent electronically. Connie Weinzapfel made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, which Christine Crews seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer Report

Tamara Allison then presented the Treasurer's Report.

After some discussion regarding the current state of the market, the Trustees scheduled a special meeting for Wednesday, March 26 to meet with Robert Bernardin regarding funding for the Archive Project.

Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to instruct Robert Bernardin to sell \$50,000 worth of stocks for general operating support. Christine Crews seconded. The motion carried.

Friends of the WMI

Christine Crews reported that the first lecture was held on March 18. Kelley Morgan of the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites presented *Indigenous Earthworks of the Harmonist Cemetery*.

Ryan added that he spoke with Shelley Batt, the new Treasurer for the FWMI. They discussed numerous things that the Friends organization could help fund. She will take the mentioned ideas back to the FWMI board for discussion.

Old Business

Ryan Rokicki, Connie Weinzapfel, and Tamara Allison will be meeting with Marsh Davis tomorrow about the feasibility study grant from the Lilly Endowment.

During a previous meeting in 2024, Connie Weinzapfel mentioned that state guidelines for meetings are set to change, which may require the WMI to upgrade its equipment. Ryan has been in contact with the Indiana State Library, and they confirmed that we are not required to live-stream our meetings. However, Connie Weinzapfel still wishes to explore the option of purchasing new equipment that would enable the WMI to record and live-stream our lectures.

New Business

No new business

Directors Report

Ryan Rokicki Reported

On February 28, Anna Tsouhlarakis delivered an Artist Talk in conjunction with her exhibition "Encountering" at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art. Twelve patrons attended the event.

On March 6, Doug Ginder, the Southern Medical Entomologist for the Indiana Department of Health, presented a discussion on the various types of mosquitoes and the different methods used for their control. Thirty patrons attended the event.

Rebecca May Hope, the recipient of the Feiner Grant, gave her lecture titled "Women of Paradise: Legacy of the Female Boatloaders" on March 12. Forty-six patrons were in attendance.

Kelly Morgan of the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites presented *Indigenous Earthworks of the Harmonist Cemetery* on March 18. Thirty-two Patrons attended the event.

Shannon and I have finished our work on the State Library Report. Additionally, I completed the Annual Financial Report and the Indiana Business Entity Report. All of them have been submitted.

We are looking into a streaming service similar to Libby. This will allow our patrons to check out movies and videos digitally.

Peggy Taylor and I are finalizing the grant report for the Indiana Arts Commission. We will be sending letters to our State Representatives to express our appreciation for their support in the arts. Additionally, we have applied for another grant to secure further funding for this wonderful program.

Upcoming Events Include:

March 20- I will give a Keynote presentation at the Ribeyre Gymnasium for the district meeting of the Ladies Home Extension.

March 26- There will be a performance by the University of Evansville jazz ensemble.

March 27- Kiwanis Story Time Susy Schuette is scheduled to read *Little People, Big Dreams: Iris Apfel* by Marai Isabel Sanchez Vegara.

April 3-Preschool Storytime will begin a spring session.

Claims

Mr. Rokicki presented the claims. Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to accept the claims. Christine Crews seconded. The motion carried.

Adjournment