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# **BOT Meeting Minutes**

April 16, 2026

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## **Call to Order**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Working Men's Institute was held on April 16, 2026. Attendees included Vice-President Nathan Maudlin, Secretary Christine Crews, Treasurer Tamara Allison, Trustee Connie Weinzapfel, Director Ryan Rokicki, and Circulation Specialist Shannon DeLap. Those not in attendance included President Fred Frayser.

## **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the March 19, 2026, meeting were sent electronically. Connie Weinzapfel moved to accept the minutes as amended, which Tamara Allison seconded. The motion carried.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Tamara Allison then presented the Treasurer's Report. Christine Crews moved to accept and hold for audit, which Connie Weinzapfel seconded. The motion carried.

Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to authorize Ryan to transfer \$60,000 from the endowment to cover operating expenses, which Christine Crews seconded. The motion carried.

Tamara Allison made the motion to ask Robert Bernardin to move \$250,000 into the Vanguard account unless he strongly objects, which Christine Crews seconded. The motion carried.

## **Friends of the WMI**

The FWMI board discussed the expansion or embellishment of our 4<sup>th</sup> of July programming. The Board felt strongly that they were celebrating the Declaration of Independence. In addition to any veteran-type programming, we will be asking a veteran to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. We will be asking Ann Angle-Garrett's husband and Charles Huck.

The board also discussed Fred Frayser. The questions raised included how long he has been involved in the WMI and how long he has served as the President of the Trustees. The board is considering honoring his service in some way during the celebration.

## **Old Business**

### **Archive Expansion Update**

Before the Trustees meeting, the project committee convened to decide the next steps for the feasibility study.

## **Owen/Maclure 200th**

Dr. Gerald Gutek presented *Maclure's Design for American Education: Integrating the Boatload of Knowledge with Pestalozzian Pedagogy* on Saturday, April 11, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. Fifty patrons attended.

The next event in the Owen/Maclure 200th celebration features Bill Bartelt on May 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. He will speak about Robert Dale Owen and Abraham Lincoln.

Additional events are being incorporated into the calendar as the planning process advances.

## **Audio/Visual Equipment Update**

Midwest Systems is currently still awaiting back-ordered parts before proceeding with the equipment upgrade.

## **New Business**

A new Program Agreement form has been created and will be implemented for all future programs held at the WMI.

## **Director's Report**

### **Program Highlights**

- On Thursday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m., the Kiwanis Story Time Event took place, where Ann Huelsman read *Grumpy Monkey* by Suzanne Lang to a group of nine children.
- Peggy Taylor's Nature Journal class, made possible by the Indiana Arts Commission, concluded on March 26. The classes had good attendance, with around fifteen students participating.
- The Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter's Southwestern Indiana Network held a screening of the documentary *Reinventing Power* at the WMI on Wednesday, April 1, at 5:00 p.m. Eight patrons attended.
- On April 11, at 2:00 p.m., Dr. Gerald Gutek presented *Maclure's Design for American Education: Integrating the Boatload of Knowledge with Pestalozzian Pedagogy* to fifty patrons.

### **Facilities and Maintenance**

- HF Refrigeration was here and switched us from heat to Air Conditioning.
- The Electricians from Josh Lamb were here and replaced the lights in the library.

## Staff and Administration

- We are currently working on the State Library reports that are due on May 4.
- Tomorrow I will attend the Indiana Library Federation Conference at the Floyd County Library.
- Susan Rice from PCCF conducted a site visit and interview for the grant I applied for to help fund our Library of Things. The winners will receive written notification by the end of April.
- Mike Axton, Marlene Huffaker, and Margaret Bandy have graciously volunteered their assistance for Heritage Artisan Days, in addition to the support of the entire staff.
- The Lena Feiner Grant is now open for submissions. We have received one submission so far.
- I have received an invitation to join the Indiana State Museum Project Team to discuss upcoming plans related to the Eli Lilly Funds. I have accepted this opportunity.

## Upcoming Events

- Tristra Newyear- Yeager and Eleanor Rust will be here the week of April 21 to discuss the images they want to include in their new book.
- April 17- 6:30 p.m.- *An Evening of Sound and Shadow*-UE faculty clarinetist Charles du Preez
- April 20-24-First Brush of Spring Paint out
- April 21-7:00 p.m.- Membership meeting
- April 23 & 24- Heritage Artisan Days
- April 24-3:00 p.m.-Blaffer Foundation-Presentation by Alistair Baldwin: The Rapp Memorial Garden/Poets House Final Design
- April 25-1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.- *Basics of Woody Plants* with Bill McKnight-
- April 30-6:30 p.m.-Kiwanis Storytime- Shannon DeLap will read *If You Give A Mouse A Cookie* by Laura Numeroff.
- May 1-Feiner Grant- Summary of Proposals Due FINAL PROPOSAL DUE MAY 29
- May 12-6:30 p.m.- Hope McLeod-2025 Feiner Grant Recipient Lecture.
- May 14-FWMI Lecture-6:30 p.m.-Kelly Reid of Wild Birds Unlimited
- May 20-6:30 p.m.-Owen Maclure Lecture- Bill Bartelt

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

## **Adjournment**

Christine Crews made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Connie Weinzapfel. The motion carried.