
BOT Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2026

Call to Order

The monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Working Men's Institute was held on February 19, 2026. Attendees included Vice-President Nathan Maudlin, Treasurer Tamara Allison, Trustee Connie Weinzapfel, Director Ryan Rokicki, Circulation Specialist Shannon DeLap, Friends of the WMI President Jeanne Maudlin, and WMI Member Michael Guard. Those not in attendance included President Fred Frayser, and Secretary Christine Crews.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 15, 2026, meeting were sent electronically. Some names needed correcting. Tamara Allison moved to accept the minutes as amended, which Connie Weinzapfel seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

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

Friends of the WMI

Jeanne Maudlin reported that the first 2026 Lecture was a success. Karen Moser brought sixty-eight people to her presentation about her trip to Kenya.

The FWMI would like to thank Chuck Minnette for saving them money on printing costs.

The Friends were approached by American Legion Post #370 about purchasing a new American Flag. It was determined that using FWMI funds to make purchases for other organizations goes against the bylaws.

Old Business

Archive Expansion Update

- Jan Kahle and Ryan Rokicki met with Ted Grossnickle and Gina Haze from Johnson, Grossnickle and Associates via Zoom a few weeks ago. We did talk about the changes the committee had regarding the case for support. They are aware that those changes are being made and will have those back next week. The grant period ends on February 28. On Monday, Tamara Allison, Michael Guard, Chuck Minnette, and Stanley Campbell will be taking a trip to Louisville, Kentucky, to tour the Howard Steamboat Museum, the Mitch McConnell Archives at the University of Louisville, and the Kentucky Derby Museum. On Tuesday, Nathan Maudlin, Jeanne Maudlin, Jan Kahle, Docey Lewis, Marsh

Davis, Ryan Rokicki, and Glen Kalley from Patterson-Pope will tour the Frazier Museum of Kentucky History and the Printing House for the Blind. The purpose of these trips is to see the archive/museum storage spaces of other organizations.

Owen/Maclure 200th

- Greg Brown will be speaking on March 18. His lecture is *William Maclure: Patron and Patriot*. Dr. Gutek has rescheduled his lecture for April 11. William Bartelt will present on May 20 about the Owen brothers and their relationship with Abraham Lincoln. Randy Patrick will give a talk on Thomas Say in June. Diane Sanders has reached out to Cheryl Coulthard to schedule a lecture on Frances Wright. Cheryl is only available in June, so there will be two lectures that month. There will be more to come.

Audio/ Visual Equipment update

- Midwest Systems has amended their estimate for upgrades. We now have a quote of \$34,511. They are optimistic that we could have a new system by the end of March. Connie Weinzapfel moved to accept the proposal and not to exceed \$40,000 for the project, which Tamara Allison seconded. The motion carried.

New Business

- The Posey County Community Foundation Women's Fund Grant is now open and due in just a few weeks. They have \$25,000 to split among sixteen recipients. Director Ryan Rokicki intended to request \$1,500 to \$2,000 to help start our Library of Things.

Director's Report

Program Highlights

- The Kiwanis Story Time Event was held on Thursday, January 22, at 6:30 p.m., featuring Grace Davis reading *Snowflake Bentley* by Jacqueline Briggs Martin to seven children.
- On February 4, Karen Moser conducted a presentation on her recent trip to Kenya to sixty-eight people.
- On February 11, Rod Clark conducted a presentation titled *Formation of a Vision: The Development of Robert Owen and the How and Why of his Experiment in America* to sixty-eight people.
- The Mah Jongg group is now meeting twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Staff and Administration

- I am working with our accountants at ATA on finishing the annual finance report.
- The Indiana State Library Report has not launched yet. There is no estimate of when the report will be available.
- The circulation desk computer's Ethernet port has malfunctioned. Automated Office Solutions will be here tomorrow with a replacement computer.
- On March 3, Linda Warrum and Shannon DeLap will be attending USI's Department of History, Arts, Culture, & Community Services Career Fair.

Upcoming Events

- February 25-6:30 p.m.- New Harmony Clay Project Artist Talk-Sarah Vaughn
- February 26-6:30 p.m.-Kiwaniis Storytime- Tamara Allison will read *Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen.
- March 5-March 26-4:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.- Peggy Taylor *Utopian Vision: Creating a Nature Journal*
- March 6-6:30 p.m.- Marco Grillo and Erin Bode Concert.
- March 18-6:30 p.m.- Greg Brown-*William Maclure: Patron and Patriot*.
- March 19-4:45 p.m.- Board of Trustees Meeting

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

Tamara Allison was reminded of the connections within the WMI. Last week, a new child attended Preschool Storytime, and Tamara asked the mother how she had heard about the WMI. The mother explained that the child's grandmother had visited the Farmer's Market over the summer and suggested that her daughter bring her child to explore the STEM area. While they were at the WMI, Shannon invited them to the Preschool Storytime program.

Adjournment

Connie Weinzapfel made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Tamara Allison. The motion carried.