
BOT Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2026

Call to Order

The monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Working Men's Institute was held on June 18, 2026. Attendees included Vice-President Connie Weinzapfel, Secretary Christine Crews, Treasurer Tamara Allison, Trustee Mike Axton, Director Ryan Rokicki, and Circulation Specialist Shannon DeLap. Those joining by Zoom included President Nathan Maudlin and Friends President Jeanne Maudlin.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 21, 2026, meeting were sent electronically. Connie Weinzapfel moved to accept the minutes, which Tamara Allison seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

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

Friends of the WMI

Jeanne Maudlin discussed the book sale on June 13 and 14 and the preparations for the upcoming July 4 programming.

Old Business

Archive Expansion Update

Leah Seigel of the Lilly Endowment has requested a formal letter outlining the request for funding to conduct a feasibility study.

Owen/Maclure 200th

Ryan and the committee convened today. He also participated in a subcommittee meeting for the upcoming conference. The committee has received a total of fifty proposals for lectures to possibly be presented during the conference. Ryan and co-chair Diane Sanders both feel that the planning for all events and lectures is proceeding nicely. Very few holes still need to be filled.

Upcoming Owen/Maclure Events:

July 11-"Lights of Liberty" Drone show with food trucks and much more.

August TBD- Jennifer Greene, Heidi Taylor-Caudill, Ryan Rokicki-*The Community of Equality in the Archives*

September 26- Clark Kimberling at the WMI-*The Sons of Robert Owen*

October 28- Peggy Fisherkeller at the WMI-*The Troost Mineral Collection*

Audio/Visual Equipment Update

Midwest Systems is slated to begin the installation process on Tuesday, June 23.

New Business

Our insurance agent, Andy Weintraut at the McGowan Group has found a lower rate for our workers' compensation policy. He is suggesting that we move this coverage from Cincinnati to the Accident Fund. After a brief discussion, Ryan will work with Andy to proceed with the transfer with no action needed by the Trustees.

Director's Report

Program Highlights

- The New Harmony Project hosted a silent write in the Maclure Room on the last two weekends of May (23, 24, 30, and 31).
- On June 11, Dr. Cheryl Coulthard, PhD, presented *Frances Wright: A radical Owenite in America* as a part of the Owen-Maclure 200th celebration. Forty-six patrons were in attendance.
- The FWMI book sale was June 13 and 14.
- On June 17, the WMI welcomed C. Mallon of USI's The New Harmony Book Award and Residency. She read a portion of her 2026 NHBA award-winning novel, *Dogs*, to twenty-eight patrons.

Facilities and Maintenance

- The pump on the fountain has malfunctioned. It is still under warranty, and we are working on getting it replaced.
- HF Refrigeration has been in several times over the last month to check on our HVAC to make sure it is working properly.

Staff and Administration

- Shannon will be attending the IMLS Library Convening 250: Telling America's Story, taking place June 22-24, 2026, in Cincinnati, OH.

Upcoming Events

- June 25-10:30 a.m.- First day of the *Unearth a Story* Summer Reading Program
- June 25-6:30 p.m.- Kiwanis Story Time-Nikki Muensterman-*Should I share my Ice Cream?* By Mo Willems
- June 27-1:00 p.m.- Bill Clevlin- *Presidential Road Trips*
- June 27-3:30 p.m.- Dr. Randy Patrick-*The Life and Times of Thomas Say* (Owen/Maclure 200th)-will be held at the Atheneum.
- July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30-10:30 a.m.- *Unearth a Story* Summer Reading Program
- July 4-10:30 a.m-12:00 p.m.- Independence Day Celebration at Murphy Auditorium- Ryan Rokicki is the Keynote Speaker and Karen Moser will read the Declaration of Independence.
- July 16-4:45-Board of Trustees Meeting
- July 21-7:00 p.m.-Membership Meeting-Linda Warrum will be giving the Members' talk titled *From Funeral Director to Clown*.

Claims

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

Adjournment

Mike Axton made the motion to adjourn. Christine Crews moved to accept the motion. The motion carried.