

North Manchester Public Library Board of Trustees

April 18th, 2024 @ 6:30pm in the Blocher Room

Present: Mike Leckrone, Andrea Zwiebel, Heather Winger, Jeanna Hann, Kevin Walter, Kathy Garber, Eileen Sklar, Tim Brauch, Cody Goble, Julie Mobley

Absent: Vicki Smith

Other:

- I. Call to Order and Presentation of 10 Year Staff Awards to Cody Goble, Jeanna Hann, and Julie Mobley - Eileen called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.
- II. Adoption of Agenda - Motion to approve by Mike, seconded by Kevin, all in favor.
- III. Public Comment Period - N/A
- IV. Perusal and Approval of Reports
 - A. Secretary Minutes - Motion to approve by Kathy, seconded by Tim, all in favor.
 - B. Presentation of Claims & Financial Reports - Motion to approve by Heather, seconded by Kevin, all in favor.
- V. Director's Report -
 - A. General Updates
 1. Breaking news! I completed my first college course towards my formal library certification. It was a 12 week class on the Basics of Public Library Administration.
 2. ALA announced their banned books data for 2023. Censorship is on the rise. During two decades prior to 2021, the average number of unique titles targeted for censorship per year was 273. 2023 hit an all-time high at 4,240 titles.
 3. I started attending monthly New Director Zoom Meetings hosted by ILF. They are casual interactions to ask questions and network.
 4. LeighAnne, Eileen, and I are scheduled to watch the state's annual budget workshop together in May via Zoom. Stay tuned to find out if we become budget experts!
 5. We hosted a group of library staff from Kendallville on March 22. They wanted to see every aspect of our programming and facility use.
 6. Some of you might know Joe Fox. He is a North Manchester resident and is the new director at the Culver library. Joe and I met at NMPL on March 25 to get to know each other better.
 7. As a follow up to the meeting with Mackenzie Coulter-Kern for the Wabash County Diversity Coalition, Mackenzie gave me a tour of the Manchester University campus. We met with several professors and

bumped into the new president, Dr. Stacy Young. I am growing in my knowledge about the university.

8. I presented at Rotary on March 28 about my background and the library. It was a small group and I enjoyed meeting each person. I spent a little time after the meeting exploring downtown and visiting the shops.
9. Thanks to an introduction from Tim Brauch, I met with the Funderburg Library staff on April 12. We discussed ways to serve the students, partnership ideas, and they gave me a building tour. Funderburg Library is also a supporter for the Freedom to Read and the ALA Library Bill of Rights.
10. Sarah, Jeanna, and I finalized the survey questions to kick off our research for the new Long Range Plan.

B. Friends of the Library

1. FoL annual meeting took place on April 9. They have 69 members with dues totalling \$4,560. They voted to update their bylaws and articles of incorporation, which removed membership and made the board self governing.
2. At the May meeting, they would like to update board terms, stagger retirements, add a Vice President, and add the Nominating Committee in December.
3. The book sale is quickly approaching on April 25-27.

C. Buildings & Grounds

1. Apparently, we had this issue last year and it's back. The roof is leaking. The leaks are in Molly's office and the Indiana Room. It's an issue with the flashing, not the shingles. LeighAnne worked with a contractor to make recommendations.
2. I am waiting on a revised invoice from Riverbridge regarding our water heater repair. It was quoted at \$250 and we were charged \$1,250.
3. We had heating issues where the building couldn't keep our temperature steady.
4. The library was chilly at 65 degrees for a few days in late March. Havel had to come several times to troubleshoot the problem. In the end, we had a communication failure between our boards and the boilers. We updated the boilers a few years ago, but we didn't update our boards. The boards are obsolete and will need to be replaced at some point.

D. Personnel

1. I conducted a 30 Day Check in with LeighAnne Fitzpatrick. The first month always goes so fast!

E. Technology

1. We are finalizing details for the server update. Good news—we don't have to wait for our current contract to expire. We can move forward as soon as we coordinate with Intrasect Technologies and Robin.
2. The door counter was purchased for the BCR and will be installed shortly.
3. We need 2 new catalog computers. The technology in children's department is obsolete and the computer in the adult department bit the dust.

F. Staff Report & Programs

ADULT DEPARTMENT & SOCIAL MEDIA

Jeanna Hann

Adult Department

Our 4th Book Tasting event was our best turn out yet! We had 23 participants and stacks of books were checked out! We had really good feedback from the event, and I am so thrilled with how this program is introducing new books in our collection to our readers. SO many patrons have said they discovered books they never would have checked out thanks to the Tastings. Our first Kid's Book Tasting will be this month, and I have another Adult Tasting scheduled in May.

Molly and I applied for a Creative Aging Grant a few months ago, and NMPL was one of the libraries who received the grant! We will receive \$5,000 to host a 9 week programming session with an Indiana Artist for senior citizens. Molly and I will work over the next few weeks to put together a project proposal, communicate with artists, and start to schedule and plan the program. We have some initial ideas and are excited to use these funds to reach our senior community in a new way.

We received an email from Lawton Public Library in Oklahoma wanting to know details about our Future Librarians program as they are looking into changing up their Teen Volunteer Program and wanted to get some ideas from us. So many libraries across the country are interested in this program!

SOCIAL MEDIA:

With Spring Break and National Library Week happening back to back, we had a busy social media schedule! I focused on all the events happening at NMPL during Spring Break, then pivoted towards general library info for National Library Week. We shared on Banned Books, National Library Workers Day, Library Outreach, and Take Action for Libraries Day. We had good engagement and great responses from our patrons!

STAFF:

Sarah and I have been working on empowering our staff to see areas that need improvement and take initiative to change them. I'm thrilled that our staff is stepping into those gaps, from Emily (our Home Based Coordinator) taking initiative to ask for funds to purchase new delivery bags, to Jessilyn coming up with ideas for some needed

signage, to Brooke researching and learning about the Firefly book awards. We have a wonderful team!

Congratulations to Josh, Lucy, and Marielle who will be graduating next month!

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Sarah Morbitzer

Great news! For the second year in a row, we have received a Good Deeds grant from the Community Foundation of Wabash County. We will partner with Brenda Ramseier, an award winning artist and owner of The Art Giraffe in Silver Lake (<https://www.theartgiraffe.com/gallery>). Brenda will teach the following classes this summer: Beginning Drawing, Perspective in Drawing, Drawing with Liquid Graphite, Drawing with Pen and Ink. Each class will be offered free of charge to our community, thanks to the generous donors at the Community Foundation.

The Total Solar Eclipse Viewing & Glasses Distribution was a huge success! 450 people showed up to get glasses and quite a few stayed to watch the eclipse on the lawn while their kids ran and played on the Flat Playground. The Wabash and North Manchester newspapers were present to photograph the turnout.

Town employees, a law enforcement officer, retirement community staff, local business people and families all made an appearance! We had many visitors at the library that we have never seen before. One mother stopped by the front desk specifically to say "Thank you for doing this! We had a great time. I drove from Warsaw and my friends drove from Elkhart. It was awesome, thank you!"

It was challenging to turn people away these past couple of weeks - and even the morning of the eclipse - but we are so glad we limited glasses distribution to the afternoon of the eclipse. We were a last ditch option for many and people told us they had tried so many different places with no luck. I'm so glad we could provide glasses to people who truly needed them and had exhausted other options. There were many smiling faces!

CIRCULATION REPORT

Cody Coble

Collection Development: Manga

I purchased the first three Spanish volumes of Dragonball, which is exciting considering Dragonball's importance among Spanish speaking cultures.

And with the delivery of two 3-in-1 English volumes of Dragonball, the library now has a complete collection of Dragonball and Dragonball Z (both in manga and DVD formats).

This brings our Complete or Up-to-Current manga to include:

- Chainsaw Man

- Ouran High School Host Club
- One Punch Man

- Tokyo Ghoul
- Demon Slayer
- Orange
- Death Note

We are only a few volumes short of complete collections of The Way of the House Husband and Fullmetal Alchemist. Once delivered, Box-Set 3 will complete our collection of Naruto. We will probably never complete One Piece.

Collection Development: Backorders

Good news. Based on my 2023 & 2024 Status Reports, I have only one book backordered. All others have been delivered or are pre-orders. However, this will likely change, as I have recently submitted a small batch of replacement materials. These usually contain a few items that will become backordered, as they have to be pulled from a different warehouse than recently released books.

Argos Public Library

The director of the Argos Public Library contacted us and asked for our opinion on Apollo, as he is hoping to convince their board to switch away from Destiny. Jeanna and I each responded, providing him with all around positive recommendations.

PROGRAMMING

Molly Magnus

Our Future Librarians will be featured for the next several weeks on Tuesday evenings through Facebook! They have been trained during the program to set up, film and direct their virtual programs. Be sure to check it out!

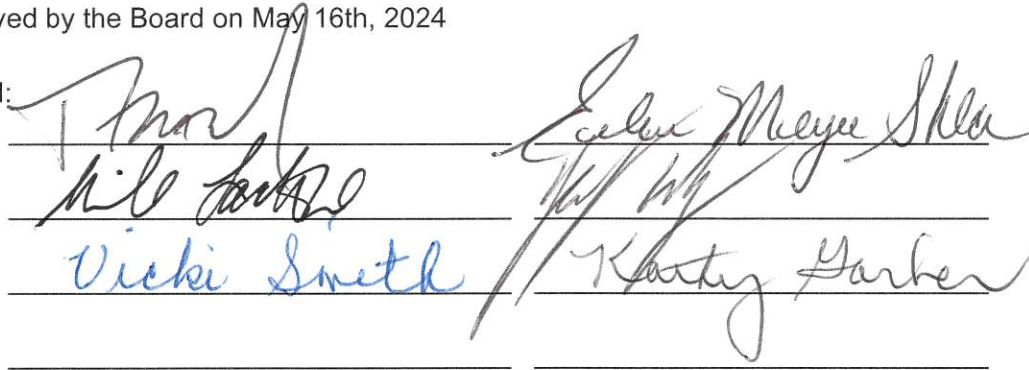
- VI. Old Business - None
- VII. New Business
 1. Discussion of Annual Walk Through - High points were discussed
 2. Board Terms - Vicki Smith came on board in February of 2007. As she filled the 3.5 unexpired term for John Knect, and because the unexpired term was more than 2 years, it is considered Vicki's first term. As such, she is over her 16 year term allowed by the state, and will be stepping down from the library board. The library board and staff appreciate her many years of service. The board will start looking for a replacement for Vicki Smith.
- VIII. Questions & Comments from the Board - Discussion involving changing the meeting time of board meetings. No decision was made.

IX. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 7:47pm by Heather, seconded by Mike. All in favor.

Next Board Meeting - May 16th, 2024 at 6:30pm in the Blocher Community Room

Approved by the Board on May 16th, 2024

Signed:

The image shows four handwritten signatures on horizontal lines. From top to bottom, the signatures are: a dark ink signature (likely Heather Winger), a dark ink signature (likely Mike Leckrone), a blue ink signature (Vicki Smith), and a dark ink signature (Kathy Garber). The signature for Eileen Sklar is partially obscured by the signature for Vicki Smith.

Mission Statement: The mission of the North Manchester Public Library is to provide materials, programs, and services necessary to meet the recreational and educational needs of the community in a comfortable and easily-accessible facility, which is a community center of activity and information.

Library Board Terms:

Heather Winger-Secretary	12/31/2023	2nd Term	School Board
Kathy Garber	6/30/2024	2nd Term	Town Council
Eileen Sklar-President	6/30/2024	3rd Term	County Commissioners
Kevin Walter-Treasurer	6/30/2025	4th Term	School Board
Tim Brauch	8/25/2024	1 st Term	County Council
Vicki Smith-Vice President	6/30/2026	5th (4th Full) Term	School Board
Michael Leckrone-Assistant Treasurer	6/30/2024	2nd Term	Town Council