President Barney Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Also present were Amber Brown, Linda Fahrenbach, Jason Lester, Fern Miner, Director Christine Sterle, Treasurer Barbara Darnell, and board assistant Kathy Bowen.

Linda moved to approve the agenda with a second by Fern. Vote 5-0

Linda moved to approve the January Secretary’s report with additional claims presented by Barbara Darnell. Jason seconded. Vote 5-0

Barbara presented the Monthly Financial Report. Receipts into the operating fund for January, 2018 were $28,839.77. Operating fund disbursements totaled $61,980.75. January’s ending cash balance was $651,897.45 with investments of $273,342.69. Total Cash/Investments were $925,240.14.

Amber moved to approve the Register of Claims with a second by Fern. Vote 5-0

With no public present and no old business to discuss, the board proceeded to new business.

New Business:

Phyllis Myers has resigned from the Local History Librarian/Museum Coordinator position effective Friday, February 9. All are invited to a fondue open house at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 23. Sandy Naekel has been approached about stepping into the vacated position; she understands that she would need to take classes to become certified and will need to become familiar with the library local history/genealogy collection. She is looking forward to the challenge and would like to accept.

A custodial position vacancy will be announced tomorrow. We may include sidewalk snow removal with custodial duties.

A neighboring library no longer charges for faxing and we have received input from the public regarding library faxing fees. After discussion it was decided to let staff offer opinions before a final decision is made.

Barb Lebo is asking permission to use inflatables for a summer reading program. She would like the opportunity to partner with Thorntown Park and Knights of Pythias to have one or two events at the park. The inflatables may be managed (and maybe sponsored) by K of P members. Other offerings at the same summer party may be food (hotdogs, chips), story walk for little kids, rock hunt (kindness rocks) for all kids, Colts-in-Motion (music, cornhole, football toss, mobile museum). After discussion, board members agreed to try it this year and see how it goes.

The Director’s Report was presented by Christine.

Ryan Fetters from Umbaugh visited on February 2. Umbaugh is a municipal advisor that works with towns, counties, etc.; Ryan specializes in libraries and schools. They work with municipalities to secure bonds, work with long-term planning, etc. Umbaugh saw that our debt would be rolling off at the end of this year and came for an introductory visit and to see if the library board be interested in their services.
Christine reported on a February 5 slip-and-fall incident in the library’s west parking lot. A claim has been turned in to our insurance company.

Merle Gruesser from ENA was by for our annual service renewal. The new price to more than double internet capacity is less than $17/month! So we will increase to 50 mbps beginning July 1; it will cost an additional $99 in 2018 ($198 increase annually).

Cardinal Office from Lafayette, from whom we lease copiers, has approached us with an IT management proposal. Currently we do not have a contract with any other IT companies and use Rich Fech with NetLink (Lafayette) on an as-needed basis. Britta and I have reviewed the proposal and we have submitted some questions to Cardinal. I am unsure if we would engage in a full-support contract, but we may consider purchasing a “block” of time.

The lighting in adult stacks has been updated to LED and the Carnegie doors have been repaired.

Chance has had some health struggles with UTIs lately. Staff are monitoring his food intake and behavior. He seems to be on the mend.

Another Indiana library director called Christine to thank her for the Bed Bug Boot Camp webinar that is available through the Indiana State Library. It has been helpful when dealing with affected materials at her library.

Beth Ridgway from ARC met with Christine to discuss beginning a Next Chapter Book Club for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. ARC would handle transportation, most staffing and PR for the club; the library would provide space and an hour of staff time per week to facilitate the discussion/reading.

I will have the narrative annual report at the March meeting. The Library Annual Report (for ISL) and Annual Financial Report (for State Board of Accounts) are due on March 1.

ESG will be here tomorrow to test fire alarms and check on security cameras. Scott Post will provide pricing for camera upgrades and we will upgrade those that need it most, first.

Coming up: Family Game Night next Friday, 5-8 p.m., in Guinn Room; Dr. Seuss Party Thursday, March 1, 3:30 p.m.

Amber motioned to adjourn the February board meeting with a second by Fern at 7:34 p.m. Vote 5-0.

Linda Fahrenbach, Secretary