President Barney Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm. Also present were Amber Brown, Linda Fahrenbach, Director Christine Sterle, Treasurer Barbara Darnell, board assistant Kathy Bowen and guest Judy Johnson.

Linda moved to approve the agenda with a second by Fern. Vote 4-0

Fern moved to approve the December Secretary’s report with additional claims presented by Barbara Darnell. Linda seconded. Vote 4-0

Barbara presented the Monthly Financial Report. Receipts into the operating fund for December, 2017 were $169,660.15. Operating fund disbursements totaled $49,306.34. December’s ending cash balance was $678,566.60 with investments of $273,307.87. Total Cash/Investments were $951,874.47.

Amber moved to adopt the 2017 Transfers. Fern seconded. Vote 4-0

Amber moved to approve the Register of Claims with a second by Fern. Vote 4-0

Christine reported we sold no PLAC cards in 4th quarter 2017.

With no public present, the board proceeded to the topic of Reports. Christine presented the Thornmore Heritage Museum Report. The museum will host a Native American Cooking program on January 10th at 6:30 pm. Attendees will learn about the Eel River Tribe of the Miami Indians, how they lived and what they ate. They will also grind corn and make cornbread. Visit the museum through February and get a free BBBBB (Best Book Buddy/Favorite Friend Forever=stuffed animal) compliments of Amber Brown. 2017 Year-end Report: 2,140 visitors, 25 programs, approved for Not-for-Profit status. With 3 grants purchased a new sound system. Increasing social media posts: Facebook people “reached” 2016=5,837; 2017=145,860.

Old Business:

Encumbrances – N/A

Performance Evaluation – Barney will bring signed copy to February meeting.

New Business:

Fern motioned to approve the Authorization to Pay Bills with Prior Approval. Amber seconded. Vote 4-0

Fern motioned to approve the Resolution to Transfer Funds to Rainy Day. Linda seconded. Vote 4-0

The Director’s Report was presented by Christine. The staff Christmas party was a lot of fun! A photo of staff artwork was shared. There were 132 who attended the Merry Grinchmas program. In December there were several short staff days due to vacations, holidays, etc. but many staff were able to complete webinars and other tasks.
EI will upgrade to a webclient in Fall 2018. This is a big change and staff are being encouraged to use the new interface so that we are well prepared later in the year. The Youth Department has been proactive in implementing the new interface and reporting problems.

Christine shared an anonymous letter that was received regarding Silly Safari’s animal welfare practices.

Angie Moody contacted the library about hosting a blood drive for the Indiana Blood Center. The drive will take place at TPL on Monday, Jan 29 from 1-5 p.m. Donors can sign up at donorpoint.org or by calling the library.

Steve and Trish Ripstra donate money to the library each year. This year they donated $150 and we are using the money to build our circulating game collection. The games we currently have circulated an average of 8 times each. We’re adding more family games, a few classics, and a few more strategy games. We’re also cataloging some that we’ve kept for library use. So far, no lost pieces! We will be purchasing shelving unit for approximately $300 to permanently house the collection.

Expect 2017 Annual Report statistics and highlights at the February or March meeting.

We may have found someone to fix the Carnegie doors! Several highlights from our “Tell Me Something Good” jar were shared.

Linda motioned to adjourn the January board meeting with a second by Amber at 7:43 p.m. Vote 4-0.

Linda Fahrenbach, Secretary