

**Indiana State Historic Records Advisory Board
Minutes – December 12, 2017
Indiana State Archives**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:05a.m. by State Coordinator, Jim Corridan.

Roll Call

Present: Jim Corridan, John Newman, Wes Wilson, Curt Witcher, Tom Krasean
Guests: Claire Horton, Sam Alderfer, Marilyn Fernandez

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve Agenda. Newman-Krasean. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting has not been determined.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October 16, 2017. Motion to approve Minutes. Motion carried.

State Coordinator's Report

The members walked back to the records center to see changes made in stacks, including the move of the map cabinets.

State Coordinator Jim Corridan shared about the recent acquisition of records from Vincennes University. The Indiana Archives received about 1200 books. The largest group of books is from the Vincennes Library Company, which was the first library established in the state in 1806. They include many travel books and early editions.

The Indiana Archives also received one of William McClure's Libraries, from Pike County, and Judge Curtis Shake's collections of Law Books, which fills gaps in the existing collection. It also includes the Laws of the Militia, which the Archives does not currently have. John Newman mentioned that the Historical Society created a list of the full set in the early 1900s.

The Archives also received a copy of the Constitutional Journal, which belonged to John Benefiel, the Badollet papers, and the Knox County commissioner's papers. The remainder of the Lewis Library was donated to the Vincennes Public Library. The Lewis Library will become the Archives of the University. Tom Krasean wondered if they would hire an archivist.

A. SHRAB Report

About a week after the last SHRAB meeting, Jim provided a copy of the SHRAB Report to the Governor's Office. The Deputy Chief of Staff asked Jim to meet with the Deputy Director of the Budget Agency. The Governor's office told him that they are looking for a public-private

partnership, that they don't want to spend 45 million, and that they aren't sure downtown is the right location. However, they do seem to think a new building is needed. Last week, Jim met with the Budget Agency. The Budget Agency suggested that we just use the other institutions as exhibit space. Jim explained that we should be downtown so that researchers can use all institutions, as well as allowing state employees easy access to records.

The Budget Agency suggested a \$15 million reinforced storage facility, similar to the ALF (Auxiliary Library Facility) at IU. They are interested in building an ALF-like facility near Plainfield Correctional Facility.

Our main concerns are preservation, access, and operational needs. The Plainfield option will only take care of the first one. It would not lend itself to public access or transparency. A round trip to Plainfield from the Records Center is prohibitive. Housing the Archives at Plainfield would expand the Agency to 3 locations instead of 2, when 2 sites is already an issue for continuity and connectivity.

The State Constitution requires records to be retained at the site of Government. Creation of this type of building will incur more operational cost.

Curt Witcher stated in some cases agencies are hoarding records because they feel the situation

Jim Corridan further advised Alan January is planning to retire at the end of January. Details of any retirement celebration will be shared. At this point, plans for filling his position have not been confirmed.

New Business

Jim Corridan reported there is a challenge across the State to improve retention and access to records. There needs to be a survey of the issues to see how State and Federal government can help the agencies. There is an amazing number of records missing. Preservation education for counties, clerks and communities needs to be improved.

The SIA Conference is coming up in April. Attendees will be touring the Archives on Thursday afternoon before the Conference. Jim Corridan will speak at the genealogy conference in southern Indiana on April 28. The Supreme Court has a conference once a year also to talk about Archives issues.

IARA is working on a strategic planning exercise and analysis for all staff participation in January. A SWOT questionnaire asking for input on agency and division strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats is being circulated. The plan is for a full day planning exercise for Senior staff and a half-day presentation to follow for all staff.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30a.m. by State Coordinator Jim Corridan

