

Indiana State Historic Records Advisory Board
Minutes – April 24, 2018
Allen County Public Library

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1 p.m. by State Coordinator Jim Corridan.

Roll Call

Present: Jim Corridan, John Newman, Wes Wilson, Curt Witcher

Guests: Claire Horton, Marilyn Fernandez

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at Depauw in the summer, followed by a meeting in Brookville this fall.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from December 12, 2017. Motion to approve minutes. Witcher – Wilson. Motion carried.

State Coordinator's Report

1. Indiana State Archives

State Coordinator Jim Corridan reported that the Archives' first major exhibit was successful. About 125 people attended, including Chief Justices, legislators and their spouses, the Auditor of State, and others. The Friends of the Archives gained 11 new members that day. The exhibit will remain up until July, at which point it will be replaced by a military exhibit, followed by an exhibit on the African American experience in Indiana.

The Archives has continued to offer tours; most recently, members of the Supreme Court visited, as well as the State Treasurer and staff. There is currently an exhibit about the Treasurer's Office on display in the statehouse.

Corridan announced some staffing changes. Director of Communications Sam Alderfer will be leaving. Alan January retired, and Claire Horton is now in charge of both processing and patron services. A new reference archivist, Keenan Salla, recently started.

The Indiana Archives is launching a new crowd-sourcing initiative with From the Page. Volunteers will be able to index the World War I service cards from home. The new project will be announced at the Indiana Genealogical Society meeting.

Corridan provided an update about the new building. He met with the Budget Director, and the Budget Agency seems to be moving away from the bunker idea. There is a suggestion to build on the north lot with a new judicial and legislative complex. It is also now possible for the Archives to be built on the canal.

Our current budget is higher than it has been before, and many of our initiatives are now moving forward. We will be hiring two work study employees, and we have \$60,000 to use for temporary employees. Social Media archiving is moving forward, as is the From the Page project.

Corridan also reported that Curt Witcher is the new Vice President of the Friends of the State Archives Board. The group is more action-oriented and is moving forward.

2. NHPRC and NARA Updates

Corridan reported that CoSA is working to change NARA's relationship with the states so that everyone is working together more collaboratively. The NHPRC grant process has changed to be more competitive. Rather than giving money to every state, states will apply for larger grants. CoSA is proposing that everyone will get a grant and can apply for additional funding. Witcher asked if NARA is a good partner and able to see state issues. Corridan shared that there are both problems and opportunities.

3. Society of Indiana Archivists

The SIA conference was last week, and Wes Wilson reported that there were many good sessions. Claire Horton is now serving as the President. Corridan said that in the past, the membership was very academic, but seems to be more diverse. Witcher said that there are many small archives who need help and who don't know how to preserve, conserve, or run an archives properly.

New Business

1. Review 2018 America's State Archives Booklet

The group reviewed the new booklet which compares the state archives buildings across the country. Corridan wants to add an analysis of the average distance from the State Archives to the Capitol building in each state. Motion to approve document. Newman – Wilson. Motion carries.

2. 2019 NHPRC Grants

For the 2019 year, the NHPRC grant program will still be the previous system. We will be applying for a grant to hire a roving Archivist. This person will travel the state to assist with conservation, collection development and other issues. The group discussed tasks and thought the position should focus on conservation, education, networking, managing an archives, the archives' priorities, and where they should look for help. Wilson shared that the Methodist churches have an online resource guide. Corridan will reach out to Massachusetts for advice regarding their roving archivist position.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm.