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Board Members

President, Rosemary Iacoli, appointed by County Commissioners, current term 8-3-21 to 8-3-25

Vice President, Terri Williamson, appointed by School Board, current term 12/31/22 to 12/31/25

Secretary, Shelly Amerman, appointed by County Council, current term 12/31/24 to 12/31/28

Treasurer, Donna Wilson, appointed by School Board, current term 6/30/21 to 6/30/25

Member, Bill Hartman, appointed by County Commissioners, current term 1/31/23 to 1/31/27

Member, Kay Smith, appointed by School Board, current term 7/1/22 to 6/30/26

Member, Kara Waldrop, appointed by County Council, current term, 2/28/25 to 12/31/28

**CLINTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**MINUTES of REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**June 24, 2025**

**Members present:** Shelly Amerman**,** Kay Smith, Kara Waldrop, Rosemary Iacoli, Terri Williamson, Donna Wilson; Becky Edington, Director.

Members absent: Bill Hartman

Others present: n/a

Call to order: meeting called to order at 6 p.m. by R. Iacoli,

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

S. Amerman made a motion to approve the minutes of regular board meeting on May 27, 2025; K. Smith seconded the motion. Measure carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT and APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE**

D. Wilson presented the financial statement for the month ending June, 2025; T. Williamson made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report. S. Amerman seconded the motion. Measure carried; subject to audit.

T. Williamson made a motion to approve the June bills payable (14913-14943) including payroll warrants. K. Smith seconded. Measure carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Additional Appropriations was approved for $85,000

A 50% deposit has been paid for the upcoming window replacement project. Following discussions with Levi, we agreed it would be most effective to schedule installation for late August or early September, allowing adequate time for the windows to arrive, as the order requires several weeks to process.

Additionally, carpet cleaning has been scheduled for the week following the conclusion of the Summer Reading Finale, ensuring minimal disruption to programming.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Bunches Landscaping began work on the drainage area on June 19. It was my initial understanding the larger rocks would remain in place, with a layer of black granite added on top. During the course of the project, Mr. Hartman raised concerns regarding the use of landscaping fabric and sand, as well as the removal of the existing rocks. However, Mr. Martin determined the optimal approach was to remove the large rocks and install landscaping fabric to provide a more effective long-term solution for weed control. He assured me that this adjustment would not compromise the site’s waterproofing or drainage functionality.

Afterward, I contacted Mr. Martin to inquire about retrieving the rocks. He informed me that we would need to pick them up ourselves. Ashley suggested a couple of potential uses for the rocks, but even with her ideas, we would still have a significant amount left over. The only feasible location for storage appears to be the area where the shed used to be. However, we’re unsure how to manage the transport and unloading process. The board has since voted on whether to proceed with retrieving the rocks.

T. Williamson made a motion to determine whether the removed rocks should be retrieved. The motion was seconded by S. Amerman to not retrieve the rocks. The measure was approved.

Shelly will be absent for July’s meeting.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS--**NA

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**DIRECTOR’S REPORT June 24, 2025**

**The library continues to welcome many families into the library for summer reading. The picture above highlights the 10 am fingerpainting art show for the littles.**

Not a lot to report on for June. We all are busy with summer reading and planning for August and the fall.

July 16th is our virtual budget meeting with the DGLF.

July is also the month we will send out our 5-year survey to help form new ideas for the required strategic plan that is due at the end of the year.

We will also begin to do inventory.

**MAINTENCE:**

The carpet cleaning is $3,000. TBM plans on doing this at the end of July after summer reading ends.

We received an estimate of $3,105 for Bunches for filling in the rocks and mulching around the trees.

The down payment for the windows has been made. The windows are on order. We cannot do any placement until summer reading ends. Kasameyer is aware of this time frame.

**FROM THE STAFF**

**ASHLEY**- Clinton Reading Challenge - We were in the leading the first 2 weeks!  We are still waiting to hear about this week's rankings.  The response from the adults this summer has been outstanding!  Currently we have 239 Adults registered with 130 that have recorded reading.  The page total as of 6/17 for the Adults is 202,517 which equals 3,375 hours of reading since Memorial Day.  The Mystery Prize is the most popular with the entry tickets.

Youth Summer Reading - The programs are going great.  I'm exhausted and will need at least 6 months of no PAINT!  The first week we started with a yarn cactus craft, science experiments with the group Science Heroes, and created some comic books with Children's author Cameron Belt.  That week we also hosted the preschool finger-painting party, which was heavily attended.  We hosted 2 sessions with a total of 40 little painters that kept Lesli and I very busy.  All the families were very helpful and pleasant.

The second week of summer reading we started with "Name Art."  Each patron had a canvas and created a design with painter’s tape.  Some spelled out their name or initials.  Then the patrons covered the canvas with paint and then removed the painter’s tape to reveal the design.  The next day we hosted the group "Do Art Production" and created Bead Art.  The bead keychain that the kids created was Pokémon themed which made this activity very popular with 50 in attendance.  This was also the week that the air conditioner went down in the meeting room.  I must have looked horrible during the bead workshop because the staff kept bringing me water to drink, which I appreciated.  The next program we had 2 different projects for the kids to work on.  This allowed us to spread out the group and it was a much calmer day.  Upstairs we have random art supplies out for the kids to make "Whatever they wanted."  We wanted to see how creative they could be.  There were flower gardens, fishing boats, hand puppets, animals, decorative letter envelopes, bracelets, and more created.  While they were creating, I would take small groups back down to the Juniors room and I showed them some photography tricks.  I explained "long exposures" to them and showed them how they can paint or write with a flashlight.  After they created some neat photos, they went back upstairs to create and I would bring the next group down.  At the very end we awarded some art medals that we printed with the library's 3D printer to the most colorful, the largest, the smallest, and a group favorite.

This week was MORE PAINT!  I think we are officially out of paint.  Monday night we had our Bob Ross night.  Everyone had a great time as we followed along with an episode of the "Joy of Painting with Bob Ross."  We had 28 painters in the meeting room and on the balcony.  We have had requests to do this type of program again.  When we do, I have some notes on how we can improve the program.  We were limited on the number of larger brushes we could give the patrons to use and I underestimated the amount of PAINT the patrons would use.  Everyone created beautiful painting but the library is out of paint.  Today we will be sharing information about Michelangelo and how he painted the Sistine Chapel on his back.  We will be taping paper to the bottom of the tables and letting the kids lay on the floor and draw something the same way Michelangelo painted the Sistine Chapel.  Friday we are hosting someone from Arts of Learning and they will be teaching the kids about weaving.

The current totals for the Teens (grades 5th-12th grade) are 77 registered, 39 have logged reading with a total of 49,753 pages.

Current totals for the Kids (grades K-4th grade) are 159 registered, 109 have logged reading with a total of 99,420 pages.

NEW Preschool Readers - 58 registers, 33 have logged reading.

Grand total for the entire building 533 registered for "Summer Reading" with 309 active readers that have logged reading.  351,690 total pages read the first 2 weeks of the program!  Last year we ended with a total of 517,032.  I think we will beat that total this summer.

**Misty**

* Cataloging
* Staff customer service and shelving worksheets
* Repairs
* Working on receipt printer personal messaging on check-out
* Cataloging committee meeting (Zoom)
* Last meeting with the Patron services committee (Zoom)
* Facebook book club Live (2 Live)
* In-person book club meeting ( I had a patron come who has come for the last 3)
* Aspen Zoom meeting
* Working on Aspen Evergreen Catalog <https://clinton.evergreenindiana.org/?browseCategory=clinton_new_adult_and_ya>

**LESLIE-** 5/23 The man who I helped fill out paperwork with has come in a few more times to make copies, fax, and scan to email. I helped him fill out one more form and he says he's making progress in his suits. I really hope it goes well for him; I can't stand the thought of nothing being done to fix what's happened to him and his son.

5/30 VCC was fun today! It was so nice outside we did the craft in the picnic shelter, and everyone was in a good mood. They're so happy to be participating in Summer Reading, but they keep asking to make sure audiobooks and newspapers really count so I think they're still nervous. I got the go-ahead from the activities lady to make a book basket for them and just have a small drawing when I do my last visit of the program. I'm excited, I already know a few books I'm going to pick out for them.

6/5 Preschool party was today. Emma chose finger painting as the activity and then conveniently requested the day off, so I was scheduled! It's a conspiracy, I think, lol. We had 40 participants with 29 of them coming to the 1pm time-slot, so we were very full in the children's department. Ashley and Christian came to my rescue and helped set up another table and keep everyone supplied with paints and canvases, without them I fear I would have been overrun. Everyone enjoyed themselves, even with all those people here at once we didn't have any tantrums or tears! I am still very tired and grateful for the 3-day weekend ahead of me!

6/9 I am usually the person who goes through all the new library card applications and files them into our binder, and for the past month I've had to do it every week because there have been so many! I'd say we're doing between 10 and 20 new library cards a week, it's awesome. I've also been checking the pending patrons tab in EG, which shows library card applications people have filled out online but haven't come in to verify yet, and we've had a few here and there. I don't think it'll be very popular because you still have to come in to get your card, but it shows that people are visiting and paying attention to our website, so that's great!

6/10 I shaved the bottom half of my head over the weekend because having long hair was making me sweaty and miserable, and it isn't the greatest haircut in the world but I have definitely had worse (I gave myself a mullet and kept it for an entire semester my senior year of college) and it's cooling me off, so I'm calling it a win LOL. My favorite reactions thus far have been Cassie saying "That is a haircut!" and the three children who have all done a double take, pointed at me, and said "Haircut!" and nothing else.

6/13 Art Chopped was a lot of fun yesterday! We ended up having 23 people participate, and we gave out 5 medals that were printed with our 3D printer. The categories ended up being Biggest, Smallest, Most Colorful, Most Talkative (someone made a puppet), and Zoe's Choice. I think we underestimated how sad it would make us to pick "winners" and see the other kid's sad faces. Participation trophies are not to coddle children, just to spare the feelings of the adults. Happier news: I just logged the first batch of pages for VCC and they've read 5,509 pages for the Clinton Challenge so far!

**RICKY-**

**Personal Milestone – Two Months Smoke-Free**

It’s been a little over two months now since I quit smoking, and I won’t lie—**it’s still hard**. I still get cravings. I still catch myself reaching for that old habit and thinking, *“I could just have one.”* But I don’t. I stop, take a breath, and keep going.  
What’s helped me the most has been **keeping my hands and my mouth busy**—I’ve been relying on **hard candies and mints** to fill those gaps. It’s not perfect, but it works. When I feel that pull, I pop a mint, grab a piece of butterscotch, or dive back into whatever task I’ve got in front of me. I stay moving. I stay focused. I stay clean.  
It’s not easy, but I’m doing it. Day by day. And I’m proud of how far I’ve come.

**Archive Project Update – The Michael E. Stotler Memorial Archive:**

Work continues to progress on the Michael E. Stotler Memorial Archive, my local LGBTQ+ history project focused on uncovering and preserving the overlooked queer stories of Terre Haute.  
In the past few weeks, I’ve conducted interviews, reviewed archival newspaper clippings, and organized materials across over a dozen thematic folders in Google Drive. This includes building a structured historical timeline of student groups at Indiana State University, researching LGBTQ+ venues like Zimmarss and R-Place, and collecting personal testimonies from individuals who were active in local advocacy movements.  
I’ve also submitted a vendor application to debut a **mini-history exhibit at Terre Haute Pride this September**, complete with educational displays, a memory wall, and custom-made buttons celebrating queer legacy in Terre Haute. The buttons will be created by Cassie**.**  
The archive is already gaining local interest—members of the Vigo County Public Library have expressed excitement and are eager to know when the full project will be available. It’s becoming more than a research initiative; it’s growing into a recognized effort to preserve and share stories that matter. The part that I'm having the hardest to deal with is the quote someone said in an interview.  I made the comment that there are not many pictures from that time.  I knew publicly they would be bad but maybe people would have them personally.  Their response "Because when a light flashed in the club, you ducked.  Because whether it be a camera or a gun, either could hurt you".

**EMMA -** Summer Reading is in full swing, and we've had so many successful programs already! From Bob Ross Painting, to Science Heroes, to our Preschool Party of finger paint, we've had so many families come and enjoy the library and see what we have to offer. The Preschool Party went very well. Though I was not there, we had a total of 40 children. We've also had around 20-25 per Summer Reading program this last week, with 50 for the Bead Art. One of my favorite parts of summer reading thus far has been seeing the kids come back from previous years and push themselves even hard to be reading. Some of my kids who struggled last year are soaring high this year and I'm soooo proud of them! \

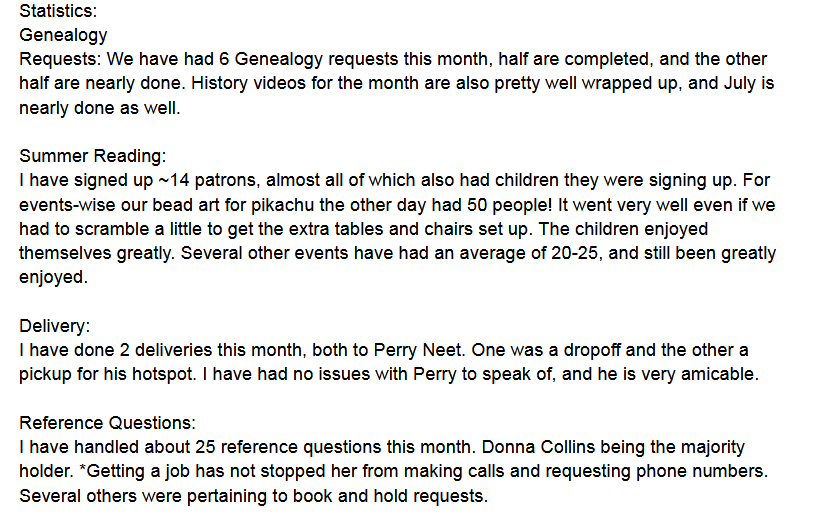
* We had a woman from Illinois come here to get a library card (a nonresident card, per Misty). She was from Paris and said that our library was better than the ones nearby in Illinois. So she's willing to drive all the way here for her library! We also have several families coming from Terre Haute and even Brazil.
* We did almost have an incident at one of our programs. At the bead art, a little boy thought it would be funny to try to pull the fire alarm. Luckily, the mom caught the child before he did it. She asked me to explain to the child what happens we pull the fire alarm and what the consequences are. So, we had a long talk about that. REALLY glad he didn't end up pulling it and good on mom for her quick reflexes!
* We have had 10 sign-ups for 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten! Our numbers have never been better, and Ashley and I will be working in the near future to revamp the 1,000 Books before Kindergarten, 100 Books before College, and we are looking to possibly add 500 books before Middle School. We are still in the discussion phase of planning that.
* Along with that, under Ashley, I have been working to assemble "Learning Kits" for our library of things. They will be backpacks full of different games, worksheets, and activities for specific topics. One will be Letters, another will Numbers, another may be Multiplication, etc. I'm so excited for them to hit the shelves this fall and I've been working so hard to get them prepared and ready.

**CASSIE-**

* I had an actual person come in for Writing Club!  Yay!  Also prepped for next writing club.  Th theme is Word Count.
* I tore apart a lot of tickets for children and adult grand prize drawings.  We have handed out so many tickets to both kids and adults.  As it stands today, the Mystery Prize is the top ticket item in the Adult Reading Program.  The kids program grand prizes have a more even spread.
* I have pushed Summer Reading Programs, including the adult competition.  We're doing amazing!  As of making these notes, we're in first place.
* With Lesli and Ashley, I ran the Light Painting and Art Chopped Day.  The kids had fun making little art projects and the light painting turned out really well.
* I helped Ashley and Misty with the new streaming program for the Book Club live streams that I found.  It's called Light Stream Studio and allows us to stream to Twitch, YouTube, and Facebook simultaneously.  And it's a free.
* I added our Facebook Events to the WTWO Community Calendar.
* I had to go through our Facebook comments and report several spam/scam comments on nearly every single one of our event pages.  The comments are from "people" that are trying to get others to give them their personal information like phone numbers, emails, or to pay them for vendor spaces at events.  Currently the only way to combat this is to report it to Facebook every time we find a comment like that. They have been reported to Facebook.

**PHIL**- Phil has been in a couple of times. He is much better and doing rehab.

**CHRISTIAN**

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S. Amerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting; K. Waldrop seconded, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 6:45 pm