



6/12/25
Marion Public Library Board of Trustees
Special Meeting

Attendance

<u>Board and Invited Attendees</u>	<u>Present</u> Kerry Sargent, President Melanie Rivera, Vice President Joanna Meyer, Secretary Samantha Buss, Library Board Member Gail Stoddart, Library Board Member Tracy Whitney, Library Manager	<u>Absent</u> Margi Taber, Town Board Liaison
<u>Other Attendees</u>	Wendy Cook (Treasurer, Friends of the Library) Debbie Christie (President, Friends of the Library)	

The meeting was called to order by Kerry at 6:04pm.

1. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss, update, and approve the proposed wording for the 414 vote petition.
 - a. Previous Wording is as follows:
Petition to Vote to Fund the Marion Public Library

I, the undersigned, do hereby state that I am a registered voter of the Town of Marion, that my present place of residence is truly stated below my signature hereto, and that I do hereby petition that the following question be placed upon the ballot and voted on at the next general election of the Town of Marion:

SHALL THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE TOWN OF MARION FOR THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE MARION PUBLIC LIBRARY BE AT two-hundred and fifty thousand (\$250,000) ANNUALLY?

- b. Upon review, Ron Kirsop (executive director of OWWL), suggested that we remove the word "operating" as some costs may be for insurance, reserve funds, etc. Updated wording to read:

Petition to Vote to Fund the Marion Public Library

I, the undersigned, do hereby state that I am a registered voter of the Town of Marion, that my present place of residence is truly stated below my signature hereto, and that I do hereby petition that the following question be placed upon the ballot and voted on at the next general election of the Town of Marion:

SHALL THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE TOWN OF MARION FOR THE BUDGET OF THE MARION PUBLIC LIBRARY BE AT two-hundred and fifty thousand (\$250,000) ANNUALLY?

Motion made by Kerry, seconded by Melanie, motion passed.

2. Other Business/Public Comments

a. Public Questions/Comments

i. How does this amount compare to the current budget?

1. It is an increase. The increase is to cover increases in payroll, required insurance (both for contents of the building as well as for health, disability, etc), as well as beginning a reserve fund for unexpected expenses/increases in these areas in upcoming years.

ii. Why do this?

1. This creates a sustainable and predictable source of funding.
2. It separates the vote for funding the library from the choices of the Town Board.

iii. Moving forward, our job becomes about educating the town population about what will be impacted by the 414 Referendum. The Board and library supporters need to actively continue to promote the opportunities and activities available through the library.

b. The cost to put up a table/booth at the Marion Fall Festival is \$50 (October 4) to promote both the 414 Vote and the Library. The Board is asking the Friends of Friends of the Library to fund this, as taxpayer dollars cannot be used for campaigning. President and Treasurer of the Friends group approved. They would like the table to also send people down toward the Library and the Book Sale on this day. Kerry will follow-up and get the Board/Friends registered.

3. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Kerry, seconded by Melanie. Meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

Respectfully submitted by Joanna Meyer, secretary.

Upcoming dates:

- June 17th at 6:30pm: Regular meeting
- October 4: Marion Fall Festival Table