



Library Board Meeting  
Wells County Public Library  
200 W Washington St Bluffton, IN 46714  
Parlor Meeting Room  
Monday, March 16, 2020  
Meeting Minutes  
8:00 am

Present: Gentis, Brown, Johnson, Minniear, Tabor

1. Call to Order-President Gentis called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
2. Public Input-None
3. Library response to COVID-19
  - a. Over 50% of the staff is at high risk; the library cannot function with only 50% of staff.
  - b. Staff has upped the sanitation process; concern was expressed about the availability of sanitizing supplies. The virus can live on surfaces 2-3 days.
  - c. With the closing of the schools and e-learning, more students will be wanting to use the library, creating more potential for exposure. Legally, the library cannot turn away any patron.
  - d. A huge concern is the number of people who may unknowingly be carriers of the virus.
  - e. Now social gatherings are limited to groups of less than 50; this could change any day.
  - f. Discussion was held about reducing hours and closing.
  - g. A motion was made by Minniear and seconded by Brown to reduce the hours at the Main Branch Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (March 16, 17, 18) from 9:00-6:00 and close the Ossian branch immediately; the Main Branch will close on March 19 and remained closed at least until April 17; and, the board will reevaluate the opening date at its April 14 meeting. The motion was passed 5-0.
  - h. A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Tabor that we continue to pay the staff their regular wages during the closing period. The motion was passed 5-0.
  - i. Two outside groups that need to be contacted are Kate's Kitchen and the tax preparers.
4. Adjournment—President Gentis adjourned the meeting at 8:34 a.m.

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Board President, Kim Gentis

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Board Secretary Pro Tem, Deb Johnson